

**Minutes**  
**Cochise Elementary School Association of Parents and Teachers**  
**General Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday, October 1, 2008**

**Present:** Kari Carey, Principal Sarah Stammegna, Melissa Kuffler, Julie Gildersleeve, Lisa Bloom, Alison Johnson, Fabiana Stauffer, Linda Wojciechowski, Tomi and Steve Thomas, Mary Masters, Greg and Susan Steinhilber, Leslie Hess, Simone Lopez, Tiffany and Marty Thompson, Amy Sandys, Rod Cervantes, Sandy Apodaca, Adriana Wood, Wendy Owens

6. The Meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m.
7. An introduction of all board members was made.
8. APT President, Kari Carey, asked that the minutes from the APT Executive Board meeting held on September 3rd be reviewed. Wendy Owens made a motion to approve the minutes. Melissa Kuffler seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.
9. **Principal's Report:**
  - 9.2. Lunchroom – Principal Stammegna reported that the lunchroom has been running smoothly and wanted to thank all parent volunteers especially Mindy Spelius and Lisa Bloom.
  - 9.3. Emergency Response Plan – Principal Stammegna reported that by law all schools and all grade levels must have an emergency response plan. All classrooms at Cochise now have an emergency supply kit as well.
  - 9.4. Guest Speaker Officer Julie Patterson ERP – Officer Patterson explained the details of the ERP. She reported that all police officers have full photo layouts of each school building and all rooms on campus that is downloaded and immediately accessible to the officers. She also reported that all teachers and staff will be trained in the Incident command System (ICS). ICS uses common terminology to report all emergencies that occur within SUSD. It's goal is stabilize the incident at hand and to protect life, property, and environment. Parents are asked to refrain from rushing to the school in an emergency situation and to refrain from calling as well in order to keep the students calm. Any and all information will be delivered to parents through the phone notification system which has recently been improved upon. During an evacuation all students and staff will go to Mtn. View Park. The safety committee has been meeting once a month and conducts a fire drill on a monthly basis and a lock down once a semester.
10. **President's Report:**
  - 10.2. Emergency Response Plan Kits – The APT would like to thank all the parents who have donated to their classroom kits. It is so important to be prepared, as we have seen here tonight, and through events in the valley lately. Our number one concern is that our children are safe, secure, and have what they need in an emergency. Your selfless & immediate response to our requests were very amazing. We asked and you all responded the next day with water, blankets, snacks, and coolers. The school is providing the first aid kits and other necessities to complete the kits. Julie Gildersleeve is heading this up so if you have questions please contact her. Thanks you again.
  - 10.3. District Volunteers & SUSD Volunteers - Carla Partridge with SUSD is creating a master list of volunteers on all the campuses who have sent in their information to SUSD through the schools. This will be available to the offices, included are those have been back ground checked and fingerprinted. They also informed us of a list they were trying to create and get into our hands of parents who are willing to go between schools to volunteer at the campuses with less APT/PTO involvement. AWESOME. You can contact Carla if you are interested. HYPERLINK <mailto:cpartridge@susd.org>
  - 10.4. Artificial Turf Update for KDG Playground - Greg Skelton came to the Coffee with the Principal to explain where they are on our Installation. He has the bids, but has to keep them out for 10 more days. Once agreed upon the vendor can start the process of installation. The earliest and pushed for date is by the end of this October. He went and did the final measurement on Friday of the area.
  - 10.5. Technology Update - Ernie Nicely was kindly put on the spot by Julie Gildersleeve at the Scottsdale Parent Council Meeting on where is our PAID technology & since the check has been cashed?? After he checked into it he informed The APT that the actual installation will be completed over the Fall Break Holiday October 6-10th. Fantastic!! Thank you Julie Gildersleeve for being so tenacious with getting the installation date confirmed.
  - 10.6. Mock Election Information - Leslie Hess needs a few more volunteers to assist with the Kids Voting Program on FRIDAY October 17th. Parents would be helping with: voter registration, ballot stuffing, escorting kids to voting booths (seats) and then out to the ballot stuffing area. A few parents will serve as FLOATERS to walk & help kids through the process. She also needs help after 6 pm on THURSDAY October 16th turning the library into the polling place and after school on FRIDAY October 17th tearing down and cleaning up. If anyone is interested email Leslie. [lesliehesscox.net](mailto:lesliehesscox.net) , with your name, phone number and the shift(s) you want to work. The shifts are: Thursday, October 16th from 6-7pm set up (there is a district meeting until 6 so can't get into room until after. Friday, October 17th from 7:45 am – 10 am, 10-12, & 12- 2:15. Leslie is happy to have people work more than one shift if they want to. After the vote is over, she may also need assistance with tabulation of votes so if anyone is interested in helping with that, they can let her know that too and I can arrange a time for doing that over the weekend of October 18th – 19th.
  - 10.7. **Site Council Report** – The meeting was held on September 9<sup>th</sup>.

