

Save Our Kids' Music (SOKM)

Minutes, October 10, 2023, 7:00 PM
700 Temple Ave, Room C3 and Zoom

- Welcome and Introductions.
 - Meeting started at 7:06 pm and adjourned at 8:04 pm.
 - Attendees: Karen Gatchel, Richard Gatchel, Betty Weyek, Peggy Smith, Dorothy Hanchey, Maria Godina, Joan Rust, Serena Villalobos and- Beth Harris.
 - Thank you to Serena for refreshments
- Approval of SOKM Minutes of September 12, 2023 Minutes and October 10, 2023 Agenda as presented, Karen Gatchel moved to approve, Dorothy Hanchey second, and motion was carried.
- Happenings
 - PVSD Music Department & Youth Arts Academy
 - **Las Colinas** – Reese Copsey via email- We have 3 band classes at Las Colinas, all very busy... 39 in Advanced, 31 in Intermediate, and 37 in Beginning. It's going to be a good year. I also have 2 semester-long Digital Music classes which are exploring a couple of digital apps to create/compose music. There are lots of performances coming up. The LC Advanced Band will play at Nutrition on Halloween and also do their annual "flash mob" a few weeks later. Thanks to Betty for the endless matching of instruments to students and for all the repairs and trips to Henson's.
 - **Monte Vista & DLA** – Trish Copsey via email- I hope everyone is doing well! Beginning students have learned their first 5 notes and we will start moving faster through the book. All Monte Vista Band students are starting to work on music for their Winter Concert. Additionally, Intermediate and Advanced students are working towards a Halloween performance at Nutrition, a Veteran's Day celebration piece, and the Camarillo Christmas Parade. We are in the process of putting together a pep band to play at the home basketball games and should start rehearsals within the next two weeks. Due to a quirk in the master schedule, we will have two 6th grade wheel classes at MVS this year for the 2nd semester, so I am in the process of working with Betty to see about getting more instruments (the back-up plan will be to have them learn recorders). As always, thank you to Betty and SOKM for all that you do!
 - **K8 Band & Mariachi** – Raynard Solomon via email- This week we have started both K8 Band and Mariachi after a week delay so we can recruit more members. So far, in LPSSA we have 4 beginning students and 6 returning intermediate students, and in SRTMS we have 5 beginning students and 4 returning intermediate students. In Mariachi, we have 2 returning students (maybe 3) and 8 new students. This week is all about introducing the class and introducing music concepts, then hopefully by next week we can start on instruments.
 - **K-5 Music** – Raynard Solomon via email- Ukuleles at both La Mariposas and Camarillo Heights are going well, we are currently on our 4th week. The 3rd graders are keeping up with the lesson I had for last year by learning the basics of sound production and their first song, and the 4th/5th graders I had last year are currently learning how to read rhythms through rhythm solfege and learning how to apply it to their instrument, as well as some new chords. I also plan to incorporate some music history with them before we end – a little bit about the history of rock and roll.
 - **YAA Strings** – Raynard Solomon via email- On Monday, I met with my String Orchestra for the first time, a mix of both returning students and new students as well with a total of 16 enrolled students (with hopefully 1 more). Unfortunately, I have to cancel class this week since I have a scheduled induction class this Thursday, and we have a holiday on Monday. I gave them their music

beforehand, and I will see where everyone is at in terms of skill level. For beginning strings I currently have 13 students enrolled, a majority I know since I taught them ukulele last year when they were in 3rd grade. Again, I hope to have instruments in their hands by next week.

- **YAA Guitar & Digital Music** – Mauricio Giron via email- It has been a while since we last spoke. This year I am only teaching Introduction to Guitar. The other courses were low in numbers and as a result we had to drop them. Betty is planning on contacting the Guitar Ensemble students that signed up in hopes that they will join us in my other guitar class. I will be providing them with differentiated instruction. Today will be the first day we meet. Hope to see you all very soon at our Holiday Concert in December.
- **YAA The Off Beats** – Reese Copsey via email - The Off Beats 1st rehearsal was today (Monday). We have a small group but good instrumentation. It will take a few meetings for things to settle in. Hopefully I'll have a couple more join us.
- **PVSD Chorus** by Joan Rust- There are 43 students with only 8 students from 5th to 7th grade, rest are 1st through 4th graders. Will be advertising to encourage more students to enroll via Peach jar with a new flyer the choir directors are putting together. Asked for any suggestion: possibly ask the principals to mention Choir during their advisory announcements and the schools weekly newsletter. Also, adding a QR code to the flyer for easy sign up.
- **PVSD YAA 2023-24** by Betty Weyek and Karen Gatchel- Enrollment and Donations - discussed students enrolled, suggested donations, actual donations and teacher costs.
- **PVSD and Music Calendars 2023-24** by Betty Weyek. Calendar has been updated and will soon send out the most up to date calendar.
- PVSD Music Department and YAA Newsletter done by Dorothy Hanchey, thank you. Also, a welcoming to YAA letter will be done by Karen Gatchel through Constant Contact.
- SOKM Donations
 - Thank You Letters by Peggy Smith- have several to mail out, over 60 donors.
 - Maria arranging a Toppers Night which will be 12/4 or 12/6.
- SOKM Finances by Maria Godina
 - FY 2023-24 Financials- able to archive previous QBO files. Currently using WAVE.
 - Reconciled Statements – Richard Gatchel. Out of town. Will reconcile by Nov.
 - FY 2022-23 Audit – Peggy Smith. Audit completed by Peggy Smith, Carey Smith and Cathy Crook. All the financials were in order and well organized.
 - QBO Canceled 9/30/2023 – Karen Gatchel
- SOKM Board Stuff
 - PTA Roundtable by Karen Gatchel- Discussion of Women in History like Mary Camarillo, a volunteer handbook, Covid protocols, vandalism and how to report it, Santa Rosa's Computer Science immersion program, Attendance for all schools- still a problem: schools would like no more than 5 days of absences this year, continuing Coffee with a Cop- has been a big hit, Standing ovations for PVSD employees, classified teachers assistants and field supervisors.
 - Prop 28 Plan & Meetings by Karen Gatchel & Betty Weyek & Beth Harris- PVSD Goals: 1) Build staff capacity in the arts 2) Create comprehensive scope and sequence for TK-8 arts opportunities. 3) Leverage Partnerships. Each school will decide on how funds will be used. Discussion included creating a document arts template for implementation of Prop 28 at each school site. These are documents which will be the baseline for this school year. Peggy Burt, arts planning guru, meeting at VCOE.
- Next SOKM Board Meeting – 700 Temple, Room C3 and Zoom
 - Tuesday, [November 7, 2023](#), 7:00 PM ([FIRST TUESDAY](#))