

**CHEREMOYA FOUNDATION
MONTHLY MEETING #1, SEPTEMBER 22ND
SCHOOL YEAR 2017/2018**

MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER 8:25AM

1. INTRODUCTION TO THE SCHOOL YEAR, UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS - RACHEL HARVEY, AMANDA WALKER

- + Cheremoya Foundation's primary goal is to raise funds to provide programs to Cheremoya students that LAUSD does not; to build community; and to provide our children with the best school environment possible.
- + How you can help: volunteer your time; help CF fundraise: bake sales, movie nights, events. Kids love to see their parents helping out at school.

A. GENERAL CHEREMOYA FOUNDATION INTRODUCTION

- + Introduction of board members present: Rachel Harvey, president; Sarah Tindall, vice president; Amanda Walker, treasurer; Laura Rocchio, secretary; Rouzanna Achemyan & Gloria Quintana, co-directors of new parent outreach
- + Program review:
 - + **YMCA PE** - program; kids get a dedicated block of PE with YMCA coaches each Thursday; this gives a solid supplement to the LAUSD mandated 200 minutes of PE each 10 school days with classroom teacher.
 - + **Hollywood Arts Council** - provides music, movement, and drama
 - + **Advanced Literacy** - A former Cheremoya mom, Angie, provides free-to-student age-appropriate books to every Cheremoya student; sets up meet-the-author events
 - + **9 dots** - provides teacher training for teachers to increase their competence and confidence to teach basic coding skills with Common Core-aligned coding instruction. Rollout this year may be for 2nd graders, with follow-up instruction for higher grade classrooms. This is a key program for expanding technology in the classroom.
 - + **Music program** - a number of parents have expressed interest in implementing a music program at Cheremoya. This would be something that we need to raise additional funds to make happen. CF would like your feedback. Do you know of successful music programs at other schools? Do you know of programs CF could partner with?
 - + **Garden program** - we have a dedicated garden ranger (Flo) who is very invested. She teaches the students about planting, growing, weeding, and caring for the plants, as well as about using produce to make salads, etc.

B. FUNDRAISING UPDATE

- + CF has raised nearly \$11,000 from family donations, this represents donations from ~10% our population. CF wants & needs more involvement. Please talk to friends, fellow

classroom parents, etc. about the impact the additional programs make on our kids. Any amount helps. It will take a community effort to get more involvement.

- + CF Banner program has brought in \$7100 so far this year; we have a number of local business to approach about banner space; if you have any contacts, please let us know.
- + Amazon Smile; you will soon be able to designate CF as your charity and ~2% of your spending will go to CF.
- + CF is looking for entities to offer matching funds for our family pledge drive.
- + CF holds a number of events to make up the difference b/w outgoing program expenses and incoming donation earnings. The events include bake sales, the spring fitness fest, movie nights, holiday festivals.
- + CF considering a See's Candy fundraiser this year
- + CF also looking for grant opportunities; past CF-VP Christine Kent doing some research on this.
- + Input from parents welcome on program prioritization.
- + Outdoor Learning Center spending this year is largely repayment of loans to EnrichLA that helped get the OLC built.

C. SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL

- + This group of parents meets 1/month in the fall semester (more often in spring) to discuss LAUSD school budget priorities that affect Cheremoya; the advisory board elections are next Thursday, Sept. 28 at 2:45pm
- + There is also a parent advisory board for the English Language Learners and their next meeting is on Tuesday Sept. 26, details on school's front door.

D. TOURS

- + First tour for prospective 2018-19 students will be held on Oct. 20 at 9:30 am. Current parents welcome on tours; please let your neighbors know about your experience at Cheremoya and about the tour
- + Parent (Nancy) raised the point that actively providing your honest reviews at places like Great Schools and YELP is very important. Salva agrees. Please do so if you can.
- + Enrollment as of today stands at 296. Salva is looking at a possible mix of permitting and open enrollment for next year. (Enrollment is down across the board for the entire West District of LAUSD)
- + Talk to neighbors about joining the school community; school zone map attached.

E. BAKE SALES

- + Next Friday afternoon (Sept. 29) is the first CF bake sale; we need volunteers to provide baked goods, to make lemonade, to help sell & serve food
- + New Idea from Jennifer: Friday morning coffee & muffin bake sale; drive-through coffee and muffin for flat \$5
- + Idea from Lauren Matic: make it \$5 Fridays, small donation drive

F. FILM NIGHTS

- + These are held in the Outdoor Learning Center; families bring blankets, it is lovely and very popular; movies start once it gets dark, so first one is after Day Light Savings time ends
- + Need volunteers to help sell food, etc.

G. WINTER FUNDRAISER

- + This was a reasonable fundraiser last year; the trees + holiday market brought in \$5K. However, the logistic and man-hours were massive. What are thoughts for this year? Can we get more volunteers, should we just do wreaths and the market, so we don't have the massive tree pick-up and storage issues? Thoughts welcome. Idea from Betsy: also have winter themed kid games like sock "snowball" throwing; wreath making; sledding w/ brought in ice/snow
- + Need to form a Winter Festival committee (Ed, Jennifer volunteered); looking for others too

H. THE CORPORATE APPROACH

- + Amazon Smile (see above)
- + Working on a similar deal with Ralph's; would be tied to your Ralph's card purchases
- + Villa Carlotta has offered to give CF \$2500 towards Fitness Festival
- + Outreach to local businesses; fund matching?

I. HALLOWEEN PARADE

- + Parade this year on Friday Oct. 27
- + There will be a movie night afterwards
- + Is there support for a festival with fun booths, games, bake sales b/w the parade and movie night?
- + Mr. Salva volunteered to be in a pie throwing booth

J. SPRING FUNDRAISER - FITNESS FEST

- + Last year's event was by far the best CF fundraiser, bring in \$15K for programs
- + Will be held the week of the 100th day of school on Feb. 8, 2018
- + Held on Thursday (PE day) so it fits nicely into the kids' schedule
- + Partner with YMCA
- + Idea from Jennifer: it would be great to get footage of these events for the website, etc.
- + From Mr. Salva, we just need to get photo releases in place

K. CHEREMOYA YEAR BOOK (KRISTEN)

- + Kristen has researched a company called TreeRing which seems very promising for the school yearbook
- + Would like to put together a photo repository where everyone can share photos
- + Main photos would come from school picture company; then event photos could be added from parent photo repository
- + TreeRing also lets parents add two pages of customized content; can upgrade to hardback
- + Only buy what you order, only print what is sold; estimated per book coast ~\$20-25.

2. AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS - RACHEL/EMMA COOPER

- + PrimeTime will be rolling out enrichment classes soon; the format will be different than last year; details will be available soon

3. VALET PARKING NEEDS - MONA - PARENT'S CENTER

- + Mona said we need one additional parent valet volunteer for each day of the week
- + The Department of Transportation is looking into an altered traffic pattern for the morning rush (~7a-8a); to be trialed soon

4. OUTDOOR LEARNING CENTER UPDATE - RACHEL

- + Capital Improvement slated for this year includes building large picnic tables for the OLC; painting a mural on the half wall between the two levels of the play yard; painting the handball

court; stuccoing the plant retaining wall around the big fig tree and placing a school plaque there

+ LAUSD will be installing a large, sturdy shade sail over the OLC this year

5. GARDEN UPDATE - RACHEL/KATHLEEN BUTLER

+ Garden Ranger Flo is taking excellent care of the garden this year

ADJOURN 10:00 AM

CHEREMOYA SCHOOL ZONE MAP:

