



FRIENDS of MIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES: 11/6/2025
25302 Rancho Niguel Rd Laguna Niguel, CA 92677 *Virtual
Called to order: ~6:10PM

Roll Call:

2025-2026 MIP Board Members			
<u>Officer</u>	<u>Present/Not Present</u>	<u>Officer</u>	<u>Present/Not Present</u>
President: Janey Sherman	P	Communications Director: Anne Yoon	P
Co-Vice President: Julianne Finkelburg	NP	Secretary: Johanna Yang	P
Co-Vice President: Mel Gojkovich	NP	Community Liaison: Open	
Treasurer: Pauline David	P	Co-Newhart Liason: Iris Lai	P
Financial Controller: Joseph Munoz	NP	Co-Newhart Liason: Vanna Tran	P
Co-Outreach Director: Cindy Ong	P	Cap Valley Liason: Stacey Cartledge	P
Co-Outreach Director: Katherine Darst	P	Parliamentarian: Kevin Welker	NP

Other Attendees:

- Brian (PTA president)
- Megan Holland
- Amanda Yeung
- Jennifer Gerber
- Jason Lyon
- Nicole Loh (Newhart teacher)
- Caroline
- Robert Lee
- Richard Hsiao
- Alexandra Welker

Minutes

- **Acceptance of Privious Meeting Minutes:** Janey moved to accept the minutes from the Oct 2 meeting, which was seconded by Stacey and the motion passed.



Principal and/or Teacher Requests

- **Bergeson Elementary School - Principal Dr. Linda Kim - P**
 - **Elementary School Merge and Survey Planning:** Dr. Kim discussed ongoing coordination with Principal Migge to schedule a tour of Carl Hankey for Bergeson families (currently booked for Nov 12 at 4-5pm) prior to the release of a survey about a potential school merge. The survey is expected to be released soon, with efforts to ensure parents have ample time to respond and analyze the results. The team is also considering logistics such as transportation and timing to maximize participation. After the townhall meeting at Carl Hankey last week, Dr. Kim mentioned that there was positive reception of the merge from the parents in that school.
 - **Teacher and Parent Concerns Regarding Relocation:** Dr. Kim shared feedback from Bergeson teachers, noting concerns about the potential merge, including fears that families may leave due to increased commute distances and uncertainty about staff retention. The staff's primary wish is to remain together as a community, and there is a mix of openness and reluctance among teachers regarding the move.
 - **Classroom Capacity and Title 1 Status:** Dr. Kim confirmed that Carl Hankey has sufficient capacity for the merged student body, as it previously accommodated over 700 students. The plan to relocate junior high students would be phased in over time. Regarding Title 1 status, Dr. Kim indicated that a combined school is unlikely to qualify based on current demographics, though final confirmation from the district is pending.

- **Newhart Middle School - Principal John Bajorek - NP**

- **Capo Valley High School - Principal John Misustin – P**
 - John reported that fall sports at the high school are concluding, with football and boys water polo entering playoffs and girls tennis advancing to the next round. The musical 'Six' concluded successfully, and the STEAM Showcase was well attended. Plans are underway for a grading panel to discuss evidence-based grading, and stadium construction is ahead of schedule, potentially allowing the class of 2026 to have their graduation in the new facility.

Other Business

- **Financials:** Pauline emailed the Treasurer's report, below is a summary.



Thursday, November 6, 2025
FoMIP Board Meeting - Treasurer's Report

ACCOUNT BALANCES (as of 5PM on 11/5)

Checking - Wells Fargo	\$	199,583.17
Savings - Wells Fargo	\$	137,372.17
PayPal	\$	26,532.38

TOTAL BANK BALANCE **\$ 363,487.72**

EXPENSES

		<u>STATUS</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Quickbooks subscription (monthly)	\$	75.00 Paid - EFT	10/10/2025
Hydroflask mugs (qty: 16)	\$	215.28 Paid - CC by Julianne	10/10/2025
Trunk or Treat: Crafts	\$	43.52 Paid - Zelle to Julianne	10/12/2025
Trunk or Treat: Costco	\$	164.85 Paid - Zelle to Jelena Lewis	10/22/2025

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$ 498.65**

GAINS

Direct Annual Fundraiser Donations	\$	190,237.90
Corporate Donations	\$	17,371.00
Bergeson - Moon/Mid Autumn Festival Bake Sale	\$	2,123.00
USD Academy-Trunk or Treat	\$	160.00
Trunk or Treat: Costco (Profit)	\$	252.12

