

Irvine Community Nursery School
General Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 19, 2017

President – Priscilla Cottone

- Welcome/Meeting called to order at 7:01pm

1st VP- Selena

- Introduction of Round Table Topics (3- 15 minute sessions)
 - Responsibilities and chores- Appropriate ages for tasks, incentives and encouragement (allowances or sticker chart)
 - Allowances and financial lessons- Should you give an allowance? How much, and what is it based on? What financial lessons are important to your family? How do you start those lessons with your children? Savings- Laying the cornerstone of financial security, Investing- Teaching kids to put their money to work, Giving- A charitable heart starts young
 - Family Traditions- What are some of your family traditions for holidays, birthdays, the weekends, or otherwise? How do you start new traditions? Do you follow any from your childhood? What is the importance of family traditions?
 - Fun Fall Activities- Some activities discussed include: Pumpkin patch, Apple picking, San Diego Zoo, Movies, Hiking, Treats in the streets in the Orange Circle, Disney Halloween party, Spooktacular at the Great Park, IPD open house, theme parks, Duffy boat rides, Woodbridge haunted house

Secretary – Ashley

- Minutes from September General Meeting to be approved- Marta makes a motion to approve the September general meeting minutes, Melissa seconds the motion, the motion to approve the minutes passed

BREAK

Donna

- Play- Play is a child's work.

“We don't stop playing because we grow old, we grow old because we stop playing.”

ICNS is a play-based program. What does that mean? It means the classroom is set up for play- there is a mud kitchen, a home kitchen, the harvest market, a grocery store, and the children are learning through singing songs and reading books. If you are having fun, you will pursue an activity for a much longer period of time. Children will learn and spend time on an activity if it is fun for them.. Do they learn their letters and numbers? Yes! They learn through play! They learn through interaction with adults and through observation. Let children get dirty and learn.

How do children learn when they play? Playing releases endorphins in the brain, and when you release them, your brain learns more. This is why we go outside first at ICNS. Children are constantly making decisions when they play. They are using their brain to decide what happens next. What is your role for supporting play? Play with the children, ask questions about what they are doing, use “I wonder” statements, make an observational comment, and direct the play. Your children haven't been alive very long, and through play, your child is making sense of their world.

- Halloween Costume Parade- There is a flier with information about the parade in your child's file. Dates are October 30/31. We put on costumes and walk around the park behind the school.
- ASQs- You will find an ASQ form in your child's file. This is an Ages and Stages Questionnaire. Parents administer the questionnaire based on your child's age. It tells what is developmentally appropriate, and may be used to ID children who may need intervention. It helps teachers decide which activities to focus on in the classroom. It's not a diagnosis, just a guideline. It was originally meant to be administered in a Dr office, to measure more than the child's physical growth. Please fill out the form and return it to Donna by November 2 or 3.
- Parent/Teacher Conferences will be November 6/7. Sign-ups will be on the door just before conferences.
- Stone Soup- November 16/17- The Thursday and Friday before Thanksgiving break. All families are invited to come. Everyone brings a vegetable for the (vegetarian) soup and we make corn bread. We need donations of pumpkin pie and whipped cream. We need 4 pumpkin pies per class. Volunteers for pumpkin pie donation are: for the 2-day class- Melissa, Kayla, Marta, and Serena. Desiree will bring whipped cream. For the 3-day class- Ashley, Jennifer, Salome, and Nithya. Selena will bring whipped cream.
- Purple kangaroo newsletter has been sent out via email. Please read it.
- Harvest market- We need more big pumpkins, flowers and hay bales.
- 6 week survey passed out to parents, please return to Donna at the end of the meeting
- School picture day will be October 26/27

Holiday Party – Jen Oh

- Donations- please ask around local businesses for donations. If you bring a donation, you will receive 5 raffle tickets.
- RSVP to the evite by November 3.
- Potluck sign up was passed around.
- We need a santa volunteer. If you would like to volunteer as Santa, or know someone who would, please let Jen know.
- We need volunteers to help set up on December 1. Set up will be late in the day- 9-10pm.
- Other items needed to complete baskets- baskets and boxes, wrap and ribbons, there will be a wrapping party the week before the holiday party.
- You can bring the donations to school, and Priscilla and Bushra can take them home to store
- Raffle tickets will cost \$1 for one ticket, \$5 for 6 tickets, \$20 for arm's length of tickets
- We have a letter with the tax ID number to give to businesses that donate. An email with the letter was sent out and a hard copy of the letter is here at the meeting.

Ways & Means- Wende

- Pumpkin City Fundraiser- October 24. Wende will accept money for wristbands after the meeting. The Chick-Fil-A on El Toro will also be offering a portion of sales to ICNS that evening.
- Chocolate Sales- Wende will put order form in child files next week. Chocolate sales will be from October 25-November 16, and the candy will be here for pick-up the week of November 27. Some items make more money for the school than others. For

example, the \$7.50 boxes will earn us 50% of sales. If we get to \$2000 of sales, we get a 5% bonus.

- Things we are looking to buy with funds- outdoor tables and blocks.

OCCPPNS- Katy Johnson- not present

- Survey on parenting development workshops will be in child's file, please return to Celeste's file in the 2-day class.

Cleaning Scheduler- Dan- not present

- Reminder: Cleaning Day is Saturday, October 21st 8:00am-12:00pm- He emailed everyone a reminder
- NO CHILDREN MAY ATTEND

Field Trip Coordinator- Emily/Priti

- Fire station- firefighters are busy with recent wildfires, but we will work on a date to visit
- Lamppost pizza- "The Big Walk." Children will walk to eat pizza at the Culver/Walnut intersection. We buy pizza and eat lunch in the restaurant. Dates are November 8/9.
- December 20/21 will be cookie day at Donna's house
- Other field trips possibly in the plans are a story walk for parents and children, a tour of Costco, The Dana Point environmental center, Newport back bay, model train center

Philanthropy –Elham

- Laura's House- A shelter, refuge, counseling center for abused women and their children. We have a wish-list from Laura's House. They need household supplies for women and children. We will bring in items from the wish list, and deliver them to Laura's House at the end of November. There will be a box for donation collection at ICNS.
- OC rescue mission- We can create a food kit or hygiene kit every 3rd Saturday of the month from 9am-12pm. This is something that the children can come and participate in with parents. We will coordinate for a day after December.
- Pennies for hurricane relief
- 2nd Harvest Food bank

Tanya

- Please sign up for Kangaroo Club.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00