

PTO Meeting Minutes **5/14/19**

Called to order at 8:30

Persons present: Martha Skinner, Kate Bock, Sarah Hill, Julie Decker, Jaime Wooley, Mandy Demmert, Lori Broadway, Shawn Kuennen, Sarah Anderson, Lexi Rohner, Bonita Hutchinson, Joy Conneally, Jamie Schwarzenbach, Sarah Altschuler and Jennica Paterniti,

Mrs. Cook – Field Day

May 31st – she needs volunteers and is trying to get info out to the entire school. She'll send info to Rayeann to send out via email, to Lexi for her to post on Facebook (done during the meeting) and to the PTO eblast plus she should talk to the parents she sees around school. It will be from 8-11. Some people show up late or only show up for an hour. As long as the coverage is ok, they need to commit to the entire time. She'll get popsicles paid for by the PTO (reimbursement through Melany as usual). The veggie flavored popsicles were not a hit last year. One of the stations will be the "Heart Challenge" and everyone will get a bracelet. If they donate \$50, they can get a t-shirt. So, this year we will not have the traditional "Jump rope for Heart" – they have separated from the American Heart Association. That opportunity will be there for kids if they want it. The parent volunteer event is May 17th, she could announce Field Day then. The following Friday is the Jump rope Harmonic Hawks events where she can announce it again.

Some people didn't get the invite for the Volunteer Event. Mr. Kuennen is inviting all of us.

Minutes from last meeting – No minutes were taken.

Shawn Kuennen – playground equipment

We do not need to have the cushy surface underneath. Risk management signed off on it. It has been approved by the district and will be ordered. It will take up half of the pavilion (the half closest to the school will have the musical instruments equipment). We may not be able to use it throughout the winter due to the amount of snow, but it can be used the rest of the time.

We have some staffing changes. Things are not all solidified. We have officially hired Leo Mosher for next year (he was a mid-year hire after Stephanie Bartholomew retired) and they plan to keep him at 4th grade. Barish Dawson will not be returning. It has to do with our state and licensing requirements and frustration of meeting the requirements with her South Africa and UK licenses. She has poured her heart and soul into the STEM position. We hired Sarah Finstad to teach in the English side of our French DLI program – likely in 1st grade and Renee Linford will likely switch to regular 1st grade. Virginia Skeffington will be moving to Florida. Our French program has been on her shoulders since the beginning so it will be a big loss. There will be 5 sections in 4th and 5th grades (the "bubble"). Lindsay Herman is not returning after her year of leave. We will have 23 students in 5th grade across 5 classes.

Julie Decker - Running with Ed

Julie was able to get sandbags for Saturday. We've got the Ranch Theme – we have bandanas for the volunteers. Kodiak Cakes will make pancakes. We'll also have donut holes, coffee, etc...Lance will be the DJ again. We try to keep it fun but not too crazy from an expense standpoint. We do need volunteers. If you or anyone you know can help us out. The first runners depart at 8am from the Fieldhouse so will be there shortly thereafter as it is only about 3 miles. Volunteers need to be at JRES at 6:30/7 to open at 8am. We were pretty down in our participation rate this year. We were at 20-31% at the last week so unless we had a sudden surge, we won't likely win the participation prize (money). We won first place for participation last year. If you don't sign up, show up and cheer/hold signs. Joy had students participate in creating decorations. We need help setting up on Friday as well. See the sign-up Genius.

2019/2020 School Year Officer Elections Nominations:

Mandy Demmert - President

Lori Broadaway to remain as Vice President

Melany Shaw to remain as Treasurer

Sarah Altschuler - MIA Rep

Jaime Wooley f-or Membership (and will work on Fun Fall Festival)

Jamie Schwarzenbach - Communications (maybe cross post Facebook to Instagram this year; Eblast person is vacant)

Recording Secretary Board Position - vacant

* Voted (one by one) – All in Favor *

Sarah Altschuler wants to maintain her budget for Science Fair.

Jamie Schwarzenbach has volunteered to help with Box Tops until someone else is found as Carey Gross is moving.

A list of PTO meeting dates (and important other dates) should go into the Back to School Night folder.

