

**BSC General Meeting**  
**Meeting Minutes by Kristy Ketchel**  
**October 6, 2020**

Welcome (Laurie)

- Laurie welcomed parents

Principal's Update (Mrs. Chun)

- Mrs. Chun said it's been very busy at the school site. She thanked BSC for helping keep the school community feel connected. She also noted how well BSC managed COMPASS Fund, restaurant nights, room parents, Mr. Schmidt enrichment, Digital Dragon enrichment, STEAM on-demand enrichment.
- Mrs. Chun provided updates on distance learning – commended scholars for working so hard on learning and taking ownership. She has been sending meal gift cards to students recognized by teachers, would love any more donations.
- She mentioned that we're planning to have more materials pickups for teachers to send out more materials especially relating to Balboa projects and using paper and pencil. She says it won't be all on one day and will be as often as needed.
- She pointed out that scholars are missing each other while we don't have recess and lunch. She and Mrs. Taguchi are planning to host a social hour for students to connect across classrooms. The first one is Friday, 10/9 for Grades 1-3, the next one is Friday 10/16 for Grades 4-5. She thinks it'll be a good time for students to see each other, maybe play music and do freeze dance and a scavenger hunt. The idea is for students to connect. They plan to schedule them as often as they can, they're starting with two in October. She'd love for parents to email her if they have any ideas for ways the group can interact.
- She wants to host a Halloween drive-by, which she announced on Sunday night's call. The District contacted all of the schools and said it could NOT happen. It had been all approved, but the District is rescinding the approval. It will go out in e-Backpack tomorrow. Similarly, school portraits cannot happen because of District rules.
- She is coordinating a Meet the Magnet Middle School Night for just Balboa students, to help parents who are trying to make it to virtual tours. Patrick Henry, Holmes, Porter, Portola, Frost, and Lawrence. It will be the principals or the magnet coordinators. It will be a 15-minute presentation per school focused just on the magnet programs for Balboa students. It scheduled for October 20<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm. She is going to send it through e-Backpack tomorrow as long as she finalizes everything, or Sunday evening at the latest. No need for RSVPs.
- She explained that for Parent Conferences this year, we don't have to designate a specific week because we don't need minimum days. Each grade level has chosen a week for conferences, and parents will be hearing from teachers. It will be a chance to connect with teachers.
- Question: Laurie asked Mrs. Chun to explain the Stemscope Science Program for 5<sup>th</sup> graders? Cost is \$1500, it is a supplement with videos and quizzes. BSC has paid the expense in the past, and BSC is being asked to pay the cost this year. Because the budget has been approved, we will need to approve it standalone tonight. Sonia asked if it's different from Mystery Science, and why not one cohesive program. Mrs. Chun explained that 5<sup>th</sup> grade is the CATS test, which is the science test. That is the year when we hone in on science instruction to prepare for it. Stemscope is trying to supplement that missing piece, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers found it to be a very thorough program and every 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher asked if we can provide it again. Other grade teachers have felt like Mystery Science is sufficient, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers specifically

asked for Stemscope. Sonia asked why do two programs instead of one program. Mrs. Chun explained that we can pay for it per class, and it's uniquely requested by 5<sup>th</sup> grade. She said that it's the teacher preference and it's what 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers are asking for. She also said that the price has come down a lot from past years.

- Question: Mariah asked does Stemscope align with science standards and where are the science textbooks? Mrs. Chun explained that we chose Foss for instruction this year. There are materials in the auditorium for it. The teachers think Mystery Science has been working very well and it's very organized and comprehensive.
- Question: Sonia asked are we getting science textbooks? Mrs. Chun explains that the textbooks have arrived. The teachers want to wait until we return to school for the hands-on learning, and they like Mystery Science while we're doing distance learning. She thinks we would use them if we return to school.
- Question: Sonia asked if we can do digital citizenship for the parents so they can help their kids? Mrs. Chun thinks that's a great topic, and we can do it for Coffee with the Principal or at a Parent Workshop. Sonia asked if it can be at the Monday assembly. Mrs. Chun said that she uses the Monday assembly for social and emotional learning, and she thinks that Coffee with the Principal or at a Parent Workshop would be more parent direct.
- Laurie thanked Mrs. Chun for the update.

