

## The Foote School PTC Minutes

September 14, 2016

3:15 p.m.

**Attendees:** Melissa Castleman (Co-President), Amy Sudmyer (Co-President), Candace Franz (Treasurer), Christine Pakutka (Secretary), Stephanie Boms, Britney Hardy, Vanessa Stuart, Amy Caplan, Preethi Varghese-Joseph, Sumiya Khan, Lisa Rebesch, Bonnie Moskowitz, Sana Baig, Laurie Sweet, Jamie Bruce, Silvia Gee, Li Lin, Sandra Curran, Janice Dreier, Vicki Murphy, Mary Barnett, Danielle Ginnetti, Lesley Marion, Julie Wilson, Jonathan Ulintz Mosovich, Carol Maoz, Donna Santomasso, Trevor Rosenthal

**Welcome/Attendance:** Meeting called to order at 3:15 by Amy

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion made and seconded to approve June 1, 2016 minutes.

**Treasurer's report:** Disbursement check from 2015-2016 to school written for \$34,875. Current PTC checking account balance is just over \$15,000.

### New Business – Activity Calendar

#### **Stop & Shop A+, Gift cards/**

**Target/AmazonSmile/Boxtops:** Vicki reviewed rewards programs available to earn money for the school. Register your Stop and Shop card one time online to earn points for the Foote School. Last year we received a check for \$3,140 at the end of the year. Friends and relatives can also register their cards to earn money for The Foote School. Cash for Causes is another way of supporting Foote. You can buy \$100 gift cards and the school gets \$5.00 back on each one purchased. We received over \$1,000 last year with only 3 or 4 regular participants. Through the Amazon Smile program you can pick a charity or organization to support when you make a purchase on Amazon. Select Foote and we earn 1% on each purchase. Box Tops are collected through the after school program to buy playground equipment.

**Fall Family Fun Day-Sept. 18:** Fair will be held on upper school playground from 12:00-3:00 with a bounce house, 3 tables of fall themed crafts run by 9<sup>th</sup> graders, legos, and food.

**Parent's night/Fall Dinner-Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>:** RSVP for dinner portion of the night. Volunteers needed from 1:30-3:00 to help set up. Menu will go out the end of the week. Visits with specialists are held at 5:30, classroom presentations at 6:00, followed by the dinner at 7:00. Dinner portion includes dinner, drinks, dessert and a presentation by Carol Maoz. Following input from parents last year we will be putting a note in the E-News in advance introducing specials teachers and the grades they teach. There will be 3 distinct times that the teachers will start talking. Signage will be discussed to help parents navigate campus.

**Grandparent's Day-Oct.7:** Lots of volunteers needed to help grandparents get to their grandchildren's classrooms.

**Friday Morning News:** These are the monthly meetings held by Carol Maoz with teachers that used to be called Thursday Morning Live. Parent volunteers needed to donate food for the meeting as an opportunity to give the teachers and Foote faculty a token of our appreciation. Drop off in Silvia's office the

day before or morning of. Sign-up sheet was passed around. Preethi asked us to spread the word so we can get more parents involved.

**Auction April 22, 2017:** Janice sent around sign-up sheet for different auction committees and suggestions on how to get involved. A committee meeting will be held around the end of the month.

### **Reports**

**Lower School Report provided by Donna Santomasso:** Kindergarten had a great first week in newly remodeled air conditioned rooms, learning each other's names and classroom routines. Third graders built a community. They made acrostic poems with their names as well as life sized portraits of themselves. Each individual was celebrated as well as the group as a whole. Each student was assigned a puzzle piece and each unique piece fit into a larger puzzle. Fifth grade is making a movie trailer using sound effects, etc. Fourth grade Spanish classes are talking about Mexican Independence Day.

**Upper School Report provided by Trevor Rosenthal:** As part of Project Week sixth graders went to St. Ann's soup kitchen as well as hiked up sleeping giant and traveled to Groton where they participated in a lab program called Project Oceanography. Students will be studying different countries selected by spinning the globe. 53 different countries will be studied. Students are working on "Sugar cube math", studying volume and area, as well as reviewing summer reading books and creating games such as Chutes and Ladders and Sorry. Seventh grade participated in community building activities at Eli Whitney, the Pequot museum and Camp Hazen. 8<sup>th</sup> grade is working on preparing to run the Halloween fair. Auditions are being held for the 9th grade play. Chinese classes are studying the moon festival. 9<sup>th</sup> graders are preparing for Yali visitors. Sports program is now open to 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Fall sports are field hockey, soccer or cross country.

**Head of School Report provided by Carol Maoz:** Carol reported a smooth opening to school. To focus on encouraging communication within the Foote School community "family gatherings" will be set up to provide the opportunity to talk about school and the future of Foote. These evening meetings will be located in New Haven or on the Shoreline. Carol reported that the faculty read a book about diversity over the summer and that a book talk/discussion will be scheduled in the next few weeks. Amy Caplan reminded parent's to subscribe to teacher's blogs to get updates on what is going on in the classroom and pictures. Follow Foote on Facebook and Instagram where there are posts regularly.

Sandra talked about photo day. Forms will be handed out at Parent's Night. Last year Foote received \$1,700 from photographer.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Christine Pakutka, PTC Secretary