**MUSE Board Meeting**

**October 13, 2014**

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment
3. Teacher Request/Presentation and discussion of MUSE grants
4. Approval of September minutes
5. Financial Report—Sara
6. Discussion of adding “what other funding sources/optioins have you explored” to our current grant form(was this “tabled” for now?)
7. Old Business, thank you/success of Gallery Bookshop “shop out” approx. $475 and soon to be received matching donation from Drake/Graham family and Chevron
8. New Business—Upcoming dine-outs, Crab feed will be Friday, January 30, 2015 6pm, Little River Inn
9. Adjourn

**Next meeting will be Monday, November 10, 2014**

Shanti Bischop called the meeting to order at 4:03pm.

No public comments were made.

Motion was made by Pamela and seconded by Sara to approve the September meeting minutes. The Minutes were approved.

**Item #5--Financial Report**—Sara. Gallery Bookshop helped raise $475 for the Gallery Bookshop(“the biggest shop out the bookstore has had”). We also got $163 from Harvest Market. The present balance was $45, 703 in mid September. Minus the Music Account($20,100—approx). This leaves us around $25,703. We will allocate no more than $20,000 for grants this school year. We may also get another $700 check from Chevron.

3. **We moved to item #3**—teacher requests/presentation and discussion of MUSE Grants. Today’s requests(if all approved) would be $9800.

**Ryan Olson-Day, Rebecca Bailey, Tom Sosnovec** are combined in this potential application. Ryan said he would like to thank MUSE for this opportunity. Ryan said we are building a Science/Technology Area. Right now we have 10 programmable robots. Eventually we would like a 3-D scanner(maybe around $350). A computer called a “raspberry pie” will come in the future. The grant would help buy a “makey-makey kit” for the robotics class. You can use all kinds of other things instead of the computer keyboard to conduct electricity and give commands to the computer. Designed by grad students at MIT. This technology has come down price-wise over the past few months. Pam asked how long this may last. Ryan said that the circuit boards are not super durable but should last awhile(they are made for kids).

**Linda Freeling**, **Hannah Grinberg and Sasha Rolfes(sp?)** spoke on behalf of the 2-3rd grade team. They are presently lacking a lot of materials for science. They put together their curriculum, and found that the Foss Kit comes in a complete kit, has lessons, and comes with all kinds of hands-on, investigative approaches. This might also be utilised in other grade levels as well.

**Diane Price** is asking for a $1000 grant for the garden. She would buy a lot of manure(among other items). She would like to get more from other parents, but “that wouldn’t be realistic”. She presently works with 4th & 5th graders and will soon be working with kindergartners as well. They are presently harvesting apples, carrots, cucumbers, peas, lettuce, and strawberries. She usually gets about 200lbs. of carrots and plenty of lettuce for the lunch program. Her previous MUSE grant has lasted the past 2 years. She also bought gloves for the kids to use. She might also buy little hand gardening tools. The rest goes into the supplies to keep this garden growing. Shanti asked if local garden centers donate seeds. Yes Diane said, many do. Some soil has also been donated. Dirt Cheap may also donate. Matson is also making some triangle beds as well as square boxes for the garden.

**Dale Leister & Ryan Olson Day** have put together a request for $2000 for the Ropes Course for the 7th graders. Last year it cost them $7000 to pay for the whole Ropes course. Much of it came from various fundraisers, the Site Council, as well as the Mendo Children Fund. The 7th graders were divided into groups with counselors. They had access to the dining halls. This would be an overnight trip. This time the 7th graders and teachers would go to Westminster or possibly go up to Leggett or someplace on the Skunk Train route. Dale would like to do this every year at the end of the year. Other fundraisers are being considered like doing a sponsored Mendocino Clean Up. Sara spoke up for the positivism of the trip and she said the staff at the Ropes Course at Westminster was amazing.

**Margaret Iacuaniello** spoke up for the K-1 team, but this might be used for the whole K-8 school. This is for Die Cut Letters and Holiday Symbols. They would like both letters & symbols($800) and for science and holiday symbols($500). This could be used in a variety of places. They already have a machine, which is like a press. They would need new pads(which need to be replaced every now and then).

