

KYPRENE

Parent Superintendent Council Agenda Summary

February 17, 2009 | 11:30-1:30 am | Mirada Elementary School

Topic	Summary
<p>Introductions and District Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Middle School Evaluation – where to get information on our website • Next Year’s PSC Meetings • Legislative Information • Security Systems • Portable Update 	<p><u>Introductions and Remarks</u> Dr. Schauer welcomed everyone and introduced Mirada Principal Donna Gallaher, who thanked her PTA for hosting. David introduced Governing Board members who were present.</p> <p><u>Middle School Evaluation</u> Dr. Schauer pointed out the link to the Middle School Evaluation presentation on the Kyrene website. Dr. David Garcia’s PowerPoint presentation and a video of the meeting where he gave it are available. There is also a place on the website to get current information on the budget situation.</p> <p><u>Next Year’s PSC Meetings</u> Dr. Schauer said the PSC planning committee decided that next year we will not ask PTO’s to provide lunch for PSC meetings, due to budget constraints at some schools. We will have a luncheon at the district office for our first meeting in August, but after that, meetings will be from 10:00-11:30 AM and no food will be served.</p> <p><u>ABEC Flyer</u> David pointed out a flyer that was distributed from ABEC (AZ Business and Education Coalition) regarding their Finance Reform Initiative to produce policy recommendations to redesign the way Arizona funds K-12 education. They are looking for a wide variety of education stakeholders to form working groups.</p> <p><u>Legislative Information</u> David introduced Mitzi Epstein who is working with Parent Network and Adralynn Wendel from Congressman Harry Mitchell’s office. Mitzi distributed a sign-up sheet for those who want to receive Parent Network emails with the latest legislative information. She talked about the drastic cuts being made by the state and the fact that we need to become legislative advocates for education. She said that, in her opinion, it would be better to eliminate tax credit donations and put that money back into the general fund. Adralyne is the education issue advocate from Congressman Mitchell’s office, and she also circulated a sign-up sheet for those who want to receive information from Congressman Mitchell’s office. She said the good news is that \$1 billion in state stabilization funds will be coming to AZ. The state has to apply for the funds and then decide how it will be</p>

Topic	Summary
	<p>used. Dr. Schauer urged everyone to be vocal about how the money in the stimulus package should be used.</p> <p><u>Security Systems & Portable Replacement Update</u> Terry Tatterfield said the portable project is making progress, and 5 out of the 8 campuses will be finished by summer, with the remaining 3 done by the end of the first semester next year. Construction updates can be found on our website. Some schools are selling engraved bricks in the new buildings as a fundraiser. This construction is funded by a bond election. All of the construction workers had to be fingerprinted before working on campus around students.</p> <p>The security system is a district-wide project. We are looking at three systems that are somewhat integrated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated intrusion alarm system • Exterior door keyless access system • Video surveillance – This is mostly exterior with a couple of points in the hallway near restrooms, since a fair amount of vandalism occurs there. This project is currently out to bid. <p>They are looking at a redesign of the entrance to Cerritos so it is out front to prevent intruders from getting on campus. This may happen over the summer. A similar project will occur at Aprende/Brisas.</p>
<p>PTO Sharing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read-a-thon Fundraiser 	<p><u>Mirada’s Read-a-thon Fundraiser</u> Charlotte Beakley talked about Mirada’s Read-a-thon fundraiser. This event benefited students by motivating them to read but also raised funds for PTA. She distributed packets that they used and explained how the program worked. Students earned coupons by reading that went into a drawing for prizes. There were classroom incentives for the 4 classes with the highest participation. A total of 270 students participated, and after deducting expenses their net profit for this was \$13,000.</p>
<p>Hot Topics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Update 	<p><u>Budget Update</u> Terry said there is a lot of information about cuts being made and we are being very sensitive to any changes that will impact the Kyrene family. For many years we have budgeted conservatively so are better prepared to deal with this than many school districts.</p> <p>Karin Smith gave a PowerPoint presentation with 3 sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief Budget Overview • Current Year Funding • Funding for 2009-10 <p>Karin said our current year funding is based on last year’s ADM, or Average Daily Membership. Our enrollment this year will dictate our funding for next year. We have various budgets, including M & O (most of this is salaries), Soft Capital (library books, furniture, curriculum materials), CORL (Capital funding for facilities and maintenance), Prop</p>



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	<p>301 (a voter approved initiative that provides additional funding), etc. We have several voter-approved budgets as well: M & O Override, K-3 Override, Capital Override and Bond Projects. We have grant programs too, including entitlement grants such as Title I and IDEA and discretionary grants such as the Safe Schools grant that Kyrene received several years ago. These tend to fluctuate from year to year.</p> <p>For the current year, our legislature has reduced funding and the impact for Kyrene is a \$1.9 million reduction. They also reduced soft capital allocations, with an impact to Kyrene of \$400,000. To deal with these reductions to the M & O budget, we will be reducing our reserves that came from mid-year reductions to school and department budgets. We've also been able to realize some savings from salaries and benefits. To address the soft capital reductions, we are able to utilize our reserves. Kyrene has a healthy reserve budget in soft capital largely due to the ability to purchase our school buses with voter approved bond funds. We will be taking a revised budget to the Governing Board with the necessary reductions.</p> <p>For 2009-10, following are some of the proposals for budget reductions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce school budgets by \$205 per pupil, or \$4.7 million from our M & O budget • Eliminate the 2% increase to our base level support, which would be a loss of \$1.6 million in funding for Kyrene • Eliminate the Kindergarten weight, which would mean the state would only fund half day kindergarten. If this happens, Community Ed is looking at an alternative model of charging tuition for All Day K as we did in the past. • Phase out Career Ladder, which would be a loss to teachers' salaries of \$520,000 • Phase out TEI (Teacher Experience Index), a multiplier that gives additional money to districts with more experienced teachers, which would be a loss to Kyrene of \$230,000 • Suspend all soft capital funding, a loss to us of \$3.8 million. We have some reserves in this area that we could carry into next year. Even though no funding will be provided, there are curriculum changes being made and we must follow the state's adoption cycle. • Eliminate Excess Utilities funding, a loss of about \$600,000 in Kyrene. • Reduce Gifted funding, a loss to us of \$12,000 <p>It is difficult for us to make program decisions until we know what will happen at the state level. We are getting alternative solutions ready to roll out if necessary. We have to propose our budget by June and adopt it in July.</p> <p>Q: Some districts have already notified parents they will not offer free All Day Kindergarten next year. How long will we wait to make an announcement about this?</p> <p>A: Theresa Sweeney said that is not about eliminating All Day K, but</p>