TOTAL GAINS **\$ 210,144.02**

PROJECTED EXPENSES

Fundraiser: Golf Tournament-Tijeras Creek Pre Payment 2 of 4	\$	2,434.00	10/12/2025	<i>PENDING</i>
Fundraiser: Golf Tournament-Tijeras Creek Pre Payment 3 of 4	\$	4,868.00	11/12/2025	
Fundraiser: Golf Tournament-Tijeras Creek Pre Payment 4 of 4	\$	3,934.00	12/2/2025	
Newhart - (2) additional class periods 2 of 2 payments	\$	30,828.00	1/2/2026	
Bergeson - PARA/Teaching Assistants 2 of 3 payments	\$	45,561.00	1/16/2026	
Bergeson - PARA/Teaching Assistants 3 of 3 payments	\$	45,560.00	4/3/2026	
Bergeson - End of Year - Lion Dance		300-500		

TOTAL PROJECTED EXPENSES **\$ 121,949.00**

PROJECTED GAINS

Fundraiser: Golf Tournament-Tijeras Creek
Fundraiser: Ball Drop
Fundraiser: Gala

TOTAL PROJECTED GAINS **\$ -**



- **Budget Review and Approval of Amendments:**

- **Fundraising Results and Gains:** Pauline reported significant fundraising gains, including over \$190,000 in direct donations, \$17,371 in corporate donations, and successful events such as the bake sale and Trunk or Treat. The total gains for the year reached \$210,144.02, representing a 31% increase over the previous year.
- **Projected Expenses and Budget Allocation:** The board reviewed projected expenses, including payments for teaching assistants, class periods, and event costs such as the Lion Dance. The group discussed the need to revise the budget based on current fundraising outcomes and to plan for potential additional sections in the master schedule, with further budget adjustments anticipated in May or June.
- **Bank Account and User Management:** Pauline reported that Sonya Mondragon is no longer on the board as VP for the Friends of Mandarin Immersion Program. She needs to be taken off as Key Executive from our organization's Wells Fargo account. Patricia Julianne Finkelburg's access needs to be updated from Key Executive to Signer. Lastly, Melissa Gojkovich is now Co-VP with Julianne and needs to be added to the account as Signer as well.

- **Fundraising Initiatives and Event Planning:**

- **Content Preservation for Future Fundraising:** Cindy emphasized the importance of saving effective fundraising materials, such as FAQs and myth-busting content, to improve efficiency and transparency in future campaigns. The board agreed to retain and reuse these resources.
- **Flyer Distribution and Tour Promotion:** Jennifer described the collaborative effort to design and distribute bilingual flyers promoting upcoming school tours and the application window. A team of 20-30 volunteers is placing flyers in community locations, and the office maintains a supply for further distribution. Cindy asked if the board or district could fund \$100 for the printing of flyers, Dr. Kim advises that the school can provide printing for promotional materials.
- **Social Media and Community Response:** Dr. Kim reported a surge in inquiries following a coordinated social media campaign, with one post reaching 70,000 people and resulting in multiple family contacts. The team is tracking how new families hear about the program to assess marketing effectiveness.
- **Parent Volunteer Involvement in Tours:** The recruitment team is organizing parent volunteers from diverse backgrounds to attend the upcoming orientation tours in November and December, share experiences, and answer questions from prospective families. This approach aims to foster a welcoming environment and address misconceptions about the program.
- **Strategic Messaging Regarding Potential Relocation:** Dr. Kim and Janey discussed the importance of focusing recruitment messaging on the strength of the community rather than potential school moves, to avoid deterring prospective families. The board agreed to withhold discussion of relocation during tours until enrollment is secured.

- **Merchandise and Logo Updates:**

- **Merchandise Updates and Approvals:** Meli is leading an effort to streamline merchandise inventory by offering pre-orders and limited stock. The board discussed design options and pricing for hats, agreeing to finalize details and approve the order offline once designs are settled.



