

Korematsu Elementary PTO at Mace Ranch

(Parent Teacher Organization)

3100 Loyola Drive – Davis, CA 95618

<http://korematupto.org>

Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2008

PTO board members present: Marc Ishisaka-Nolfi, President; Shari Ludden, vice president; Sandra Perry, vice president; Stacey Horigan, treasurer. Meeting minutes by VP Sandra.

Staff present: Principal Mary Ponce.

Parents/participants: (attendance not recorded).

Introductions and announcements

- The meeting was called to order by President Marc at 7:00 pm in the Multipurpose Room.

New business

- **Measure W presentation: Dr. James Q Hammond, Superintendent, DJUSD**

Dr. Hammond presented information regarding Measure W, which will be included on the November 2008 ballot. If approved, Measure W would authorize an additional parcel tax that would generate funds to preserve classroom and educational programs.

- The tax for homeowners would be \$120 per year, which equates to \$10 per month.
- Apartment owners would be assessed \$50 per unit per year.
- The tax would continue for three years.
- The tax requires that two-thirds of Davis voters approve the measure.
- Seniors can apply for an exemption to the tax.

Two handouts containing additional information regarding measure W were provided during the meeting and are available on the district website.

A parent asked whether the tax would continue each year if the budget situation improves. Dr. Hammond replied that the District is required to assess the budget each year to determine if the funding is still needed. The tax could be discontinued if additional funding became available from the State or other sources.

Ms. Judy Davis, retired principal of North Davis Elementary and co-chair of the Yes on W campaign concluded the presentation. Ms. Davis encouraged the meeting participants to support Measure W and to help with the Measure W campaign. She also requested that the KPTO formerly endorse the measure.

(A post-meeting vote by email of the KPTO executive board approved a MOTION in support of Measure W).

- **DKK/ACCESS After School Program: Holly Nally, Korematsu ACCESS director**

ACCESS (After School Community Collaboration of Enrichment Student Services) is an on-campus nonprofit recreational-style after-school enrichment program sponsored by Davis Kids Klub (DKK), offering a fee-based program when school is in session. The program was planned to accommodate 50 children each day, although a total of 70 children are enrolled. There is currently a waiting list. ACCESS would like to expand their program at Korematsu but there is currently not enough space at the school to accommodate a larger program.

Korematsu Elementary PTO at Mace Ranch

(Parent Teacher Organization)

3100 Loyola Drive – Davis, CA 95618

<http://korematupto.org>

Meeting Minutes

- **Principal's Report**

Principal Mary provided a brief update regarding various school activities and programs:

The school library should be open by September 22nd.

Upgrades to the computer lab are in progress. She does not currently know what date the computer lab will be ready for students.

Korematsu will be the first school in the district to implement a new nutrition program funded by Measure Q. A ribbon cutting ceremony for the program is on Thursday September 18.

The district is standardizing emergency and disaster drills. The school will be practicing drills and evacuation procedures during the week of September 22nd. The law requires that fire drills occur once monthly. Disaster drills are required once each semester.

The school does not have additional space for ACCESS because the space is needed to accommodate a variety of other programs. Examples include: Bridges, Music (Band/Strings), Banking, and TALK (language program).

- **President's Update**

President Marc introduced KPTO officers.

KPTO Mission Statement: Marc explained the PTO's "program triangle": Science, Nature and Social Justice. Science, due to our proximity and prior experience with Explorit Science Center. Nature, due to the adjacent Mace Ranch Community Park open space preserve. Social Justice, due to the school's namesake Fred T. Korematsu.

Marc provided examples of events that the KPTO has supported in the past and would like to continue, including the Asia-Pacific Festival, Explorit science programs and garden.

School and KPTO websites: The district should provide a school web site now that we have test results to report.

School garden: The garden needs to be enclosed by a chain-link fence. The fence will cost about \$925 to install using the school district's contractor. Marc suggested that we may be able to do it for less money if we can get donated materials and/or labor.

Science program: Mark indicated that there is interest in constructing a rabbit run.

Marc provided forms for committee sign ups and fundraising ideas.

- **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Stacy provided an update on KPTO insurance and finances.