- 10.7.1. New Bylaws - Site Council decided that it will be forming new bylaws after attending the district meeting on 10/15.
  - 10.7.2. Tax Credit Money - Site Council revisited the approval of Non- Designated Tax Credit Money. The district re-evaluating what is and is not considered viable usage of Tax Credit Money. If you are a certified teacher you can get paid \$25 an hr to be on the playground or to run a club at lunch recess, otherwise you can only get \$13.50, hence, Cochise lost the Boys & Girls club helper. If there are any parents who are interested in clubs at lunch, they can get paid the hourly rate as discussed before. They are asked to please contact Sarah Stammegna. The SUSD has also decided that the Special Education classes cannot use the tax credit money we approved at site council for some of their field trips. SUSD says that these experiences are not considered "Instructional". Therefore, Cochise APT has used funds to supply these classes with the money needed to be able to take the trips. It was an additional \$100.
  - 10.7.3. Uniforms - Site Council revisited the Uniform Vote from last year. All voted in favor of tabling the discussion until spring, citing the need for a spokesperson. We will be unable to actually perform a vote until the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year to include incoming Kindergarteners. The numbers were looked at from the previous vote and they were as follow: Out of the 222 families who responded, 99 votes were against Uniforms (59%) Teachers were evenly divided.
  - 10.7.4. Increase in Special Education Non Tax Credit Funds - Due to the Site Council Notice from SUSD on the tax monies, The APT had to have an emergency Executive Board Email vote on the increase of funds by 100 and the change in wording for that line item in the budget. It passed unanimously on September 21st by the Cochise APT Executive Board and the Special Education Filed trip was able to go on as planned on September 22, 2008.
  - 10.7.5. Scottsdale Prevention Parent Council Representative - The SPI provides services to families & children to help prevent the use of alcohol, other drugs, and tobacco. It helps to prevent anti-social behavior and provide support during trying transitions. They work on Bullying, Discipline, Positive Choices, and Strengthening Families. Now the SPI is creating a parent prevention council to be a prevention advocate for children and families in our school & community. They need to be enthusiastic for prevention & have a pro- action mindset. The Parent Council will meet every other month for 2-3 hours. If any has any other questions please contact Ann Collins at amcaz@cox.net or Pam Krewson at [pam.krewson@azmoves.net](mailto:pam.krewson@azmoves.net).
  - 10.8. APT Member to be a Chairperson Vote- Approved - APT voted at the last meeting on if you needed to be an APT Board member to be a chairperson within the APT. Discussion was that if you must be an APT Member to be a Room Parent then the same should hold true with Chairpersons also. We voted and it passed.
  - 10.9. Papa John's Discount card - was voted on and passed and in the office for all teachers to use at any time.
- 11. Treasurer's Report:**
- 11.2. Income:
    - 11.2.1. \$15,032 APT Dues as of Monday
    - 11.2.2. \$2,687 received for Arts In Education
    - 11.2.3. \$2,171 Directory Advertising
    - 11.2.4. Fall Social - \$1,482 profit (not final?)
    - 11.2.5. \$1497 Misc. Income - \$1400 donation from Cochise Girl Scout troop
    - 11.2.6. \$480 Web site advertising
  - 11.3. Expenses:
    - 11.3.1. \$107 Website maintenance – annual fee
    - 11.3.2. \$351 Art Room Supplies
    - 11.3.3. \$3,581 Classroom expenditures
    - 11.3.4. \$138 for Special Education Field trips to Bounce U (\$600 budget approved)
    - 11.3.5. \$63 Cochise Cares – gift card for family in need
    - 11.3.6. \$555 Principal Fund
    - 11.3.7. \$138 Science Lab expenses
    - 11.3.8. \$53 Meetings and Miscellaneous - \$20 expense for 2 for 1 pizza card
    - 11.3.9. \$66 Newcomer's Welcome lunch
    - 11.3.10. \$300 Corresponding Secretary – staff birthday gifts
    - 11.3.11. Excess Funds - \$599
  - 11.4. Kasha Banko Tile Repair - Request for Additional \$160 for tile project repairs. Total repairs \$960, approved budget \$800 - Julie Gildersleeve made a motion to approve an additional \$160 for the tile project repairs. Wendy Owens seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- 12. Fundraising Report:**
- 12.2. Gift Wrap Fundraiser Update – was extended one extra week and reached \$7,000 goal.
  - 12.3. Brew Ha Recap – Collected 100 donated bottles of wine for the cork pull. Each cork sold for \$20. Only 18 bottles were left over. Event raised almost \$1,500.
  - 12.4. Holland Boone – raised \$100.