Shawn Kuennen

A 5th grade awards assembly will be held Tuesday, June 4th at 2 p.m. It is a quasi-graduation ceremony. We will also do the annual “clap out” on Thursday, June 6th at 11:40am (buses leave at noon). All grades come out and clap the 5th graders off the property.

Back to School Night

Different this coming year because school begins on Tuesday, August 20th. So, we are going to do it on Thursday, August 22nd from 5-7pm. For the younger kids, it'll be an open house but for the rest of the kids, they will have already met their teachers so they can sign up for positions, talk to the teachers, join the PTO, etc.

We are going to change the order of lunch recess. We will have recess before lunch! Shawn has been opposed to it for 10 years. But there are many reasons for it. Kids are so excited to play that they don't eat. Lots of food is wasted and because of that, less nutrition is going into their bodies. Primarily, he has been opposed to it because they have snow most of the year and coming in will be a slippery mess. The building isn't set up well for bringing them in via the cafeteria. The school is going to practice starting Monday. The Experiment: students will go to recess, then gather and be brought into the back door of the cafeteria. Our cafeteria workers have their schedule. Kindergarten will remain the same but 1st-5th will start recess 20 minutes earlier than their usual lunch schedule. The slotted time they will be in the cafeteria will be the same as always. If it works, JRES will buy more big carpet mats for the winter. If it is worth continuing, they will do it this way. His hope is that they are less rushed, have let out energy and are hungrier and consume food better. The transition from recess to class is difficult. So, this may help. To begin May 20th.

Yearbooks

Need to figure out a preference for teachers to hand them out. We can still order them. Joy will send out a message about it soon.

Teacher Appreciation Week - Mandy Demmert

This went really well. The teachers ate more than usual so we had to get more food. Overall, it was a huge success. For next year, communication with room parents was a missing piece. Room parent communication has been a problem since the beginning. Sign up at Back to School Night but many don't know what their duties are. Not all teachers want a room parent. We need a liaison to the PTO if they don't want room parents, too bad, they need one! In November, we should have a meeting for Teacher Appreciation Week, pick a theme, buy the supplies early and tag/bag them (especially for specialists).

Kate Bock will be a co-lead for the book fair next year. She needs a co-chair. As far as the calendar goes, same week at parent/teacher conferences, starts Sept 30th. They've talked about the level of effort and times/dates open. It didn't impact sales in the spring. We don't know if there is enough support for a reading challenge. Trailside has an 8-person committee just for the reading challenge. Room parents could help. If they can log in their own numbers, it would be better. It could be one week instead of two. The sheets were nicer last year. The reading challenge in years past, is usually spring. Shawn pushed to move it to the fall as it gets the wheels rolling to help with the reading habit. All parents said it has an impact. There was 30% participation. It should be higher. Martha will be sending her son to a different school so Kate needs a co-book fair helper volunteer person. Double the amount of people showed up for the breakfast this year (probably due to the shorter hours). The biggest issue was that we ran out of food and the sales were great.

Bonita Hutchinson – thanked all for a great JRES experience. It has been a family to them, and they are sad to leave.

Shawn thanked all who helped over the past several years. We've had a school-wide impact.

Jaime Wooley – Fun Fall Fest

If you want to help, let Jaime know. The date is Friday, September 13th. There has been a person identified who will run the food trucks and we will do arm bands this year. The price is back down to \$10 per kid (\$15 at the door). We are simplifying it - no auction, no fundraiser, we can do flower pots if someone volunteers (Sarah Hill has volunteered), MIA can do something (an idea or something to contribute) if they want like a craft table. The flower pots have a huge impact on the classroom. If we use them for FFF, they could be at book fair. Could someone mention Flower Pot requests at the last faculty meeting of the year? We have \$2800 in Scholastic Dollars that is going to expire in August, so we need those requests too.

Sarah Hill volunteered to do Flower Pots.

Can we make sure the PTO dates go into the Kindergarten back to school/in doc folders too?

PC School District Survey reminder – it is due on May 16th.

Joy - yearbooks

We ordered 300 and we have 110 still available. In the front office, forms are available from Rayeann. There is an online link via Lifetouch – www.ybpay.com and our Yearbook ID – 1003819. Joy will send out the link. She can also sell them at the upcoming events (Jump Rope Club/Hawks performance, field day, clap out, etc.).

The meeting was adjourned at 9:51.