The district requires that the PTO maintain insurance coverage, and secure a facilities use permit for meetings and events on district property. KPTO purchased a policy for \$410 per year (by

Korematsu Elementary PTO at Mace Ranch

(Parent Teacher Organization)

3100 Loyola Drive – Davis, CA 95618

<http://korematupto.org>

Meeting Minutes

approval of the PTO executive board in August 2008). Coverage includes liability, theft, and medical. Marc and Mary have handled the permits.

KPTO currently has 71 paid members, which equates to \$710 in dues. To date, members have contributed an additional \$1,210 in donations.

KPTO currently has over \$15,000 in its bank account. About \$7,000 of the total was generously contributed by the Valley Oak PTA. Of the \$15,000, about \$14,000 is unallocated and may be used for KPTO-sponsored programs. The remainder is allocated to special projects.

- \$1,200 provided by Target must be used for reading programs
- \$235 must be used for school garden bricks
- \$160 must be used for the school garden

• Fundraising

Chair Joanne Ayers provided a brief overview of the KPTO's fundraising efforts to date and a summary of the total dollars generated through those efforts (attached). Fund raising activities generated about \$5,000 last year. Joanne also encouraged members to take on individual fundraising tasks so that no one person has to do it all.

A parent suggested that we create a classroom competition with a prize for the most box tops brought in during a specified time period.

• Fall Book Fair/Festival

VP Shari provided an update on the Fall Book Fair, to be held during parent/teacher conference week. Shari proposed that we open the Book Fair with a Fall Festival during the weekend preceding the book fair. The Book Fair theme is 'Americana'. The festival could include vendors, a scare crow competition, and games. Shari is looking for volunteers to help.

Several parents indicated that having the fair on Saturday would conflict with soccer games and with the Jamboree. The group indicated that Sunday was a better option.

• RISE (Recycling Is Simply Elementary)

President Marc and VP Shari briefly explained the RISE recycling program and asked for volunteers to help sort recyclables at lunch time and to collect juice bags, for which a company will give us two cents each. A parent suggested that we save some of the juice bags to make auction items.

• Hospitality

Hospitality chair Alicia Mattson provided a brief summary of money she has spent on recent school events, including Teacher Appreciation, Back-to-School Night, and Familia Fall Festival. She also mentioned that she has set up an account for water at H2O to Go. She asked for approval to maintain the account and to continue to purchase water.

A parent asked if the KPTO bylaws specify the amount of money that can be spent without the approval of the board or membership. Marc indicated that we do have bylaws (posted on the KPTO website) and explained that the money spent by Alicia on recent events was approved as

Korematsu Elementary PTO at Mace Ranch

(Parent Teacher Organization)

3100 Loyola Drive – Davis, CA 95618

<http://korematupto.org>

Meeting Minutes

part of last year's budget. Expenditures of up to \$100 do not require a formal vote or motion but are approved in advance by the executive board. Alicia may continue to purchase water for KPTO-sponsored events, provided the expenditure is under \$100.

Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Next meeting

- Wednesday, October 1, Location TBD. Watch for announcement in the Korematsu Kids newsletter. Agenda items will include:
 - KPTO budget
 - Bylaw amendments
 - Master calendar and events
 - Book Fair/Fall Festival
 - Science nights
 - Reading nights grant
 - Asia-Pacific Fest / Silent auction

Contact your PTO officers

Email address:

- Marc Ishisaka-Nolfi, president president@korematupto.org
- Shari Ludden, first vice president vice-president@korematupto.org
- Sandra Walter-Perry, second vice-president
- Stacey Horigan, treasurer treasurer@korematupto.org
- Richard Reed, secretary secretary@korematupto.org
- All PTO officers in one email: korematu-pto-board@korematupto.org

PTO position/committee chairs

- Betsy Solomon Auditor
- Joanne Ayers Fundraising chair
- Marc Ishisaka-Nolfi Garden chair
- TBD GATE rep
- Alicia Mattson Hospitality chair
- Marc Ishisaka-Nolfi Korematsu Kids school newsletter editor
- Elisa Levy Measure W volunteer coordinator
- Dennis Spann Parliamentarian
- TBD SPAC rep(s)

Measure W

- www.yesw.org Phone: (530)554-2548