12.5. Scholastic Book Fair – will be held on November 3rd through 7th.

12.6. Community Carnival – Julie Gildersleeve and Alison Lenz-Tummond met on Monday with Erin McKallor-Quill & Kelli Kurtz from Mtn. View rec and Steve Wieters & Steve Wieters Jr. from Everbody's Place 2 Play. The date of the event is Friday, Nov, 14 at Mtn. View Park. Licenses are being filled out and submitted with Maricopa County and City of Scottsdale. The city is facing cuts and we offered to take on the purchase of the prizes to help out. We are hoping for the hours of 5:00 to 8:30. The city needs to approve this for their staffing budget. Cotton Candy, popcorn, and additional water stations will be available. We are adding more games and bouncies to help move the lines along. We have penciled in Fire Up Freedom. It is a hook and ladder truck turned into grills on wheels. Hot dogs, grilled on site, drinks and chips will be served for dinner. We are trying to keep things simple \$2,500 for 800 meals. Drinks will also be available to purchase with tickets as well.

**13. Volunteers Report:**

13.2. Health Screening Day Recap – Lisa Bloom reported that health screening day went extremely well.

**14. Corresponding Secretary report:**

14.2. Cochise Cares – A Card was sent to the anonymous Cochise Cares family and a \$75 donation to the pancreatic cancer foundation was made.

**15. Membership Report:**

15.2. Kari Carey reported for Joy Escarcega that the numbers for membership were very similar to last year with 337 memberships including staff and families. Comparatively, sponsorship levels appeared to be slightly down but hopefully the increase in membership dues has helped to off-set this.

**16. Hospitality Report:**

16.2. Newcomers Welcome Breakfast recap – Amy Sandys reported that attendance was down from about 50 people from last year to about 25 people this year. It was suggested that the form that is sent home in the beginning of the school year be redone to avoid any confusion in the future. There was a lot of positive feedback from the families that did attend.

**17. Community Information Report:**

17.2. Scottsdale Parent council – The meeting was held on September 17<sup>th</sup> and attended by Kari Carey. District volunteers and SUSD volunteers – Carla Partridge with SUSD is creating a master list of volunteers on all the campuses who have sent in their information to SUSD through the schools. This will be available to the offices, included are those that have been background checked and fingerprinted. They also informed us of a list they were trying to create and get into our hands of parents who are willing to go between schools to volunteer at the campuses with less APT/PTO involvement. AWEOME. You can contact Carla if you are interested. [cpartridge@susd.org](mailto:cpartridge@susd.org)

17.3. Veteran's Day Program – will be held on Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup> starting at 8:00 a.m. A publicity volunteer is still needed.

17.4. Holiday Angel Program – Stephanie Beard Konishi, LeAnne Thomas and Julie Gildersleeve met with the representatives from Sequoya and Cherokee to work out the details for this year's Holiday Angel Program. Julie has spoken with Sarah Meyer, social worker at Mary Bethune Elementary school, to get things started. Sarah is the original social worker that was involved in the inception of this program over 7 years ago. She wanted to share with everyone the condition of some of these kids' homes. As she has done many visits she sees firsthand what these kids are up against. Some homes do not even have windows or doors. The Angel Tags will be ready for adoption on November 3<sup>rd</sup> (first day of the book fair). Cost of gift is not to exceed \$25 and can be carried home by the students. We are encouraging gift bags this year to help with that situation. The gifts need to be turned in by Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. We will be delivering the gifts on Tuesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> in the morning. Melissa Kuffler suggested the school mention it during the morning announcements in order to get the students more involved.

**18. New Business:**

18.2. TCBY – has offered to give all Cochise students a free topping anytime they go in the store at the Hayden location, just by saying that they are a Bobcat.

18.3. Proposition 105 Opposition – Prop. 105 - Majority Rules. The APT as a whole must vote unanimously. Julie Gildersleeve explained that this is the only measure on which SPC is taking a formal stand which is to oppose proposition 105. Proposition 105 would mandate that any voter initiated ballot measure that required an expenditure of revenue (rather than one referred by elected officials) *pass with a majority of Yes votes from all registered voters rather than a majority of Yes votes from those who actually voted*. Today, the assumption is that a ballot measure that passes with a majority vote at the election reflects the will of the registered voters. Prop. 105 would change the law so that any registered voter who chooses not to cast a vote is counted as a NO vote. This would create an untenable situation for all education propositions, and frankly flies in the face of our rights and obligations to vote. All 501(c)3 organizations are allowed and should be encouraged to take a stand on ballot measures and to inform their constituents. Melissa Kuffler made a motion for the APT to vote "NO" on proposition 105. Wendy Owens seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

18.4. Next APT Meeting – Wednesday, November 5, 2008 @ 8:00 a.m.

**19. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.