



# MVSEG Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 14, 2009 – Final

www.mvseg.org

## 1. Welcome and Introductions

MVSEG Co-Presidents David Kent and Craig Jaffe called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. at school cafeteria.

## 2. General Business:

- a. Minutes. The Minutes from the previous MVSEG meeting were approved as submitted.
- b. Treasurer's Report. Mike Spector provided a summary of fundraising activities. In the Treasurer's Report he described that overall MVSEG has raised \$55,606 and spent \$59,386 so far this fiscal year which began July 1. Mike noted that there is no connection between MVSEG and the Venice High School's Booster Club, which recently experienced a financial theft.

### Treasurer's Report Summary, Year-to-Date, October 14, 2009

Net Receipts:		Program Expenditures:	
Phone-a-thon	\$42,027	Music Teacher + Assemblies + Chorus	\$9,605+\$0+\$0
Silent Auction	-\$4,500	Visual Arts Teacher + Materials	\$0+\$0
Gift Wrap	\$21,173	Playground	\$0
Spell-a-thon	\$0	ETC	\$1,908
Scrip	\$1,891	Kinder Aides	\$9,900
Big Boo Raffle	\$896	PE Instructor	\$5,040
Big Boo Other	\$49	Computer Instructor	\$2,550
Power Broker	\$0	Teachers' Aides	\$630
Talent show DVD sales	\$0	Reading Specialist	\$1,768
Spirit Wear	-\$4,393	Student Activities Coordinator	\$975
Other Donation	\$53	Tutoring Coordinator + Homework Club	\$3,825+\$0
Interest Income	\$300	Science Aide + Supplies	\$15,461+\$0
Tile Program	\$0	Teacher Funds and Staff Devt.	\$6,000+\$0
Library Bookshelf Donations	\$0	Field Trips	\$0
		Community Day	\$35
		Landscape Maintenance	\$520
		Dolphin News	\$0
<b>Balances:</b>		Kinder Picnic	\$267
Cash Balance:	\$172,916	Grant Committee	\$150
Scrip-on-hand:	\$7,801	Misc. Admin. + Publicity + Web Site	\$752+\$0+\$0

## c. Principal's Report

- Shake Out. On October 15<sup>th</sup>, we will conduct an earthquake drill at the school. Teachers will soon get refresher training in fire suppression and emergency procedures. A group of parent volunteers are screening emergency medications and first aid supplies to assure everything is up to date and sufficient.
- Computer and Art classes started this week. Students will alternate 7 weeks with computer and 7 weeks with art.
- P.E. Physical Education started this week. Mrs. Weinstock observed the STAR staff and so far she noted it is going well and they had enough equipment so the students did not have to stand around waiting.
- GATE. Last night was the first meeting for parents in the Gifted and Talented Program. The budget per child is only \$25 per child, but Mrs. Weinstock but is working on additional funds.



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The Shakespeare program will begin for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders. Pending funding, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Graders will have a program on Global Leaders. And 4<sup>th</sup> Graders will get the Spirit Series.

- Music Center. The Music Center downtown is having a program showcase next Tuesday from 9am to 2 pm and Mrs. Weinstock is looking for several parent volunteers to review their offerings and make recommendations for Mar Vista. The programs are performing arts of high professional level.
  - Parent Education. There will be a 4 session seminar for parents by Ms. Moreno on how to read to enhance high level comprehension with students—whether or not they test gifted. Dates are November 9, 16, 23, and December 7. Also, Ms. McFerren will conduct a seminar on differential teaching—a parent take on teaching students at different levels in the same class.
  - School Site Council. The SSC met and elected officers including Harriet Yoergler (Chairperson and Parent Representative to the District), Ms. Douangsitthi (Vice Chair), Ms. Peckachek(?) (Secretary), and Timona Bridges (Parliamentarian). They reviewed the Bylaws.
  - Principal Leave of Absence. Ms. Weinstock explained that she will be taking a one month leave of absence for back surgery starting next Friday. The substitute principal is someone Ms. Weinstock knows and she is very competent. (Get well soon!)
  - Technology Donation. Ms. Weinstock invited Craig Jaffe to announce the donation of four LCD projectors for classrooms. The donation was generously made by Michelle Conn's parents to the school. (Thank you!). Mrs. Weinstock requested that MVSEG buy two laptops that are needed to work with the projectors. Her research has found that the District procurement price is higher than retail.
  - Middle School Night. On October 28 there will be Middle School Night at the school where representatives from middle schools come and give presentations to parents at Mar Vista.
- d. Teacher's Report. Ms. Weinstock welcomed Ms. Treves (4<sup>th</sup> Grade) and Ms. Philipose (1<sup>st</sup> Grade) to the meeting. The teachers explained how they appreciate the support parents provide. [ We appreciate our teachers...Thank you! ]
- e. PTA Report. Rosi Kent reported on behalf of the PTA.
- Fab Friday went very well. She thanked all the volunteers that put so much into it.
  - The Book Fair was a great success again this year and many thanks to all of those involved.
  - The Big Boo is coming up and if there are siblings in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade and up they can earn community service points by helping out.
  - The next PTA meeting is November 13<sup>th</sup>.
- f. Fiscal Sponsor Proposal. Bill Ring (past Mar Vista parent) presented a proposal to use the non-profit tax status of MVSEG to help start a new organization he is founding. The organization will seek grant funds to train parents in how to interact with the District and how to organize so that the parents are setting the agenda and holding the District accountable. In starting the new organization, he is looking for a way to avoid the start up costs of forming his own non profit organization with 501.c.3 status. He thus proposes to use MVSEG in the role of "fiscal sponsor" of his organization. In return, MVSEG would get a percentage for administration (2 or 3 percent) of the grant funds and he plans on submitting two grants at first for \$200,000 and \$500,000 respectively. He proposed that he and MVSEG have a dialog to see if this is of interest and to see how MVSEG can be protected in the process. No votes or actions were taken.



