

## **Open Classroom Parent Meeting – May 10, 2017**

### **Country Fair – Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup> - Please sign up on Sign-up Genius if you have not already!**

\$1100 was raised in pre-affle sales at Good Earth this weekend  
We will be back there to sell more raffle tickets this weekend. There may be a shift open 10-12 Sunday on Mothers' Day. Jackie Bloom is in charge.

**Country Fair:** There are still **46 jobs** that need to be filled. Jobs that need to be filled: servers, trash duty, playground supervision, trash duty at the end of the night, Popcorn and Sno-cone Machine, Supervising and Packing up Carnival Games, and many more! We need more people to volunteer for jobs at the end of the day.

It was suggested that some people may not have received the sign-up genius. Teachers will send out the e-mail with the Sign-up Genius to their class lists.

It was also suggested that jobs be given out to parents after school. Last year one mom wore a poster board sign with post-it notes with jobs that still needed to be done.

Petting Zoo this year (Ally is in charge): A ticket will get 10 minutes in the zoo.

This is Jen Fredenburg's last year to be in charge of Country Fair. She has done this important job for several years. Amy McConnell will be lead for Country Fair next year.

### **LEAP Update (Adam):**

Read-a-thon was very successful...it raised \$5500  
Valley Visions was extremely successful – we sold 40 more tickets this year than last year.

### **Camping Trip Update – Week of September 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>**

We can't camp at Cazadero this year as they are remodeling. The choices are Little Basin, Mendocino Woodlands, or Redwood Glen. Cost is similar for each. At Redwood Glen, meals are included. Pros and Cons of each were discussed.

#### **Mendocino**

Beautiful Nature, cooking meals together is a bonding experience. The kitchen and Dance Hall are beautiful. The commitment to going far away is a bonding experience. Water Hole needs supervision and a lifeguard. On public land. It's a trek from the camp. It is colder and darker in the Redwoods. Camp is spread out...hard to keep track of kids. Several days and farther away is hard for working parents.

### **Little Basin**

Cooking outside might be difficult with kids.

### **Redwood Glen**

They cook the food. Christian Camp.

### **Camp Navarro**

**\*\*Anita has been waiting to hear from Camp Navarro and got an e-mail during the parent meeting from the Coordinator there. They will give us a discount, and it may be cheaper than the other options. Camp Navarro is near Booneville/Anderson Valley. It used to be a boy scout camp. They would provide the meals. It is sunny. The camp is 2 hours and 20 minutes away. People LOVED the idea of Camp Navarro as it has a great reputation. It has a dining hall for cooking and a large fire pit. They have a lawn area in the center. Beautiful. There is a shallow river and a swimming hole with a rope swing.**

***\*\*Group decided to vote on Camp Navarro as 1<sup>st</sup> choice and Redwood Glen as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Choice.***

### **PROGRAM EVALUATION**

Program was evaluated on the following 5 areas:

- How often are you aware of attention being paid to social and emotional growth?
- How often are different activities taking place simultaneously?
- How often do you see children enthusiastically engaged in a project?
- How often do you see students interrupted from a project they are deeply involved in because of scheduling?
- How much time do children spend in cross-age activities?

A larger discussion was held about cross-age activities. People expressed the desire to have more opportunities for cross-age activities.

One parent expressed that it is difficult to redirect a child who is engrossed in play to go do a job. Another parent expressed the value of teaching the child to pause their interests and perform a job, as it teaches valuable life skills. Other parents chimed in: Learning how to navigate transitions and how to respect other peoples' time are valuable skills as well. Time management, self-regulation and responsibility for their own learning are skills that are learned at the Open Classroom. Students

practice speaking and self-advocating with adults from an early age. Students feel empowered to make their own choices and negotiate with adults. Some students learn how to be efficient with their jobs so they can get back to play. Another parent said that she sees her middle school student carry the lessons he learned at the open classroom with him to middle school.