

**Minutes**  
General APT Meeting  
Wednesday January 6, 2010

**Present:** Mikki Fretz, Julie Gildersleeve, Dani Tiffany, Fabiana Stauffer, Allison Barkley, Susan Brown, Wendy Owens, Lisa Bloom, Yolanda Alemany, Rebecca Nelson, Noel Dean, Kerry DeMarsh, Susan Rosener, Beck Alvarez, LeAnne Thomas, Gena Aikman

1. The Meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm.
2. Introductions were made.
3. Julie motioned to amend the meeting minutes from Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009. to include T-shirts were unanimously agreed upon during the December 9<sup>th</sup> APT general meeting, Noel seconded the motion – motion carried.
4. **Principal's Report:** Sarah Stammegna –
  - 4.1 Focus Group Update – January 26<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm at Cochise still available for participation
  - 4.2 Tax Credit Update – Thank you for the generous tax credit donations which pay for tutors, field trips, etc. The non-finalized number is \$17,000
  - 4.3 Phone Notification Update – please contact the office to update any phone changes. Gina will follow up with a test message this week.
  - 4.4 Cochise Library Day at Mustang Library – First Cochise Library Day is Sat. January 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10 am – 6 pm at the Mustang library. Library cards for kids will be issued. Must bring two proof of Scottsdale residency. For more information contact the Mustang Library
  - 4.5 Community Reader Program
  - 4.6 Upcoming Conferences for Shannon Blair and Sarah Stammegna
5. **Teachers Report: no report**
6. **President's Report: Kari Carey**
  - 6.1 No School January 18<sup>th</sup> & Early Release January 27<sup>th</sup> , Early release February 3<sup>rd</sup> , 4<sup>th</sup> , & 5<sup>th</sup>
  - 6.2 Site Council Meeting January 12<sup>th</sup> at 2:30
  - 6.3 Recap of Funds in "APT General Fund" at SUSD-

Beginning Balance	\$ 2500.83
Return cart	<u>\$108.53</u>
Ending Balance	\$2609.36
  - 6.4 Monies for Spec Ed Classroom "room parents"-FABIANA- Fabiana felt that if we could have a slush fund for the "room parents" that have volunteered for the special ed classes for gifts and supplies, it would be nice.- Voted and declined. Allison moves to make a line item in the budget for teacher & aides for holiday – seconded by Lisa – Tabled for next month.
  - 6.5 Money for lunch for Bethune Teachers up to \$100- Allison Barkley- VOTED/PASSED - The teachers were very thankful for the treat of a lunch.
  - 6.6 Re- discussion on the psychologist seminar – RE-VOTE - There was a discussion to pay the \$200 for the school psychologist and it was decided that she would get half considering she was split between two schools. It was then discovered that her other school (Kiva) has paid the full amount of a different course. The meeting is in March & we have time to discuss it again. If we pay for one course & the other school pays for one course, it would be fair- Yolanda motioned to give \$199 for Psychology seminar – Seconded by Dani – motion carried
  - 6.7 President Elect - After a lot of consideration Allison Barkley has come forward to be Pres Elect. This is excellent because she will have a whole semester to learn the ropes for a seamless transition. In order to be in compliance with our by laws. Yolanda motioned to vote in Allison Barkley as President Elect – Noel seconded the motion – motion carried.
  - 6.8 Library Stephanie Cairns - I cannot attend tonight's meeting, but please pass along a huge thank you for our new paper cutter. Please also let the board and members know that the library assistant position has been so key to our program and services. Because of Jane and Sue's help, I am able to work one on one with students to help them find "just right" books, and students are able to check out books and get help with research when I am unavailable or with a class. A parent came in before break to thank us for sending her son home with wonderful books and ideas for future reading. I would not have the opportunity to provide such services without the assistant position. I hope to attend February's APT meeting so that I can share more positive feedback and thank the members in person.
7. **Treasurer Report:** Dani Tiffany
  - 7.1 Budget update for 2008-09. Lisa moved to approve budget. Yolanda seconded the motion. Motion carried
  - 7.2 Boxtops \$ 863,44
  - 7.3 Fall Fund Raiser \$ 48.00
  - 7.4 Misc. income \$ 120.39
  - 7.5 See attached budget

8. **Corresponding Secretary** – Yolanda Alemany
  - 8.1 Teacher were appreciative of the Starbucks gift cards
  
