

PFR Board Meeting 12/13/23

Due to JCM's error with the time zone on a Doodle poll, attendance was slim:

JCM

Achim

Kenny

Vanessa

Janis

Sean

We did not have a quorum, but we also did not have any items on the agenda to vote on so we proceeded with the meeting. It was a very short meeting.

### **Updates from JCM**

1. Metals testing results: we finally have a PFR-specific protocol in place for the testing of reusable food ware placed in schools, and are no longer reliant on guidance from our partners at Center for Environmental Health. Our new policy is spelled out on the Preferred Vendors page of our web site, along with the very short list of products which are cleared for school purchases moving forward.

2. Our \$5/item cap is now gone for public schools, at least until additional items become available for schools.

3. Our new testing policy is a de facto PFR subsidy ban on reusable plastic food ware in schools. Details on the Preferred Vendors page.

4. Fundraising current status:

--\$25,242 raised in 2023 to date. That does not include the \$10K grant that we have gotten each of the last two years (which I'm still hoping is coming), but it does include \$10K from three smaller grants and our first corporate sponsor. In other words, we've only brought in about \$15K in individual donations thus far this year.

--Only two board members have met the annual Board requirement as of today. (One more board member is tantalizingly close.)

--Only nine board members – out of 15 – have raised or contributed *any* money thus far in 2023. A number of you have typically written checks for \$2K or more at the end of the year, and that's great. But for the rest of you, I want to make sure that plans are afoot to meet commitments.

--Half of the current board joined in 2023. The Governance Committee's guidance is that new members should meet their first annual \$2K commitment within six months of joining the board. Oliver and Caie joined us in October 2023; everyone else is now past that six-month window.

--The Governance Committee will be reaching out in the new year to those of you who are not able to fulfill your commitments. As we court larger and more institutional donors, it's important for us to be able to state unequivocally that our board members are meeting the obligations they make when they join.

5. Attendance at committee meetings: If you're not getting the invites, please speak up. If you can't make it, please let the chair know ahead of time. If you miss the meeting, please check to see if there are any action items for you before the next one.

6. Celebrity spokesperson: We're once again on the hunt for a notable face who is willing to be a PFR spokesperson. Please forward any ideas (and/or contacts) to JCM.