



# President's Report

December 31, 2009

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December was generally a quiet month. Committee chairs were not required to submit monthly reports. This was in light of the various holidays and the unexpected snow days.

## **Traffic Circle Committee**

The staff and many parents have expressed appreciation at the presence of the TCC at morning drop off. This recent comment speaks to the wonderful job our volunteers are doing: "Thank you again to the Traffic Control Committee, they are doing a wonderful job and I think parents are respecting their efforts. It has been especially helpful when we have morning duty indoors; we still have parent volunteers bravely facing the extremely cold weather outside. Next, you will need a hot chocolate setup for them!" The hot chocolate setup is actually not a bad idea. I will pass the idea on to the Volunteer Coordinator to explore ways of appreciating this morning crew. The difficult part of this pilot program remains the burden of finding volunteers for 5 mornings a week. I will explore different options with the committee possibly looking at a less frequent coverage of the circle or a larger recruitment base in form of a committee.

## **Communication**

We are still looking into the procurement of lawn signs advertising the PTA meeting. Three signs are needed to place at each of the three entrances to school grounds. In January I hope to meet with our Outreach Liaisons in order to discuss the plan for the second part of the year.

Our first family fun night was unfortunately erroneously scheduled for the first night of Hanukah. After personally replying to individual concerns, a decision to cancel the event was made in order to foster mutual respect in our community. As a result of the communication that transpired, Silent Auction and International Night were both rescheduled for Saturday nights in order to include a larger FKES community. These events were specifically targeted due to their immense popularity. A holiday calendar was also made available to all the committee chairs via the webpage. I issued an apology to the listserv community, where the initial communication took place, and also to the staff at the December Staff Meeting.

## **Finances**

Our financial papers are all in order. Unfortunately due to the amount of work involved, the original estimate of \$400 was not possible. The bill, without the discount reached by Hugh Dennis, would have come to \$1939.37. With the discount offered to our school, this amount came down to \$1750, a savings of \$189.37. When approached with this amount, I felt that it was still much more than what had been originally set out for this service. Hugh Dennis was able to discuss this at length with the accountant and the final discounted figure was \$1000 (a savings of \$939.37). The membership will be approached at the January meeting in order to approve an increase in the Administrative budget.

## **Webpage**

In addition, Tim Arnold, our webpage designer, is working on designing a "store" icon for ordering spirit wear.

## **Mid Year Review**

The survey has been created and the electronic version has been out for a couple of weeks. However, due to the unexpected cancellation of school due to the snow, there was a delay in the distribution of the paper survey. This will go out the week of the January PTA meeting. The spanish version will follow that. Preliminary results thus far generally show a positive approach to the PTA. The results and plan will be presented at the February meeting.

I attended the December Staff Meeting. The survey was introduced to our staff at that time and Staff was encouraged to "check in" with their PTA leadership to ensure their needs are being met.