



Loma Portal Foundation

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SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

February 26, 2020

6:00 pm

OFFICERS

Valerie Lawson
President

Megan Polizzi
Vice President

Kelly Murphy-Lyman
Secretary

Jessica Goetting
Treasurer

Mark Morici
Principal

- CALL TO ORDER -Valerie L.

NEW BUSINESS

1. STEAM Lab-Valerie

- As explained in last meetings, we received an independent generous donation of \$30,000 with the request to dedicate these funds to the STEAM program at LPE. The board and Principal have spent a lot of time meeting with STEAM education consultants. Teaching staff is behind this new plan we are presenting.
- Mark explained what Troxell STEAM education consultants does and the recommendations they set forth.
- In addition to the new PL Cluster STEAM pilot curriculum, we have the opportunity to go further with this new generous independent donation. With this donation we can do something very special for the school.
- We can connect what is going on in STEAM lab with the current classroom level curriculums.
- Mark explained the STEAM Pilot program has already started in classrooms. For example, the study of habitats in kinder is a part of the new curriculum being introduced to the classrooms year by year. Mark noted that STEAM curriculum is not always in robotics and engineering.
- Teachers currently attend training 3 times a year for the current curriculum.
- It is important we have a designated space as a STEAM lab and there is a good chance we will lose the current room 24 STEAM/computer lab to a full time classroom next school year. With the teaching staff's approval, we will now be able to use the previous teacher lounge for the STEAM program. The new location will most likely never be a classroom.

- Brooke asked about the current computers. The answer was some will be moved to the new STEAM lab and some will be used elsewhere.
- Who moves it? Tim and Catherine can do the move, possibly needing volunteers. We still have the previously approved \$1,000 to dedicate towards upgrading the room.
- With the Troxell estimate (the quote was passed out to members that were present) and the STEAM items we already have, the plan is for:
 - Purchase of 75-inch interactive board for hands on STEAM coding and engineering
 - Kinder: purchase of Cubettos
 - 1st grade: expansion into Ozo Bots (introduced in Kinder)
 - 2nd grade: Already purchased simple machines programs with Lego kits (robotics and engineering)
 - 3rd grade: Piper computers (building and coding computers)
 - 4th grade: Little Bits program in addition to digital media (with purchase of Ipads approved at the last meeting)
- All this curriculum goes into the STEAM pathway at Dana, Correia, and PLHS.
- The plan is to break up PD to times when substitutes would not be needed, as to not incur additional costs.
- Troxell quote is \$26,072.17 (includes parts, Professional Development, and storage)
- Mark would like to spend an additional \$1,200 for another class set of Ozo bots, making the total \$27,272.17.
- Jessica presented the following numbers.
 - We have \$30,000 of the independent donation, minus \$7,000 (approved in last foundation meeting for 4th grade Ipads) = \$23,000 left of the donation
 - The \$23,000 plus the \$1,602 left over from the budget's dedicated STEAM line = \$24,602 to spend.
 - We would need to take the overage (\$2670.17) from Funding requests, and allocate it for STEAM. We still have \$16,000 in the Funding Request line.
- Stools were a topic. The ones quoted by Troxell were \$121 each. The board felt this was too much and it was more important to get the ball rolling and the room going. An idea to "buy a stool" at the auction was brought up. Becca said she would buy a sample stool to show at the auction.
- Amy motioned to approve up to \$3,000 from the funding request line to cover additional STEAM purchases.
- Stan seconds
- Approved

- Becca motions to spend the \$26,072.17 on the Troxell quote as written and the additional Ozo bots (\$1,200) plus up to \$3,000 from Funding Requests.
- Amy seconds
- Approved
- Thank you, Megan, for the huge amount of research on pricing!
- Valerie read an email from Marissa, the donor of the \$30,000.
- It was discussed how to do a "thank you" plaque to Marissa, in addition to a legacy brick.

Adjournment 6:42pm