**Pam Duncan** is asking for $1000 for the 8th grade trip to Sacramento. They visit the capital, the Crocker Art Museum, and tour UC Davis and visit the Jelly Belly Factory. They would also visit Sacramento State and attend a Sacramento River Cats game. This is a 3 day trip(2 nights). The entire trip costs $7000, which includes fundraising. Pam could use $2000, but she was asking for $1000 to stay within MUSE limits.

**Doug Nunn** asked for $1000 to help subsidize the MHS Improv Club. The total budget is $3000 and Doug is hoping that MUSE could help defray the costs of about 1/3 of the club’s budget. MUSE had helped support the Improv Club 3 or 4 times in the early 2000s. The Improv Club will also be performing at the MUSE Crab Feed on January 30.

**Laura Boucher** wants Blindfolds(Adventure Activities Unit) and a Bowling Alley Kit for the Gym. This way she could teach bowling to all the students as we no longer have a bowling alley in the area. She would also like $1000.

We had a general discussion re: taking in applications and making sure to get out the word better. Then we got specific—

* Pamela moved that $1000 be voted for the Improv Club. 5 voted Yes, with Doug abstaining.
* Re: the 7th Grade Ropes Course. Sara said she found there was some vagueness to this request. Pamela pointed out that the teachers were still “shopping” for the best deal for the group. Mel said we are prepared to grant it, but asked for a specific plan to be proposed. Pamela pointed out that the district would be insistent on specifics. Shanti proposed that we move to spend $2000 for the 7th grade Westminster Woods Ropes Course (in Occidental) trip. (If it is not Westminster, MUSE would like to know there’ll be) It passed unanimously.
* Anna Kvinsland moved to approve the $1000 Diane Price asked for for the garden. Diane won’t come back for 2 years. Anna finds this commendable. It is mostly 4th & 5th graders who benefit, but other K-8 students do as well. Anna said we should ask Diane for a wish list, which MUSE could support. Anna said that perhaps we should give $500 now, make a wish list, and give $500 more in the spring. Doug said he thought the grant should be for $1000 straight up. Mel agreed. A motion was made for a $1000 grant. The motion was passed 5-1.
* A motion was made to pass the $750 2-3 Team Science Kit. It was seconded and passed unanimously.
* Re: Laura Boucher and the Bowling Alley/Blind Folds. There would be both a temporary bowling alley and blind folds. Doug made a motion that we grant $1000 to Laura for the Bowling Alley/Blind Folds. It passed unanimously.
* Anna Kvinsland made a motion that we grant $2000 for the 8th grade trip. The motion was passed 5-0 with one abstention.
* Ryan Olson-Day’s Makey-Makey science kit for $750. Anna made a motion that we grant $750 for the Makey Makey kits. A motion was made to pass their request and it passed unanimously.
* Re: the K-1 Team Die Cut Numbers & Letters for $800. Pamela made a motion that we grant $800 for numbers and letters die cut. It passed unanimously. Upon further discussion, Sara made a motion to revisit this item. Pamela seconded this motion to revisit. There were 3 AYES and there were 3 NAYS. We will table this for now and invite Margaret back for the November 10 meeting.
* Re: Die Cut Science & holidays for $500. Pamela likes the die cut science kit, but wasn’t impressed by the holiday cut outs. Mel said he wondered if decorating for a holiday maybe wasn’t a MUSE project. Anna asked about the school’s attitude toward holidays. The proposal was voted on with a YEA-3 and NAY-3 split. Mel felt it “gets away from our mission of artistic enrichment”. Pamela felt it would be more enriching to spend $500 for other things than holiday items. The proposal was voted on again and there were 1 AYE and 5 NAYS. Mel asked that perhaps Margaret could come back in March with another idea. MUSE will table this for now as many board members were unsure if this met with the MUSE mission.

New Business--

 Upcoming Dine Outs

 Crab Feed, Friday, January 30, 2015 at 6pm at the Little River Inn

**The next meeting is Monday, November 10, 2014 at 4pm @ the K-8 library.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6pm.