

TECS Science Committee update for Leadership Council meeting – Dec 11, 2018

Science Committee met on Dec 7, 2018

Summary:

1. Updates on Completed Items

- a. Tile Wall – completed another installation (2nd year):
 - i. Garden wall 2nd installment done! - Kids made space and wildlife themed tiles. Installed by Paul Doolin and several parent volunteers.
 - ii. Looks great.
- b. **Raptor Day – Oct 26:**
 - i. Done in partnership with teachers to have Raptor Events present during one school day to the students, teachers, and parent volunteers.
 - ii. Was a very successful events based on what we've heard from all parties (students, teachers, parents).
 - iii. Paul Schefz (parent and photographer) got some very nice photos of the day – we can forward to yearbook team once that team is designated.
 - iv. We also sold bread with Raptor theme to help support. Bread from Patrice at “Angel in your Kitchen”, Topanga bakery.

2. Funding – presented last mtg, but since most teachers had to leave by that point, I summarize again.

- a. Science committee is very pleased to announce that we have secured a donation for our school from the **Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation** in the amount of \$10,000.
 - i. The Beckman Foundation is a philanthropic organization based in Irvine California. They are dedicated to supporting scientific research, development, and education. The foundation was impressed with our school's effort to support students' natural curiosity and to impart in them a sense of environmental stewardship. We are honored to receive this support and recognition from the Beckman Foundation, which is known internationally as a tireless supporter of young scientists and scientific innovation.
 - ii. We'd also like to emphasize this award as an
 1. example of how our school can receive recognition (and support) beyond our local community for our efforts with children;
 2. and to illustrate what we can do as a team when we all work together to define our goals, build on our strengths and keep the kids front and center.

3. Upcoming Events:

- a. **Stargazing night:**
 - i. We are partnering with the Ventura Astronomical Society to bring an amateur astronomer out, with high end telescopes for viewing the night sky.
 - ii. Event is in planning for an evening in January, to be held at a parent's home. More details to come.
- b. **JPL Presentation:**
 - i. Chris Pernin (parent member of the science committee) has a colleague who is heading the JPL “SHERLOC” project, is an effort to search for evidence of life in the universe. The plan is to present to the students topics about space and SHERLOC efforts. (For those interested, check out the SHERLOC link at JPL site.)
 - ii. Chris is working together with Mr. Gediman to arrange a date and plan (tentative date = Feb 1). Should be informative and fun!