

SOA Visual Arts Booster Club

soa.chs.vabc@gmail.com

www.soavisualarts.com

Mission Statement

To bring parents of SOA's Visual Arts students together to partner with the Visual Arts teachers to create and organize initiatives which support and enhance the Visual Arts educational objectives for students in the SOA Visual Arts program.

Thursday, October 2, 2014 – 6:00 PM

MINUTES

- General remarks
 - Welcome and thanks to the 10 families who are present for the Annual Parent Meeting.
 - Ms. Nichols explained that a new VA teacher has been hired for 2014-2015, Ms. Meredith Bridges. The teachers for the various VA grades have been set up different than in the past. This year most grades will have different teachers for each of the two semesters. This goes for 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th grades. 6th grade is taught by Ms. Nichols, 11th by Ms. Cimballa and 12th by Mr. Moore.
- Finances
 - Financial statement 2013-2014 is attached to the same email these minutes are attached to. Our fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30 to coincide with the school year. The VABC started last year with a very small balance (\$495.66) and most income was added later in the year. Majority of the income came from Product Sales. The two fundraisers we had last year (Flower Power and Yankee Candle) generated a total of \$384.00
 - It is important to remember that the VABC is not a 501C3 and therefore our max income per year is limited to \$5000 per year. That also means any donations are not tax deductible.
- Booster Clubs at SOA
 - During meetings Dr. Cook has had with all SOA Booster Clubs it was decided that for purpose of transparency and clarity to all parents (including those looking for their kids to attend SOA) that all by laws, officer names and financial statements (twice per year) will need to be posted to Fine Arts links on the SOA webpage.
- VABC
 - The VABC currently does not have any bylaws nor do we have officially nominated officers. We have a steering committee which currently consists of 7 members, two of which have seniors so this is their last year.
 - The bylaws will need to be posted by the end of this calendar year - the steering committee will have to work on that. We have located by laws for Piano and Band boosters on line and Danyelle Townsend will supply the by laws from the Strings booster club.
- VABC Officers and Steering Committee, Elections
 - The VABC needs volunteers for the steering committee, and as Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Lindsey Demos offered to serve as Vice President, but this is her last year at SOA, so a parent with a younger child would make more sense.
 - Jen Mathis offered to serve as Treasurer this year – her child is an 11th grader, so next year we will need another person to step forward, so she can train that person. She will automatically be a member of the Steering Committee.
 - Marianne Allardice offered to serve as Secretary for this year. She will automatically be a member of the Steering Committee.

- Danyelle Townsend offered to become a Steering Committee member. She is currently president of the Strings Booster Club and will consider being President next year of the VABC.
- Fundraising or Voluntary Fee
 - We have not been very successful with our Flower Power and Yankee Candle fundraisers. Good thing was that these were internet based fundraisers and not a lot of time and effort had to be put into them. Other fundraisers done in the past required items to be shipped to school and then either be picked up by parents or shipped out with the students by bus – not very desirable.
 - During the Steering Committee meeting a few weeks ago it was agreed to ask the Parents at this meeting for their opinion to replace any fundraisers with a Voluntary VABC Fee. This is similar to what the PTSA does - they ask for an annual fee, with the promise not to come out with any fundraisers. In putting this in front of the Annual Meeting attendees it was agreed by 100% of the attendees to move forward with a Voluntary VABC Fee and forego any future fundraisers. The Steering Committee will discuss how to put this out to all VABC parents. We will continue to sell SOA magnets, which are very popular and will always be a fairly easy way to generate more income.
 - Needs
 - The VA department receives from the School District \$500 for all Middle School classes and \$500 for all of High School. This is the main reason why you are asked to pay the VA fee at the beginning of the year – there is no other way to make the VA department run.
 - The VABC helps out with items for which the VA Fees cannot be used such as Artist in Residence and others. We also pay for any expenses with the HS and MS Art shows, various trips, contests, conferences, and some class supplies. Monies can also be used for matting supplies.
 - VA Shows
 - MS show has been set for Thu April 9, 2015 and will be a Sight and Sound Show together with strings – similar to what we do for the HS Arts Show
 - HS show – no date advised yet
 - Senior Show – no date advised yet
 - Question was asked if students would be allowed to sell artwork. Steering Committee will discuss this with the teachers.
 - Other
 - VA Facebook page can be found under "SOA Visual Artists"
 - VA Webpage can be accessed at: www.soavisualarts.com
 - Some items from The Cabinet meeting with Dr. Cook:
 - Email communications from school can be received by signing up via Info Snap. The PTSA sends out a regular newsletter. The VABC has an email distribution list which is not complete, so if you hear from a VA parent who is not receiving any of the VABC emails please have them send an email to soa.chs.vabc@gmail.com
 - Sports: the CCSD rule on sports is that you either play for your own school (such as a magnet school) or your homeschool. SOA does not offer any sports and therefore no sports can be played for your own school when you attend SOA. There are sports teams with SOA students as team members but they are considered recreational teams and cannot show SOA on their shirts.
 - The USDA has set certain standards for Healthy Snacking. This affects what can be sold and eaten at school, both as far as bake sales and fundraisers are concerned. Details can be found at: <http://www.ccsdschools.com/OperationsHumansCapitalFacilities/FinanceOperations/NutritionFoodService/documents/SmartSnacksFlyer.pdf>