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## 3. MVSEG Business:

- a. **Gift Wrap.** Elsa Shekelle announced that Gift Wrap has grossed \$36,619 this year so far which should turn into a profit of \$18,000 for MVSEG. Last year the gross was \$44k, but Elsa explained that there was a whole new ordering system this year and that we still had a good result considering the economy. There were 11 students who sold more than \$400 worth of gift wrap items. Elsa introduced Rab Brown who will be her successor as Gift Wrap Chair. Welcome Rab and thank you Elsa!
- b. **Phone-a-Thon.** Andy Trilling reported that this has been a good year for the Phone-a-Thon –one of our more successful years. There were 35 parents who turned out to make calls including ten new parents. Ms. Weinstock came to show support as well. Everything went smoothly. Special thanks to co-chair Jill Roe who worked on promotion and Bill Bedecarre. Harriet Yoergler worked on the newsletter, Jennifer Nikerson on the accounting, Mike Specter as Treasurer and many other parents on calls. So far we have \$60,165 in the bank and lots of pledges yet to complete. [And we thank you too, Andy!]
- c. **Big Boo.** The Big Boo is coming up in soon:
  - **Bootique.** Jasmine Jaffe reported that there are 24 vendors and Sherri Noelle is sponsoring the event. MVSEG earns 20% of gross sales from the participating vendors.
  - **Raffle.** Craig Jaffe reported that the raffle tickets are selling already.
  - **Slot Car Racing.** Instead of go carts, this year there will be slot car racing.
  - **Haunted House.** David Kent noted that James Ball will be leading the haunted house construction. Volunteers are needed for building and painting the haunted house on Friday October 23<sup>rd</sup> starting promptly at 2:30 and ending at 10:00pm.
  - **Ticket Pre-Sales.** Next week you will be able to buy tickets in advance and if you buy 10 tickets you can spin a wheel and get a trick or a treat.
- d. **Silent Auction.** Bids for Kids 2010 will take place on March 20th at the Marina Marriot Hotel. Volunteers will be recruited in November. It will be a sit-down dinner with a theme that is under development.
- e. **Restaurant Night.** Janice Senit announced that California Pizza Kitchen ASAP restaurant night was a success.
- f. **Spritwear.** Janice Senit announced they have new stock and are putting the adult old stock on sale for \$25.
- g. **Green Dolphins.** The Zero Trash Hero program is underway and the winner will get four tickets to Universal Studio. The Costume Resale program is still ongoing for Halloween. See the front hall for what is in stock.
- h. **Community Weekend.** The dates are set for November 21-22. There will be e-waste pickup at the event.
- i. **School Cents.** The Westside Pavilion is having a “Safe Halloween” that earns us points if children attend.
- j. **Programs Overview.** Melanie Rhalter explained that although they have had sign ups, they still need more volunteers for the programs that are funded by MVSEG: Science, Visual Arts, and Educational Technology.

There was discussion follow up on the topic of what MVSEG does with the surveys it conducts of faculty and staff. Melanie Rhalter explained that the survey results are used to help prioritize programs and generally to guide the program development. For example, the length and scheduling of the Art, Music, and Computer programs have been altered to reflect input from teachers. Two years ago, the survey alerted MVSEG to problems in the P.E. program which were



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redressed with the contractor (STAR). The survey has also been a good source of guidance about technology priorities.

- k. Grants. List Bohmer, chair of the Grants Committee, noted they are searching for ideas of grants to pursue. She added that the Programs Survey has also been valuable in focusing the attention of the Grant Committee—what kind of grants to pursue.

- l. Other Business

- Announcement: This Saturday at 6 pm there will be a magic show benefit at Mark Twain High School. Tickets bought on Friday at Mar Vista earn 50% for MVSEG.

#### 4. Announcements:

Fundraising and Event Dates for 2009-2010

- Big Boo, October 24, 2009
- Silent Auction Gala, March 20, 2010
- Spell-a-Thon, April 22, 2010

Upcoming Meetings and Other Dates:

- Next MVSEG Meetings: November 4<sup>th</sup> [Note Date Change!]

#### 5. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at about 8:30 p.m.

#### At the Meeting:

Bohmer, Lisa  
Castelnuovo-Tedesco, Carin  
Brown, Rab  
Czerny, Claudine  
Denari, Chris  
Grace, Lewis  
Hankel, Karen  
Holmes, Brian  
Jaffe, Craig

Jaffe, Jasmine  
Kent, David  
Kent, Rosi  
Lewis, Grace  
Matayoshi, Duane  
Matayoshi, Lillian  
Nickerson, Jennifer  
Pekelney, David  
Rhalter, Melanie

Ring, Bill  
Senit, Janice  
Shekelle, Elsa  
Spector, Mike  
Trilling, Andy  
Yoergler, Harriet  
Weinstock, Brenda