- **Communications and Community Outreach:**

- **Ambassadors and Events:** Katherine and Cindy outlined plans for this year's MIP Ambassadors including seeking new volunteers to lead the performance, possibly having a variety show format and exploring new venues, aiming for South Coast Plaza and Irvine Spectrum. They are also looking to coordinate with teachers for student participation. The board discussed the possibility of hosting both school-day and community events, and continuing the popular art contest with sponsorship for prizes.
- **Lunar New Year and Lion Dance:** There will be a 5th grade lion dance as well as a professional lion dance for this year's Lunar New Year celebration. Vanna and Iris have suggested to using the same lion dance company for Bergeson and Newhart.
- **Golf Tournament and Ball Drop Fundraiser:** Jason provided an update on the golf tournament, reporting 224 golf balls sold and ongoing efforts to engage students across grade levels with incentives such as a PlayStation and cash prizes. The team secured sponsorships and donations for the event, and plans to involve student volunteers in event logistics. Janey asked Principal Misustin for the names of MIP students in high school to include in the golf ball drop competition, Principal Misustin will look into providing the names. Principal Bajorek will not be able to release the names of students in middle school so a suggestion was made to reach out to the parents to involve them in the golf ball drop.
- **Website Platform Transition:** Cindy's husband, Charlton, is leading a team to migrate the Friends of MIP website from Weebly to Wix, which offers improved functionality and nonprofit pricing. The anticipated cost is around \$150 per year, and the board will finalize the budget approval once the exact amount is confirmed.
- **Newsletter Planning and Content:** Anne and Janey agreed to time the next newsletter to coincide with the release of the relocation survey, emphasizing community recognition and encouraging survey participation. The newsletter will also promote social media engagement and crowdsource content ideas.

- **Middle and High School Liaison Updates:**

- **Newhart Ramen Party Approval:** Iris and Vanna proposed reallocating \$200 from the Newhart budget to fund a ramen party for the winning class and staff, which was approved by the board. The top 3 students for donation efforts will have lunch with Principal Bajorek. The event will include social media coverage and prize drawings for students.
- **Student Involvement on Social Media:** Stacey mentioned that Meli had an idea to involve past MIP students and current high school students to speak and record on why they are thankful about MIP as testimonials to promote MIP on social media, some have been uploaded to instagram.
- **Proposed Survey for Middle School Parents:** Megan proposed to have a survey sent out to parents to get feedback on why parents in middle school are not donating in order to plan for future fundraising efforts. Vanna responds saying that there will be an anonymous survey to be sent out soon.
- **Future Fundraising planning:** Vanna and the middle school MIP team is planning orientation and tour for incoming students for the next school year as well as next school year's back to school night for MIP. Stacey suggests an MIP table during registration at the beginning of next school year at Newhart and also to advertise that donations can be made in installments.



- **PTA and Community Liaison Updates:**
 - **PTA Events:** Brian mentioned that the Veteran's Day celebration went well. The upcoming PTA events are the variety show on Nov 14, holiday boutique in December with a morning allocated for middle school students to shop and STEM month in March.

Follow-up Tasks

- **High School Student Names for Golf Ball Drop:** Send first name and last initial list of MIP students to Janey for the golf ball drop by tomorrow. (Principal Misustin)
- **Facility Tour Coordination:** Confirm date and time for Bergeson community tour of Carl Hankey prior to survey release and communicate to relevant parties. (Dr. Kim)
- **Wells Fargo Account Updates:** Adjust user names for Wells Fargo account, ensuring that Meli and Julianne's access is updated as a user. (Janey, Pauline)
- **Newhart Ramen Party Funding:** Reallocate \$200 from Newhart's budget for the ramen party and document board approval. (Pauline)
- **Newhart Student List for Golf Tournament:** Coordinate with Miss Lowe to send out a list to parents to gauge interest in participating in the golf ball drop, as a workaround for not receiving student names. (Megan, Vanna)
- **Middle School Parent Survey:** Work with Principal Bajorek to develop and distribute an anonymous survey to Newhart parents and students to understand donation participation and engagement barriers. (Janey, Iris, Vanna, Principal Bajorek)
- **Merchandise Design Finalization:** Finalize hat design and pricing for MIP merch and conduct an offline motion to approve the order. (Janey, Meli, Johanna)
- **Lunar New Year Mall Performance Contacts:** Reach out to South Coast Plaza and Irvine Spectrum to inquire about hosting Lunar New Year performances and request contacts from the community. (Katherine, Cindy)
- **Lunar New Year Art Contest Sponsorship:** Discuss and confirm sponsorship and prize funding for the Lunar New Year art contest, including extending it to other campuses. (Pauline, Vanna)
- **Professional Lion Dance Coordination:** Coordinate with UCI Lion Dance team and Dr Kim to confirm dates and possible joint performances for Ferguson and Newhart. (Cindy, Vanna, Dr. Kim)
- **Friends of MIP Website Replatforming:** Create a Wix account for Friends of MIP, confirm final annual cost, and present to the board for budget approval. (Cindy's husband Charlton)
- **Newsletter Timing for Relocation Survey:** Determine timing for the next newsletter to encourage survey participation once survey release date is confirmed. (Janey, Anne)