#### School Portraits (Laurie)

- Laurie explained that we did the school survey. However, it turns out that the District isn't permitting school portraits at the elementary school level for now.

#### COMPASS Fund (Kristen)

- Kristen thanked everyone for participating in COMPASS Fund. She explained that we ended up raising \$98,576.59 by today, and additional monthly commitments for future donations will bring the total to \$112,703.77 if they come through. She thanked room parents for helping so much in the process for supporting the effort.

#### CFO Update (Will)

- Will showed the Profit and Loss Statement for August – September 2020. It doesn't show all of the COMPASS Fund donations in total, that number will increase to reflect the total amount. He pointed out the additional income this year from restaurant night and spirit wear. He mentioned the expenses so far for contractors and teacher gifts. He also mentioned that we've transferred over to QuickBooks to help with future access. He also thanked for the support in putting it together. Laurie mentioned that we've migrated over from the Quicken setup to the QuickBooks setup and thanked Will for making that happen.

#### Enrichment (Kristy)

- Kristy described the different enrichment programs that BSC is facilitating this year with COMPASS Fund funding.
- Digital Dragon – started in the classrooms 9/29
- STEAM on-demand enrichment – posted weekly on Sundays. The website is [www.balboaparents.org/steam.html](http://www.balboaparents.org/steam.html)
  - Art with two artists – famous artists, art concepts, cultural art
  - Bionerds science topics – science animals and plants
  - Professor Egghead – science concepts and experiment

#### Community Outreach (Angel)

- Angel and Suzy are launching a pumpkin carving contest. Then the pumpkins will be displayed in a maze that the scholars go through to view all of the pumpkins. Students will vote for pumpkins and they'll announce winners right before Halloween. She mentioned that they'd like to figure out what we can do for prizes, like gift cards, and give the gift cards as one per grade. Sonia and Laurie said they thought it was a great idea and easiest to give out right now. The website is [www.balboaparents.org/pumpkin-carving-decorating-contest.html](http://www.balboaparents.org/pumpkin-carving-decorating-contest.html)
- Angel and Suzy found a place where we can do a drive-in movie for free, and they're now looking into projection companies. They're hoping it will be a December activity for the holidays.

#### Communications (Kristen)

- Kristen provided the links for the pumpkin contest and the STEAM on-demand programs in the chat. She mentioned that we have a Balboa Facebook group with all of the updates and Instagram which she doesn't post to as much because there are fewer followers. She also mentioned that families should sign up for Amazon SMILE before Amazon prime day on November 13<sup>th</sup>. She also thanked room parents again.

Mrs. Chun mentioned that the Balboa website wasn't working and so they contacted School Loop which updated the calendar. She added holidays, Coffee with the Principal, Spirit Day events, and District events. Sonia mentioned that we could add Community events. Lisa Henderson mentions that there's meetings like the System of Support Advisors who hold a Zoom on Tuesday afternoons and Thursday mornings that would be great for parents to attend. She said the Zoom link is going into e-backpack tomorrow so that everyone has the information.

#### Restaurant Nights (Churi)

- Churi said that the first restaurant night at The Stand raised \$460, which is higher than last year. She said thank you to everyone for the support and it's really exciting that it went so well. The next restaurant night will be Oct 17-18 at all of the Sharky's locations in the valley. Laurie thanked Churi and also Georgia for helping set things up. She pointed out that you have to mention the code at checkout so make sure to bring the flyer.

#### Balboa Garden (Laurie)

- Laurie explained that we haven't had any volunteers to be able to help with the Balboa Garden. She asked if there's anyone with interest, we have money budgeted for a gardener so we would be looking for someone to help organize and plan but it wouldn't be as much work.

#### Stemscope science vote (Laurie)

- Laurie made a motion to approve a \$1500 expense for Stemcope. Kristen seconded the motion. 22 yes, 1 abstain. Item is approved.

Question: Angel asked if we'll be going over numbers per class from COMPASS Fund? Kristen explained that we didn't do a breakdown on the class level. We used percentages to communicate at the end of the fundraising drive, but we don't plan to disclose at a class level because we don't want to communicate any negativity and instead support each other as much as possible. Sonia commended community for the fundraising effort.

Next BSC Meeting will be in at the beginning of November.