9. **Hospitality Report:** - Susan Brown – no report
  
10. **Student Activities Report:** Fabiana Stauffer
  - 10.1 Creative Arts Festival: Friday, 3/19. Amy Bonner & Pat Penwell are the chairpersons this year
  - 10.2 Arts in Ed Fieldtrip:
    - A. 4<sup>th</sup> grade teachers would like to take the students to see the Native American dances. This is a fieldtrip that the AEC has paid in past years, but not this year. Cost is estimated at \$600, for teachers, students and aids. Buses will be paid by Cochise Tax Credit money.
    - B. Child's Play is coming to Cochise for two performances on Friday, 1/15. in the morning and afternoon. All students will have a chance to see the show. Both performances are funded by AEC.
  - 10.3 Yearbook: Montage page for yearbook is due on Friday, 1/22.
  - 10.4 Art Masterpiece:
    - A. Sue Tooker and Stephanie Cairnes have taken the time to put together a list of books that the Art Masterpiece volunteers can use from our Cochise library.
    - B. Several teachers from different grade levels expressed interest in having a Phoenix Art Museum docent come to Cochise to give a presentation to their class. Mikki and I will work on this to help make this happen.
    - C. I am looking for feedback about continuing the Phoenix Art Museum membership. It is used very infrequently. Yet we are probably going to use their program of docents coming to our school next year as well. Paying a membership supports the arts and helps with their programs. I am wondering about the membership because in March it is coming up for renewal.
  - 10.5 Artist in Residence: Ken Koshio is our Artist in Residence, for May 2010. He will need \$300 in supplies. Money will come from Funding for the Arts line. Sarah in a conversation mentioned that based on what some teacher were saying, Cochise may take a break from having an artist doing a residency. It isn't because Sarah and Gena don't want to write the grant. One reason being there is a lot of material that needs to be covered with students and the residencies take time away from that. Gena and Sarah are creating a survey to find out if the teachers are interested in continuing with it.
  - 10.6 No notes from Arts in Ed, meeting is on 1/15.
  
11. **Fundraising Report:** Allison Barley
  - 11.1 Fall fundraisers totals - \$17,669
  - 11.2 T-shirt designs \$10 due date extended to the 15<sup>th</sup>
  - 11.3 Sock Hop February 5<sup>th</sup>
  - 11.4 Box Tops 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter due date is Feb 19<sup>th</sup>.
  - 11.5 Jump Rope for Heart 1st week of Feb. – Kimberly Lustig is meeting with teachers
  
12. **Volunteers Report:** Mikki Fretz
  - 12.1 Sock Hop 2/5 co-chairs are Linda Sweeney and Molly Beresford
  - 12.2 Jump for Heart and Field Day coordinator is Kimberly Lustig
  
13. **Community Information Report:**
  - 13.1 Scottsdale Parent Council Report – Julie Gildersleeve/Katie Collopy –SPC Meeting 12/16/2009  
Legislative Update – Dr. Eric Meyer, SUSD Governing Board Member  
NOT GOOD! - The Legislature went back into Special Session before the holidays due to worsening state revenues. Though it is unclear if they will obtain the consensus they need to get anything done, the planning efforts have led to ideas that will likely also be on the table when the Legislature convenes in Regular Session starting January 11. Three plans are supposedly in the works.
    1. Cut state spending again. Schools all over the state are preparing for the worst as we face a possible fourth round of cuts.
    2. Discuss finding additional revenue. The most publicized idea is to temporarily raise the state sales tax. But other ideas are out there as well. Unfortunately, the Legislature has been unable to forge a compromise on this issue. Without new dollars, the billion dollars in cuts we were told last year would never happen become more and more likely as the cuts mount. Even if the Legislature agreed to new revenue TODAY, it would take months for those revenues to have a positive impact. Email, write or call our legislators and Governor today. Let them know you support finding revenue to limit cuts to education.
    3. Rolling back Voter Approved initiatives. There is a serious effort underway to give the State access to half the revenues voters contribute directly to education. Over the years, a series of voter initiatives dedicated revenue to certain government functions – including dollars that support the teachers' payroll portion of our budget. Those dollars could be diverted to the State General Fund. Though this effort does put money in

the bank for the state, it is unclear how giving the State money by diverting it away from education will help the Governor and our legislators meet their goal to protect education.

Stay connected by visiting SPC website [www.scottsdaleparentcouncil.org](http://www.scottsdaleparentcouncil.org) follow the link to Legislative Watch.

