

**Save Our Kids' Music (SOKM)**  
Minutes, January 8, 2019, 7:00 PM

- Welcome and Introductions
  - Thank you to Nikki for refreshments
  - Betty Weyek, Karen Gatchel, Richard Gatchel, Kendra Abernathy, Cathy Crook, Peggy Smith, Nance Chaubell, Dorothy Hanchey, Nikki Dossman were present. Guests Joan Rust, Rene Godina, and Crystal Casas were present.
- Approval of SOKM Minutes and Agenda
  - November 13, 2018 Minutes and January 8, 2019 Agenda – Karen moved to accept, Betty seconded, and the motion carried.
- Happenings
  - PVSD Music Department Update
    - Las Colinas Music – Reese Copsey reported via email:  
“Las Colinas will be returning/sorting holiday music, then looking ahead to Spring. Advanced Band is planning on Cam Library Solo/Ensemble Concert on March 26, then Recruiting Tour to elementary schools on April 9. All 5 classes will gradually begin working toward Spring Concert and Open House in May. Right now emphasis for Advanced & Intermediates is key signatures. And a few students are practicing for Ventura Co. Middle School auditions on Jan 17th.”
    - Monte Vista Music – Trish Copsey reported via email:  
“Monte Vista students will spend the next few months learning all new music for our spring performances. 2nd Quarter ends in three weeks, so some students will be switching classes and I will get a new 7th grade Music Appreciation class (elective wheel) as well as a new 6th grade Beginning Band class (elective wheel).” “Hopefully, this new additional beginning band class will result in larger numbers in the Monte Vista Band program next year (my goal is to have at least 175 students in the MVS band program within 2 years).”
    - Santa Rosa Technology Magnet School Music, Los Primeros School of Arts and Sciences Music, Pleasant Valley School of Engineering and Arts Music – Rene Godina reported that beginning and intermediate bands are working on reviewing concepts.
    - K-5 General Music – Karine Szakos reported via email:  
“The third grade recorder program is going well, just prepping for our concert in March. This year's theme- swing music- is my favorite so far. The kids like the songs and they are more 3rd grade friendly than in other years. As you know, when the students love the music things tend to fall into place more easily. I've had some questions about exactly what I'm teaching the 4/5 students so I thought I'd address that. I begin with a short music theory lesson (rhythm, note values, reading treble clef notes). Then we sing and I do a little vocal instruction as it applies to the music (partner songs and singing harmony, head vs chest voice, diction, etc). Then we dance. You may have heard about the video game "fortnite". There are over 50 celebration dances related to it. Since I don't play, I'm not sure how it works. But the dances are based on real dances and the kids are wild about them! I'm not big on computer games, but this latest craze has made dancing cool for middle school and younger students. You can't even say "fortnite dances" without someone breaking into the floss or

hype! Try it. So I've taken advantage of the enthusiasm and we dance, choreograph, and have a great time while working on steady beat, improvisation and creativity. We are having fun and learning- best combination ever!"

- PVSD Youth Arts Academy (YAA) Music Update
  - YAA Beginning Keyboard – Betty Nicholson reported via email: “In December the Beginning Keyboard class had a Holiday Open House, where parents were able to hear students perform solo and in ensemble. Good time was had by all!”
  - YAA The Off Beats – Reese Copsey reported via email: “Off Beats are returning their holiday music binders and replacing them with the Spring music binders from last year. Lots of music to read, since only a few in the group are from last year. Our next performance is the Newbury Park HS Jazz Festival on March 16th.”
  - YAA Beginning & Intermediate Guitar – Mauricio Giron reported that beginning guitar is reviewing concepts, and intermediate guitar is working on scale patterns. He has handed out music to section leaders. They are possibly working with choir for a joint performance in March.
  - YAA Beginning & Intermediate Strings, Orchestra – Rene Godina reported that beginning and intermediate bands are reviewing concepts, and Orchestra is reviewing scales and key signatures.
  - PVSD Chorus – Kendra Abernathy reported that the collaborative performances were successful, and they are now working on rhythm reading to perform with percussion instruments.
- December Events – Karen reported that the concerts were great and all the logistics seemed to work well.
- PVSD Music Department and YAA Newsletter – Dorothy Hanchey will send a chorus enrollment email. Next full newsletter will be mid-February.
- SOKM Finances
  - Treasurer Position – Crystal Casas will be joining the board. Karen nominated Crystal to be treasurer, Betty seconded, and the motion carried.
  - FY 2018-19 Financials – Karen reported that PVSD grants were paid. T-shirts were ordered, mariachi instruments were purchased, instruments were repaired, music was purchased.
  - Reconciled Statements – Richard Gatchel reported that the statements are reconciled through December.
  - FY 2017-18 Taxes – Richard Gatchel reported that federal (990), state (199) taxes, and RRF-1 were all submitted by 12/15/2018 deadline.
- SOKM Donations
  - A matching donation was received from Amgen, and a donation was received from the Somis Thursday Club.
  - Walmart Grant – Karen reported that she submitted a grant in September, and has not heard if it was approved yet.
  - Jamba Juice – Nance reported that 300 cards were purchased, and almost all are now sold. A profit of almost \$1500 was made. Winners for top sales will get certificates and prizes from Jamba Juice.
  - Restaurant Nights – Karen reported that \$481.63 was received from the El Tecolote restaurant night.
  - Meadowlark Grant – Karen Gatchel reported that application is not due until 2/15/2018. Rene reported that he would like the grant to be for guitars.

- Thank You Letters – Peggy Smith sent these out.
- Donor Thank You Mailing – Nikki Dossman, Kendra Abernathy and Nance Chaubell sent these out. The board discussed making this a “holiday type” postcard next year.
- SOKM Board Stuff
  - PTA Roundtable – Karen Gatchel reported that Peach Jar was discussed.
  - PeachJar – Betty Weyek reported that this is working well, and Jamba Juice and winter concerts were advertised through it. Karen setup an account for SOKM. Nonprofit postings are free.
  - Donor Database – New – Karen Gatchel reported that she expects the new donor database to work well.
- The current board officers for 2018-19 are:
  - President – Karen Gatchel
  - Vice President – Betty Weyek
  - Treasurer – Crystal Casas
  - Secretary – Nikki Dossman
- Meeting adjourned at 8:16.
- Next SOKM Board Meeting – 700 Temple Ave, Camarillo CA 93010, Room C3 on Tuesday, February 12, 2019, 7:00 PM