

Robert Frost PTO
Meeting Minutes

January 21, 2013

Attendees: Steph Fischer, Michelle Heath, Julie Mickelberg, Staci Wolff, Allsion Osterloo, Laurie Stadheim, Ellen Haugrud, Mali Teller, Becky Pagone, Meghan Rhodes, Joe Wright, Senora Ruiz-Pineda, Colleen Werner, Becky Olson, Stacy Koch, Susan Eichacker and Diana Dooley,

Introductions

Review of Minutes. Minutes posted on PTO website.

Treasures Report;

Budget reviewed.

Teachers Report:

Ms. Peterson provided comments on how the technology is used in her classroom.

Box Tops: A bit behind this year. Have ordered some prizes from Coke so may incent some additional people to turn in the box tops. Next deadline is February 22nd for the March 1st submission.

Target: 34 card holders so have over \$500 for next year.

Volunteer Update:

Wellness Updates: Making Hula Hoop for assembly on Thursday at 820. Mandy Bengard is going to demonstrate using the hula hoops. Each classroom will have 5-6 hula hoops to use in the classroom. Purchasing coolers for each grade level so the kids can bring healthy snacks. Goal is to have one per classroom but depends on funds available. Melissa has joined the leadership for the Wellness Council.

Volunteers: Split up the requests for 1st half and 2nd half of PTO activities. Melissa Nelson will send out lists to chairs so they can get started with recruiting volunteers. Group is looking at options to catch attention such as using twitter. Ms. Werner to look into this option. Any communication should go out on the PTO website so that parents are reminded of the site and the information that is out there.

New Business:

Kory, Scherling Photography:

Volunteers needed for picture day and volunteers get a free package for their child. Need 2-4 volunteers for Robert Frost. Picture day is Sept 5, 2013. Each teacher gets 1 free package so if there are students in-need, the teacher is able to donate their package to the student. Each child will get the class composite. An additional volunteer on re-take day would be helpful but not required. School receives a composite of the entire school free of charge. Scherling has a program called the Z factor

where the photographer notices a scratch, food spill they note the package and can have the photo fixed. Turn around is in 7-10 days with retakes about 4 weeks after. Can go to website and select pictures from past years. Each child will get a Safe Kid Card as well as calendar with district calendar.

Upcoming Events

Roller Skating- January 29th- Cash Only

Conferences/Book Fair/Food- Feb 7, 11-13: Looking for volunteers to work at the book fair. Contact Becky Pagone with questions or if able to help. Buy One/Get One Free is only an option after April 1. Art Show is scheduled for March so we can't pair it with the Art Show. Looking at different options to see if this is an option for this year.

Quiz Bowl- Feb 8, Stacy Koch is chairing project. Forms suggested \$10 per child which will be \$10,000. Prizes will be given for class participation. Determining if teachers want to give the test or have the parents volunteers to give tests. We may need to do verbal quiz for kindergarten. Senora Ruiz-Pineda talked about how this will work for the Spanish Immersion program. They have recorded the questions on Shutterfly so that the children can hear the questions in Spanish and study for the test.

Fabulous Friday: Susan looking for additional volunteers to help structure the program as it is very labor intensive. Dynamics are changing so hard to find drivers, etc. Budget is tough to work within however volunteers are the main concern. Ask for parent volunteers or if we don't have enough volunteers the event will be cancelled. Discussed various options and group will meet to discuss best choices to move forward.

Principals Report

Dream Box: Dream Box is a Math program that costs \$7000 per year for the school. Senora Ruiz-Pineda brought forward the idea of hosting an International Night to help raise funds for the Dream Box. There is a community member that volunteered to let us view her collection of international costumes. The "02" classrooms piloted the Dream Box subscription for 90 days. The classrooms loved it and volunteered to raise money to help defray the cost of the subscription. PTO is not supportive of the students selling necklaces to raise money for Dream Box.

Requested that Ms. Werner ask the teachers to see if there are other programs available to make sure the cost is justified. Would like to know information such as 1) does this work with the curriculum for the classroom? 2) How much will the children use this technology? 3) What will this replace?

Technology: iPods are still desired as well looking into policy for kids to bring their personal iPods to school. Robert Frost is scheduled to get 51 iPads next year through the district allocation of technology. Suggestion to branch Technology budget into hardware and software budgets for the Technology Sub-Committee. Funds have not been designated for the funds raised from Quiz Bowl so consider earmarking the money to Dream Work. More information needed in order to make decision. Suggested that Fundraising Committee review info from teachers and also discuss options for fundraising.

International Night: Can be a festival and not a designated fund raiser for the first year.

Safety: Ms Werner outlined some safety changes that are in the works:

- Secure entrance by end of year
- Vents will be closed to classrooms so can't see in
- Require parents to leave keys and license to get a visitors badge.
- After school, only 3 exits will be used.

Meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Becky Olson