

ELAC Meeting Minutes – 1/23/09

Meeting started at 8:25.
Welcome & Pledge of Alligiance
Introductions

Discussion of Norooz

Date on Lanai calendar for Persian New Year is listed as Friday, March 20th. This is the exact date of Norooz, and many committee members felt Persian Families would not be sending their children to school that day.

*Can we plan the Lanai celebration for a different day?

If not, since this is a minimum day, how much time will be allowed for Norooz?

ELAC would like to do a similar program to last year;

1. Morning Assembly – presentation with dancers & music
2. Recess -- food samples, music, student dancers
3. Haft seen table set up.
4. Cookies and/or goodie bags (budget permitting)

Lili will “guarantee” volunteers ☺

Yasi & Leila will contact parents to organize student dancers

Niloofar will talk to Mrs Collier

Eve will look into:

date change

budget

sound system check

Discussion of Chinese New Year

It was decided that there is a lack of time and motivation from the parent body to plan and present an adequate representation of Chinese New Year this year. Flyers have agone out inviting Lanai families to help plan multicultural events, but there has not been any response for Chinese New Year.

Discussion of Cinco de Mayo

ELAC committee members appreciated the offer to plan for Cinco de Mayo, but felt *Mexican Independence Day* would be a more important day to recognize in September.

ELAC Parent Training, 1/22

Negar attended the all day training at Monroe High School, where Holly Priebe-Diaz (LAUSD Intervention expert) presented an impressive presentation on Bullying Prevention. She outlined all the different kinds of bullying (physical, emotional) and the harm that even witnessing bullying can do. Even gossiping is a kind of bullying. Bullying can come from classmates, parents, teachers.

Negar brought in the Elementary Report to Parents about bullying. Copies will be kept in the Parent Center.

ELAC committee discussed stories of bullying on campus. Several parents reported their kids had experienced a fair amount of bullying at school, and need to learn tools to teach their kids how to handle it, and the best way for parents to get results from staff and administration.

It was suggested that parents create a Bullying Intervention Committee, where parents could get together, support each other and get their voices heard.

Eve will look into the process for forming a school committee, and also present bullying concerns and the idea for a committee at Monday's Coffee with the Principal.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 by Negar Gharib