Q & A with Dr. Gary Catalani, SUSD Superintendent

- Flier Policy - A wrap up meeting of the policies was held 12/15, will then be reviewed by Dr. Catalani and should be in place some time in January.
- Possibly School Bond in 2010 - May hear something about it in March and would be around 100 Million. Middle School Facilities would be next
- 2010/2011 SUSD Budget Issues - With future cuts inevitable for the 2010/2011 school year, RIF (Reduction In Force) will happen again this spring in keeping with contractual agreements with the Teachers Union. At a minimum, 3 to 4 million dollars will be cut for next school year. The budget reductions in programming will be consistent across the district and not done site by site. For example, if funding for Strings is cut in Cochise it would be for all Elementary schools in our district not just Cochise. District personnel, High, Middle and Elementary School Principals have met and created a list of cuts depending on amounts. This list will not be made public.

Three levels of budget reductions:

5% - 6.5 Million

10% - 13 Million

15% - 19 Million

A very sad state of affairs to say the least!

World Language – Andi Fourlis, SUSD Professional Development

- World Language Survey Results  
The district had 1268 responses and programs are being developed based on the feedback
- From the survey, Mandarin and Japanese are the languages that deemed the most interest. Most feel it is the language needed to compete in the world market.
- Proposed Mandarin Pilot Pending Board Approval for the 2010 -2011 School Year - grades 8 -12  
(For more information go to <http://susd.schoolfusion.us/modules/cms/pages.phtml?pageid=142557&sessionid=b2d2ed69dd52a634bb7cabaad792087b>)
- Each High school currently offers: German, Italian, Spanish, French and Latin. However, classes offered are based on enrollment at the individual schools.
- Cocopah offers French and Spanish

Mental health in Schools – Kelly Andersen Ed.D, SUSD Clinical Services Director

- The U.S. Department of Education has awarded Scottsdale Unified School District a \$261,000 Mental Health in the Schools Grant with the following overarching goal: To provide a seamless, integrated, and accessible framework for the delivery of all levels of student mental health services throughout our schools and community.
- Grant covers the costs of administration of the grant (including personnel), staff professional learning opportunities, purchase and development of related materials
- See complete presentation of [Mental Health in Schools Grant Informational pdf](#)

<http://susd.schoolfusion.us/modules/groups/homepagefiles/cms/394763/File/Student%20Services/Mental%20Health%20in%20the%20Schools%20Grant%203.pdf?sessionid=9448afad07d89dc070c1827b4d6d0ab>

Next SPC Meeting: Wednesday, January 20 at 9:30AM

**13.2 Bethune Angel** On Thursday, December 10, the Phoenix School District #1 Governing Board acknowledged Scottsdale Schools for their donation of gifts to Bethune School. The administration from Cherokee, Cochise, Sequoia and Cocopah, as well as SUSD Superintendent, Dr. Catalani, were invited but were unable to attend this meeting. Julie Gildersleeve, Molly (Cocopah) and Ben (Cochise) were able to represent Scottsdale Schools. A statement was read at the meeting how approximately \$10,000 worth of gifts are given to every child at Bethune. A thank you was also put in their school districts newsletter.

On Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup> all the gifts were loaded and brought to Bethune with many elves to help out. We were able to provide a holiday luncheon for all the teachers and staff, complete with holiday decorations. The staff and teachers were very grateful and continued to finish off various food items through the week. Sarah Myer said that many teachers said things like “we never get this kind of treatment!” Well, they do now and I believe this will be a new tradition to our already very successful outreach for this community.

14. **New Business:**

- 14.1 Principal Seminar “Continuing Excellence in Schools”– Allison motions to send Sarah to seminar for \$500 – Noel seconded the motion - Motion carried
- 14.2 Kindergarten Teacher Conference -  $\$199 \times 4 = \$796$  – Yolanda motions to send 4 K teachers to conference for a total of \$796 – Mikki seconds the motion – motion carried
- 14.3 Discussed Zoo membership, however they won’t do one for schools so Yolanda moves to purchase Science Center membership up to \$150 – seconded by Lisa - motion carried
- 14.4 Science Lab supplies – an egg incubator for \$98.98 plus shipping – Mikki motioned to purchase incubator for \$98.98 – seconded by Lisa Bloom – motion carried
- 14.5 Next Meeting February 10<sup>th</sup> @ 9 am

15. **Meeting Adjourned:** 7:35 pm