

JRES PTO Meeting Minutes

March 5th 2019

Called to order at 8:30 a.m. February minutes were approved.

Person's Present: Sarah Anderson, Shawn Kuennen, Lexi Rohner, Sarah Hill, Melany Shaw, Martha Skinner, Shelby Hladon, Joy Conneally and Julie Decker.

Treasurer

Melany Shaw – teachers have spent almost all of their teacher supply money. Everything else with the budget is ok.

Book Fair

Martha Skinner – People are showing up for their shifts. Not the big rush at night like the last Book Fair. If people like and share the posts on FB, it will increase viewers. She'd like to pump up the Thursday "Dad's and Donuts, Mom's and Muffins" event – we need to get it everywhere we can. Facebook, DirectorySpot and eblast (Kate) and word of mouth.

Principal's Update

Shawn Kuennen – tomorrow evening is the PCSD Listening Tour. Be there if you can. This has been out on FB. We are moving in the right direction with transparency. The musical playground has to be on hold until winter goes away.

Back to School Night – due to the day school starts (Tuesday, August 20th), it makes it tricky to have it the night prior. Sarah Hill's input based on last year – no tours for that hour prior to B2SN – it was confusing to many. If people want tours, they can come on their own time. The PTO table is a good idea to have so there is face-to-face interaction and people can learn more about what the PTO does and can ask questions. Most of the PTO membership is done that night. We can have a link from the District that you can pay all PTO dues for all of the schools at the same time. Any amount of money to get the word out about PTO helps. It is great to talk to people, especially for new people, face to face. Elementary school is unique. There are people that don't know the scoop here at school and having folks here in person at B2SN helps. There are a lot of cons of doing B2SN the week prior. Some schools do it after school starts. It could be hard for the kids. We have dual needs. Younger kids want to see their rooms. There is a lot of anxiety. Parents want to meet the teachers. Lots of sign-ups and volunteer opportunities are presented at B2SN. The week prior before would be difficult as people will be out of town. Mr. Kuennen will do a survey of the teachers to see what they think. We can stuff folders on Monday or earlier in June.

Request received for 2nd grade to go to the Egyptian Theater in May to see the Wizard of Oz. They need a bus (the charge like \$5 a mile per bus). Field trip money budgeted money can pay for it. Mrs. Valentine is the point of contact. We have the money and can use it out of the budget.

Running with Ed

May 18th - Joy Conneally for Julie Decker; the committee had their first meeting on Tuesday. Carrie Gott is co-chairing with Julie and is going to take it over next year. The theme is "Who is Ed"? The ranch hands – Plant-ED, Cultivat-ED, Harvest-ED etc. Ranch theme – gingham, cowboy hats, overalls etc. there will be some collaborative art with most grades. The kids will create collaborative projects (not in conjunction with MIA). Erin Malloy did great ones for a previous book fair, perhaps they can be used. Thanksgiving baskets had corn stalks that should be at the school. They will make scarecrows as well. The next meeting will be Monday, March 11th at 9:30am at school. We can store the decorations on the stage (Joy will confirm with Ms. Cook). There is minimal use there so it should be ok. Kodiak Cakes will make pancakes! We'll do the rest of the food. Fruit, coffee, juice, etc. What will we do for entertainment? Maybe a Jam band? We'll get out as much as we can out on Friday. They will send out a sign-up genius. Plaid shirts, bandanas, etc. 2nd grade hoe-down – looking to borrow stuff from that. We get \$1,000 back from PCEF. We try to keep it under \$400 but may up it this year since we don't get the rest of the money back (it is use it or lose it). A former student DJ has done it for free the last few years. We ask for donations for the food. Shawn has been asked to find a teacher liaison but isn't sure what for. Joy will find out why. Last year, we did a big push to win the most participation – we should do it again. We spent \$2,000 to win \$5,000. The kids will be excited to see their artwork at RWE – it will be a visual thing for the kids. Lexi recommended clips for a video that she'll put together. The yearly "RWE Rally" gets the kids excited – maybe the last week in March. Fridays are challenging so probably not that day. The Ed Foundation wants to be a part of it. We can do some visuals for that. Mr. Kuennen said it can probably be on Tuesday, March 26th in the afternoon (probably 2). We need to advertise. Maybe give the kids something to take home. Jaybird has tons of swag. Sarah Hill will ask the CEO's wife. Yearbook cut off date is after that so we can get that in the yearbook too!

Open positions

If you are a board member, send your job descriptions to Lexi. Sarah Hill will do the "Welcome Committee" - new family orientation/tours for the next year again (Sarah Anderson will help her). There is a District PTO position open as well. The nominating committee has met once. They are getting names and working on filling some positions. No one is committed yet. Sarah Altschuler will still be the MIA rep.

Teacher Appreciation - Mandy Demmert is organizing – May 6th

Shawn is ok with doing a run (like a glow run) – maybe in March (to get folks ready for RWE and Girls on the Run). They need 5 people on the day of the race. They do it all day long. It's a school day activity – tough for community piece. Maybe we can combine B2SN and FFF as a giant event. The run company takes a big chunk (49%). The goal would be \$60 per kid for fundraising (\$ per laps). There are also companies that do carnivals. They take a chunk too. It is not as taxing on the volunteers and a lot less stress. We made \$13-14k last year from FFF after expenses. It is a big money maker. Write-a-check is down this year – maybe because we didn't have a "write-a-check" display at B2SN. We get requests multiple times a month from various teachers/staff for things for the PTO to pay for. We have enough money in the coffers to last a while. Maybe we could pay for a company to do the carnival as a community event and get the money from the run. We need to go back to explaining to people what the PTO does. We need to decide by May.

We need to advertise better, so more people know about PTO meetings. Possibly flyers in backpacks or hanging something on the front office door. Target Kindergarten and first grade. We need new people involved and coming to meetings and participating more.

Running with Ed grants is \$5,000 for most participation (parents and teachers). We had the most teachers last year too.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30.

Next PTO Meeting is April 16th at 8:30. Sarah Anderson will put up a sign at the front of the building ASAP so people get it on their calendars.