

## **Green Team Meeting Minutes – 9/13/13**

taken by: Amy Lay, amy.lay@mac.com

**Attending** Amy Lay, Chair  
Tara Barauskas, E-Waste  
Laura McDonald  
Wendy Trilling, Garden Committee Chair (part)  
Natasha Wheeler (part)  
Marleen Zweerink (part)  
Susanne Mancherian (part)

### **Finances**

GGT has not received an official statement, as of yet, for the 2013-14 year but based on estimates and our recent café monies we think we have approximately \$1000.00.

### **Vermiculture Program**

GGT has fifteen (15) “Kid’s Can Compost” books for the classrooms but we need two (2) more and we would like to purchase an additional ten (10) books. They are approx \$10.00 a piece, totaling \$120.00.

GGT would like to also purchase comprehensive manuals for each grade specifically on worm composting for the parent volunteers. GGT will need to research manuals under \$20 a piece.

### **Bike, Walk, Roll**

GGT didn’t have a huge turnout and that was expected. Next month we will rev-up participation. This month we did not solicit meet-up location captains but next month we will.

### **E-Waste**

The big issue right now is collection. Are parents getting the message? Is one Friday morning during café a reasonable time frame for drop-offs? GGT will stick with the Friday morning drop-off, once a month but we’d like to research the possibility for a permanent e-waste collection area. This would need to be approved by admin. and has been rejected in the past. In the meantime, GGT will look into placing a paper bag in student’s backpacks with information printed on it about our e-waste collection. We chose paper over plastic because it is more likely to biodegrade in a landfill. The paper bag could be used for bringing a small amount of e-waste to school on a collection day. If the parent does not use it for e-waste they could use it for something else like a lunch. We also discussed the use of larger recycled containers such as: an oatmeal carton, coffee can or a re-sealable plastic container. These containers could be used to collect e-waste at home, transport them to school and then reused again at home after the items are deposited into our e-waste container.

### **Toner Recycling**

We made \$112 last June in the toner recycling program. This was given directly to the general school fundraising account because Amy (GGT Chair) was out of town. GGT discussed that these funds should go directly to GGT in the future. We'd like to fundraise for the school directly but maybe it's better to focus our efforts into GGT programs because they too directly benefit our school.

### **Field Trips**

Natasha Wheeler will be organizing a trip for families to the nearby Ballona Wetlands, date TBA. We need more parents to step-up and organize these single trips. GGT has a sign-up genius account for events that is already set-up so it's pretty easy. Some events don't need RSVPs and those are even easier.

### **Camping**

GGT's first camping trip of the year will be El Capitan State Beach, November 1st-3<sup>rd</sup>. For this trip there are only forty (40) individual spots. Due to these limitations and the huge demand for camping recently we will use this trip to fundraise for our committee. Each individual spot will cost \$20.00 for the entire weekend (*that's \$20.00 per person for 2 nights, I made a mistake in the meeting and said it was \$20 per person per night.*) The lottery will be held a month before the camping trip and in order to participate you need to pay in full for your chance at a spot. Once the 40 spots are chosen the remaining names will be put on a waitlist. If you do not get a spot via waitlist or if you choose not to be waitlisted you may either donate your fee to the GGT or request a refund. Lottery tickets will be color-coded based on the size of each family (example: red for a family of 5 members, orange for 4, yellow for 3, green for 2.) Additional color-coded tickets for each family (that has paid the fee) may be purchased for 1 dollar. Those *additional* tickets will not be refunded.

### **Campus Participation/Moral**

GGT discussed asking staff, teachers and PRLs to participate more regularly in our activities. It is loud and clear to us that parents are asked to step-up to make GICS an amazing school but we would like to see the staff leading by example as we try to cultivate a culture of environmental stewardship. GGT feels that the staff, teachers and PRL's participation in programs like Bike, Walk and Roll to School, Zero-Waste Wednesdays as well as other programs will help build moral.

### **GGT Newsletter and (new) Subscriber List**

GGT needs to remind subscribers to check their junk folders. The newsletter email comes via a bulk email service, "MailChimp" and is often sorted into junk. According to MailChimp we have only had 50-60% of the GGT emails opened by members. Yikes!