

## APRIL 19, 2017 UPC MEETING SNAPSHOT

**Tip: Print out and use to give your report at parent group meetings**

**UPC-Who We Are and What We Do:** We are parents working together to enhance the PV Schools experience for our children. We support you, we give you access to your Superintendent, and we provide relevant programs of interest to you. Ultimately we ADVOCATE for Students, EDUCATE Parents and Community, COLLABORATE with PVUSD and other Educational Organizations, and WORK with the Superintendent to increase the presence of the UPC.

### Superintendent Comments: Dr. Jim Lee

- The AZ Merit letters sent home to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade parents about the “potential to be held back if the child is not reading” created extra stress for students who read the letters, so new measures are being put into place to reduce stress
  - For students who fall into that category, phone calls will be made to the parent to follow up
  - Information about this will be added to packets given to parents of 2<sup>nd</sup> graders, so that it won't be a surprise
- AZ Merit scores aren't very useful to us in terms of day to day instruction
  - We depend more on our Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum to stay on top of learning and student data to keep students successful
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade AZ Merit scores should be received in May, but other scores may not be available until over summer
- A recent incident at Desert Cove Elementary went viral on social media, and it shows the importance of communication with schools
  - The principal was devastated and the parent felt bad because social media blew the incident out of proportion
  - New solutions have been created to resolve the original issue of cafeteria workers stamping student's hands to notify parents more money is needed on their lunch account
- Recent graffiti at Pinnacle High School has brought up the issue of security cameras again
  - Past bond committees looked at priorities in the district and had to narrow down the list, which included wanting to add cameras across the district
  - Instead the committee worked with security consultants to more effectively secure campuses within budget limits, so focus was on securing ingress and egress, and non-working cameras were left up to deter crime
  - Some bond money for building upgrades was able to be moved around, so cameras are being added to Pinnacle HS (should complete Friday), North Canyon HS next, then on to all High Schools throughout district
- At the last Governing Board Meeting, Sue Skidmore and Julie Bacon put together a resolution to tell the state that we oppose ESA's, then sent the resolution to all Governing Boards throughout the state asking them to join us

### Election of Officers for 2017-2018:

- Nominees were announced at the last meeting and were also sent out per bylaws
- No new nominations were received from the floor
- Officers for 2017-2018 were voted on and approved
  - President—Melissa Schwartz
  - VP of Membership—Susan Matura
  - Treasurer—Noily Ehlenberger
  - Secretary—Erin McGarrahan

## **Committee Reports:**

### Gifted Education: Marisha Geraghty

- Seminar on April 26<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. on Striking a Balance: Teaching Life Lessons for the Real World

### Special Education: Deb Kozak

- Dyslexia Seminar is postponed until next school year

### Teacher Appreciation: Stacey Huscher

- This year's theme is "Tell us who rocks at your school"
- Bags with teacher appreciation awards need to be signed out
- Principals decide how to announce awards
- Ask Principals to notify recipients by Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>

### Community Legislative Network: Julie Bacon

- Several negative things have happened in our legislature since the last General Membership Meeting
- Full expansion of ESA's did pass
  - It does extend the cap on expansion, but the Goldwater Institute has stated it will repeal the caps
  - Private schools will have to release information on students if they have more than 50 on ESA
  - A statement made that states will "make money" from ESA's is being reviewed
- 1178 is still active—it will require districts to create a report to tell AZ Dept. of Education how the district spends Prop 123 money
- Budget talks are still ongoing
- CLN is sending an alert asking people to contact reps to ask that teacher salaries be the first item addressed

### PV Schools Education Foundation: Stacey Huscher

- Golf tournament is sold out this year

### Geri Morgan Award: Jen Mozilo

- Deadline for nominations is 5 p.m. today

## **President's Announcements: Dwayne Paul**

- Parent Group Leadership Training is April 27<sup>th</sup> from 10-12

**Next UPC Meeting: May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017**  
**May Program: The Closing Bell with Dr. Jim Lee**