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	<p>rather Early Entrance to Kindergarten. We currently have discretion to register students for kindergarten whose birthdays fall between Sept 1 and Dec. 31, and that may not be an option next year. Kelly Alexander said we are developing a survey for parents of incoming kindergartners asking if they would prefer a half day program or a tuition-based all day program if state funding is cut.</p> <p>Other factors that will affect our budget include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decline in ADM – we have 150 students less than last year, which translates to a funding loss of \$620,000. • Increase in health insurance costs - We are a self-insured district and our expenses have been relatively low this year, but this will go up about 10%. • Increase in utility costs - Not only are we losing Excess Utilities Funding, but SRP has notified us that our costs are going up about \$390,000. • SEI funding - We are required to provide an alternative instructional model for students who are not fluent in English. For our current model we received \$1.6 million for the program. We learned that we will no longer receive this funding but are still required to support these students. Our Special Programs Department has developed a model that will cost us \$370,000. There is a law that all teachers must be SEI endorsed, so these students will be put back into the regular classroom. • Prop 301 reductions – In 2009-10 we will need to cover a funding deficit of \$1.6 million that is committed to teacher base pay. We were notified 2 weeks ago that we are receiving a mid-year reduction to this program and a further reduction for next year. <p>To plan for the future, we are looking at several options to decrease expenses and increase revenue, and to utilize our M & O and cash reserves. We currently have a little over \$5 million in M & O reserves, and we are using part of that to offset some of this year’s reductions and to pre-pay some expenses for next year. Karin said there is a lot of pressure on the state to make decisions early and we are doing lots of planning with the variables in mind. There is a lot of information about the budget on our website and Kelly asked everyone to submit any budget reduction ideas they have there.</p> <p>Dr. Schauer said that AEA is sponsoring a 4:00 PM rally on March 4 at the Capital. In the morning there are groups of teachers making appointments to speak to their legislators. Any parents who are interested in going could team up with teachers to have these conversations, as legislators listen more closely to parents than to school staff. David said anyone who is interested should contact us and we’ll connect them with teachers who are going. Mitzi said Parent Network may sponsor a rally or a “Meet with Legislators Day.” In the first week of March they are going to have “Letter Writing Week.”</p>



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<p>Small Group Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In light of the current budget situation, should PTO's still be focused on the same activities as in the past? If not, what should be the focus? • How do we help this community become actively engaged in what is happening with our state budget and legislative decisions? 	<p>Meeting attendees broke into 3 groups to give feedback on the discussion questions. Following is the feedback that was generated:</p> <p><i>In light of the current budget situation, should PTO's still be focused on the same activities as in the past? If not, what should be the focus?</i></p> <p><u>Aprende and Centennial Regions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sources of PTO money <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Grocery stores ○ Dinner out ○ Target ○ Box tops (soup) ○ Direct Donation - no fundraising (Colina) • Assisting with supplies, supply drive (pencils, Kleenex, copy paper) • Grade level grants – teacher apply for \$100 from PTO • Email from teacher teams – requests • Gifts to general fund – for copies <p><u>Akimel A-al and Altadeña Regions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus changed with restriction on staffing opportunities • In light of current situation, consider staffing opportunities • Start a contact list for more giving/ donations by PTOs to other Kyrene schools (eg., Cerritos giving to Niños) <p><u>KMS and Pueblo Regions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus – combination current and future • Continue to focus on community involvement • Continue “no cost”, e.g. mentor programs • Focus on more time commitment • Focus on parent volunteer/ each classroom, e.g. three for me – sign up 3 times per year/ caterpillar – parent child name • Organizing parent volunteers in kindergarten • Be \$ conservative/ support schools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Supplement textbooks and supplies ○ E.g. Autism seminar • Don't assume same budget next year • Request specificity from teachers on wishes, especially M.S. • Renegotiating with vendors <p><i>How do we help this community become actively engaged in what is happening with our state budget and legislative decisions?</i></p> <p><u>Aprende and Centennial Regions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does it mean – when we know – energy around this • Educate parents – be specific • Local paper – write letters • Get info out often – many ways • Meeting with legislators



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	<p><u>Akimel A-al and Altadeña Regions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flyers to community • Take info to school – but low turnout • Informal home meetings • Legislative contacts in newsletter <p><u>KMS and Pueblo Regions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PTA email base/ legislators • Assist with key talking points, keep it non-partisan, form advocacies as needed • Focus on how it affects school • Information on where to locate answers
Closing	Dr. Schauer thanked everyone for coming and Mirada for hosting. The next meeting will be at Milenio Elementary School on March 17.

Minutes taken by Nancy Hetrick