

PTSA Minutes from 8/15/2016

Meeting called to order at 5:30-Ajourned at 8:00pm

Members present: Anitra Grove, Dawn Atkinson, Natalie Bowden, Courtney Lawrence, Sabina deMarchi, Ambra Wilson, Allison Shultz, Meg Alverson, Karla Kennedy, Sarah Yagnow. And Jenn Kohler

Principal Report by Ambra Wilson

- staff not finalized, but gave an updated staff roster (attached)
- Still interviewing for a 5th grade teacher. Mrs. Wilson will call the 5th grade students in this class to inform them that they are still searching for a teacher
- New PILOT Breakfast program- All students can eat Breakfast FREE! There will be dual cafeteria lines to help get all students through. The program will help with tardiness to class and ensure that all children are ready to learn
- Open House will be on 8/25 from 5-7 pm
- Curriculum Night will be on 9/8 from 6-7pm
- Postcards were mailed today with teacher names/ except 5th grade in hopes that the position will be filled by Wednesday
- The school theme is Building our Future. Legos will be used to advertise the theme. Suggested using this to promote Box Tops and PTSA events
- Suggestion for PTSA to organize a Duty Free Lunch for teachers. Will need a coordinator. Focus on one grade level per month. Would need 5-6 people, 1 person in the line/ 1 person helping kids with lunch/ 1 or 2 to help coordinate kids coming in and out of the cafeteria

Minutes: The minutes from May 23, 2016 were approved with revisions about the Art Center representative requesting funds to support the program for the following year.

Co-Presidents: Natalie Bowden and Courtney Lawrence we voted in a Co-Presidents for the PTSA for 2016-17.

Budget: The proposed budget will be attached an available for review as needed. There was discussion for the new school year/ proposals will be updated in time for approval at Back to school/ Curriculum evening. The following suggestions were made by PTSA members present:

- Membership dues stay at \$5.00. Increase the budget to \$150 for this activity.
- Sarah Yagnow and Karla Kennedy volunteered to be Fall Festival coordinators. (Items for discussion by this committee - food price/ Natalie suggested a pancake supper to reduce costs / Members mentioned that Chick-fil-a has been a big hit and we do not lose money if purchased in advance.)
- Board of Education is a matching grant. The PTSA has to give \$1000 and will receive \$1000, making the total grant \$2000.00. Traditionally this had been used to support the

Cultural Arts Center. Last year the board voted to spend the money on a laminator for the school totaling \$1800.00. The representative from the Arts Center did come to the meeting on 5/23 to ask for funding.

- Insurance- discussed if this is covered under school umbrella for events or if we keep out current policy.
- Classroom Donations- The treasurers suggested increasing the reimbursements to \$125 for this fiscal year. Mrs. Wilson mentioned that there only seems to be 52 staff members, so to consider increasing budget to 7500 and each teacher would receive \$150. Another suggestion to consider was if teachers gift each other the amount or if the grade level wants a large expensive item to pay for, they can pool the money together collectively. Need to get teachers on board. Another discussion was if we should invest individual teacher/classroom supplies or in something for the children. Will have to examine the budget to determine if it supports the increase. Ambra will send over the teacher/staff list for documentation.
- Cultural Arts/ Board of Education grant-do we want both Arts in Residence and the Rags to Riches Play, Anitra will reach out to Sarah Jones for more information. Board of Education grant could also be used on new Die Cut tools that can be take home tools for curriculum.
- Allison Shultz volunteered to do the Voyager Quarterly Newsletter, with the understanding that it will only be online. The group agreed.
- Jenn Koehler volunteered to coordinate the Birthday Ice Cream. It was suggested that each classroom gets enough stickers or cut outs for each child to give to the cafeteria for their birthday treat, instead of creating the board. Hope this will increase participation. We also discussed adding a barcode that would correlate to a code in the cafeteria budget so that it will streamline the process and make it easier to reimburse.
- Suggested to examine prices of T-Shirts for 5th grade.
- Large discussion on decision on the amount of money given to the 5th grade for graduation, t-shirt gift, and field trip support. Traditionally this has consisted of about a third of the PTSA budget. The discussion was to support the graduation at \$1000 and T-shirts for \$800 and then to use the \$3500 for field trip support for both 4th and 5th grade trips. The Kindergarten trip to the zoo was also discussed but Mrs. Wilson has some ideas to help with the costs of this trip.

Meeting time change: Natalie and Courtney suggested changing the PTSA meeting times to 6:00-7:00, but staying with the 3rd Monday of the month. The group agreed.

PTSA needs to recommend a SIT representative.

PTSA Website needs a link added to the School Website.

Heather Bower is coordinating Read-a-thon and is still in need of red, two-folder, pronged folders. Please drop them off by the PTSA box. The more that are donated the less that we have to spend from the budget, giving more profits from the fundraiser.

The Back-to-School brunch is planned for 8/25 from 11:00-1:00. There is a Sign-up Genius available, please sign-up to make it a special lunch for our staff. The PTSA will provide Shrimp and Grits and Sandwich trays.

Anitra thanked Sabina deMarchi for her service to PTSA as President and for all of her volunteer work around the school. Sabina and her husband had a professional power-washing company clean the front sign of the school so that it would be nice for the welcome back to school. Thank you, Sabina and Paul!

A volunteer sheet was circulated and many names were added. Thank you!