

FOESL Meeting Minutes
28 February 2017

In attendance:

Julie Solomon, Elizabeth Hutchins, Lara Ingham, Chris Myers, Patrick Fuller, Gisela Walitzki, Rebecca Thompson

Minutes submitted by Rebecca Thompson

GOBS

- Dates confirmed for week of April 24th
 - Collection Mon AM/PM and Tues AM only
 - Kids to select books Wed and Thurs
- System will be same as last year, where kids who donated books can come early and/or select extra books first day; no money or point system to be used
- May need to limit numbers that day (with sign in the library as kids walked in, and with note to teachers on Mon afternoon) based on what comes in; Thurs will be more open “free-for-all” day
- Kristen Haferbecker has asked if we can donate extra children’s books after the event to Children’s Book Bank; she has a place to store the books until passing them off on Mt Hood Service Day in May; FOESL agrees with this plan
- Chris got GOBS on official calendars; Elizabeth confirms she can see it on parent site

Actionable follow-up items:

- Becca will make poster to promote families’ book donations and notify parents about the event; she and Lara will post around all divisions in next few weeks
- Chris will coordinate borrowing 10 folding tables to supplement the tables that are already in the library
- Lara will set schedule with teachers for classes to come in for 30 min slots on Wed
- Becca will check on availability of cart to roll donations up from LS dropoff area for curbside book dropoff
- Chris will follow up on bringing in US buddies to help LS students select their books

Author visits

- Successful Patricia Polacco visit on February 23rd
 - 3 student talks and a teacher luncheon
 - Refreshing delivery, straightforward, really “told it like it is”
 - Students said it was like a pep talk, “she made me feel like I could do anything I wanted to do”
 - With each audience, discussed different aspects of her challenges in life, including her dyslexia and depression and her work at Sandy Hook Elementary (was working there at the time, happened to leave a few hours before the 12/2012 shooting)
- Final pending author visit for this academic year is April 6th, 4th grade only, Green Bean books; The Nocturnals
- Summer reading plan: Patrick mentions Jonathan Hill, *Americus*

- Jason Reynolds visit not likely to come through, as he's very booked up
 - There have also been concerns about his book conveying a negative portrayal of a non-white family; cannot be the only required book for MS summer reading because of this imbalance; could consider including it if we also included a positive portrayal of a non-white family and/or a negative portrayal of a white family; group agrees that we want to encourage dialogue about racial inequities but that we need to be sensitive, as a predominantly non-minority community, to accidentally implying that a story with violence and other negative events represents minority experience in some generalizable way
 - Maybe Jason Reynolds himself would have suggestions for books to include to balance his, if it is recommended? Or another speaker to facilitate discussions about race and inequalities?
- Dori Yang visit from the fall, Patrick will send receipt to Julie for FOESL reimbursement

Lou Fernandez Literary Festival

- No updates today

Treasurer's report--Julie

- Current funds are at \$6200; anticipate \$5K at end of academic year
- Still planning to reimburse re: Patrick's yearly MS event, Patricia Polacco visit, and honoraria (books and bench, see Budget)
- Julie has talked to Gretchen to inquire if we can roll any extra money into next year for future author visit and other event support--confirmed
- If we have a budget surplus, this is another reason to consider using that funding to bring a big name author to campus next year; Gisela suggests could consider collaborating with Beaverton (linked with AASK and community partnership)

Budget/Grants

- Chris has looked into bench to honor Bev Shue--around \$500-600 range; next step is to look at location for bench with Jon von Behren and consider designs, which Chris will do
- Lara will be ordering Lonely Planet series travel books for kids next month; collection to be placed in LS Library (expected cost \$200) to honor Patty Walhood; Heidi Hackenjoes will make book plates
- Chris is still open to FOESL ordering a book for the OES collections to honor Chris's dad; Chris will consider possible fitting titles and get back to us

Wrap-Up

- Revisited topic of when it makes sense in calendar to hold LFLF and GOBS--separate times of year to space out events that promote literacy versus together to consolidate and have the excitement of many events coinciding, with some appealing most to each division (LS/MS/US)?

- Timing of GOBS best to be in spring so as to be at least somewhat close to summer reading.
- Events involving upper schoolers have to take APs and other academic commitments into account.
- Jan/Feb is a time that many US projects are wrapping up and could coincide with presenting some of these projects as part of a celebration of literacy.
- If merged, Chris thinks April would still be optimal. April is National Poetry Month and includes National Library week

Remaining meetings for the 2016-2017 academic year (all in DVR):

(No March meeting due to spring break)

April 18th

May 23rd