

**Robert Frost PTO Meeting
March 12, 2013**

Attendees: Shelly Simantel Horr, Tracee Beck, Mali Teller, Julie Mickelberg, Laurie Stadheim, Melissa Marso, Michelle Health, Susan Eichacker, Colleen Sorenson, Joe Wright, Colleen Werner, Steph Fischer, Sonja Watembach, Kristi Eglund, Dani Eppe, Shelly Bitz, Chuck Eppe, Colleen Werner and Joe Wright.

Welcome

Minutes are posted on the website

Budget

Update: Budgets distributed to attendees. Balance is about \$22,000- including Quiz Bowl deposits. Have some upcoming expenses with Fabulous Friday and Quiz Bowl prizes. We experienced overage on Teacher Conference meals as more money was donated as compared to what the expenses were.

Expenditures: We have about \$15,000 to spend on technology. There is a form to fill out to request the funds. Ms Werner will send to teachers with link to form. We want to work with Ms Werner to determine priorities for using the money. We are open to suggestions from the PTO if there is a different/better way to determine the priorities.

At the last PTO meeting in May, PTO will decide how to spend the money.

Promotions: Little lower than expected.

Target- \$600+ at Target for payment next year.

LOL- \$280

Box Tops: \$2300

Best Buy- certificates and points that will equal about \$20

Campbells- need to include the barcode when submitting

Wellness-Purchased the deepfreeze for the cold packs that will go in the coolers so the children can bring a healthy snack to school. There is a cooler for each grade level. There is a field trip for each grade to go to Co-Op. Wellness committee is planning to do a field day with the council kids. Would love to bring back field day for the school, but for now will work with just the wellness council kids.

One year the student council organized an obstacle course for the recess time once a month. Ms. Werner suggested the council have some organized activities to do for recess.

Old Business

Book Fair: Gave \$50 to each FT teacher, \$25 to PT. Gave the library over \$4000 in scholastic books this year. Wont' be doing the Half Price Book show this year.

Quiz Bowl: Thanks to Stacy K. for organizing the Quiz Bowl. Collected over \$10,000!!!
KO2- raised the most money

102- most participation
K01- most numbers correct

Movie Night: Raised \$550 and nothing left over for concessions. Money will go towards Kids against Hunger. Ms. Werner said the kids were well behaved. Good timing and a fun night.

Science Fair:

- 25 posters and 34 participants
- Recruited 10 scientific judges to help with the evening
- 2 judges talked to each participant

Top 3 posters go to the Washington Pavilion Showcase for a city wide competition. Fischer Scientific rep sponsors the Science Fair and provided 2 bags of prizes for the students who were in the top 5 participants.

The Promise Lab at Sanford is available for anytime. Have a staff member that will create a lab to work with what the students are working on. Option for a in-town field trip for all ages.

New Business:

Art Show/Ice Cream Social: Melissa Marso is helping to coordinate the art show and ice create social. Help needed starting on March 13 at any time. Go to art room and the cart is ready to go. Posters will be hung up so that children can color a picture during the evening. Melissa requesting that the art show move back to April.

Kindergarten Round Up

Steph Fischer and Kristi Dillon are working on doing some additional activities for Round up. Option is also to use the Scholastic dollars to buy kindergarten book so that each child received a book stamped with Robert Frost. Another school offered milk and cookies and had kids go through lunch line to practice holding the tray. Also encouraged parents to come for lunch especially the first days to help open up all the ketchup, mustard, milk, etc! Kristi Dillon checking in to having the Student Council kids do the tour.

Spiritwear/Goods: Keychain/flashlight with Robert Frost on the keychain can be used for Kindergarten Round Up, Student of the Month, etc.

Fabulous Friday:

K-1: Five sessions. Need 2 parents to chaperone the five groups. Julie Bitz is the chair for Kindergarten and Sarah Skogen is chairing for 1st grade.

Second Grade (will go on bus) - Tiger Rock, Landscape Garden, Outdoor Campus Scavenger Hunts

Third Through Fifth: Same concept as last year.

- Bus to go to Golf Dome instead of Elmen Center. Will have tennis, volleyball, football options for kids. Also can go Suburban Bowl

- Research: Sanford Research- 24 kids a session. Water Purification Plant, US Postal Service tour
- Cooking: HyVee (15 kids)
- Old Courthouse Museum: Becky Pagone is going to show kids how to churn butter and dip candles.
- Flip Flops/Nails

Still need parent drivers and volunteers. Kids will register on Thurs, March 19th. Budget is on track. Susan would like to discuss funding bus field trips for next year instead of Fab Friday. Think about transitioning to Fabulous Field Trips next year. Topic for discussion next year.

Teacher Appreciation Week: Colleen Sorenson and Melissa Sorenson. Monday will do breakfast, Wednesday lunch and Friday sweets. Donations may be used for a Keurig Machine to use in the teachers lounge. Group suggestion we move surplus funds from conference meals to the teacher appreciation week budget.

Principals Report:

Conference attendance: 96% attendance rate

Numbers for next year: 467 at Robert Frost- anticipated 500 next year.

- Kindergarten-70 +45 Spanish Immersion students
- 1st – 58
- 2nd -82
- 3rd - 78
- 4th- 71
- 5th- 63

Spanish Immersion will move to Jefferson in Fall 2016. Robert Frost addition of 8 classrooms will happen in 2015 due to the closure of the 2 elementary schools.

Funding Requests: Teachers have an interest in guided books for the bookroom. School requested \$3000 (or more) for assistance for supplying the bookroom. Committee of teachers that are working on cleaning out the bookroom and then recommending what books to order for the bookroom. Could use an annual donation to the book room to keep the supply up to date. Mrs. Knigge, Stavig, Hofer and Oines are on the bookroom committee. PTO requested that Ms. Werner meet with committee to see what the goals are for building the room and the associated costs.

Technology: Going to digital testing in next 1-2 years. Looking into Google Chrome Books. Decided to do 84 Chrome pads, 2 carts and charging stations for the purchase from the district next year. Robert Frost will be using Chrome books which is compatible with testing. (iPads are not)

Reading Challenge with Garfield: We have over 50, 000 pages read this week.

Showcase of Schools: Showed local business the school. (Your Pet Stop and a fireman from the Firestation).

Meeting Adjourned. Next meeting May 7, 2013.