

Robert Frost PTO Meeting - Monday, March 20th, 2017

Attendees: Jennifer Stensaas (Co-VP), Jill Smith (Co-VP), Beatrice Skyberg (Treasurer), Julie Person (Secretary), Mitch Lynch (Administrative Intern), Jessica Knigge (Kindergarten teacher), Jessica Peterson (5th grade teacher) John Pagone, Mary Grandi-Koball, Julie Beaner

- Welcome and introductions - Jill Smith
- Approval of the agenda - Jill Smith
 - Jennifer Stensaas motioned to approve the agenda
 - Julie Person 2nd to approve the agenda
- Approval of January 23rd minutes - Jill Smith
 - John Pagone motioned to approve the minutes
 - Mary Grandi-Koball 2nd to approve the minutes
- Additions to the agenda- Jill Smith
 - Flowers for the orchestra concert. We need to confirm who orders them and make sure that is taken care of.
 - Coke Rewards (Mary Grandi-Koball) - The Coke Rewards program is ending. The last day to enter points is March 22nd. We redeemed 1,085 points on coupons for free 12 packs of Coke that we used during staff meals for conferences. We also got an HGTV magazine subscription for the staff lounge as well as two \$10 Amazon gift cards and one \$5 iTunes gift card. It was decided that we would save the iTunes and Amazon gift cards to give away during teacher appreciation week. We would have only gotten \$16.30 if we chose cash so redeeming the points for prizes and gift cards was a much better value.
- Chair Reports - Jill Smith
 - Kindergarten Round Up - The 5th grade teachers have not heard from committee chair about student volunteer needs and coordination.
 - Science Fair - The student participation was great and the space was at full capacity. There was talk about expanding it to the gym next year in addition to the multipurpose room like the hobby fair event to ease crowding. This might also allow for an earlier start time. Sonia Ohling mentioned at the last meeting that she might know a couple who would be interested in taking over.
 - Book Fair - John Pagone gave a report on behalf of Becky. The half price book fair will be held in the gym during the art show. They will be collecting used books and change for Hawthorne. The prizes for the most collected will be an extra recess or Mr. E dressed as Ms. Frizzle.
 - Arts Festival (Mitch Lynch) - The event will be held on April 7th starting at 6:30pm. Nothing needed from the PTO at this time.
 - Teacher Appreciation Week - We will confirm with committee chair if anything is needed.
- Treasurer Report - Beatrice Skyberg

- The book fair is supposed to be a wash and we are \$31 dollars off. Beatrice will look into that and see if she can figure out where the discrepancy is at.
- The Quiz Bowl went over budget due to prizes used to increase involvement. Everyone agreed the incentive prizes really help and we should keep them.
- The Science Fair looks like we went way over budget, but we received a grant to cover the costs.
- President's Report - Jill Smith
 - The teachers have until April 14th to submit their requests for their Quiz Bowl funds allotment. Most of the requests submitted so far are for costs for busing and field trip admissions.
 - School Activities Calendar for 2017-2018 - We discussed doing away with the Boo Hoo/Yahoo! Breakfast in favor of handing out goodie bags instead filled with tissues and chocolate, etc. We had poor attendance in the past. Many parents were unaware that it was going on. Lots of parents have to leave for work right away. Some would just like the privacy of having a good cry in their car. ;) We would hand the goodie bags out at the kindergarten lines on the playground. This would also encourage parents to make a clean break and not enter the building with their child.
 - Everyone seemed to think the Quiz Bowl was still an effective fundraiser. The teachers would like a little better communication about the process. They were unsure of what to do with the results. We discussed possibly doing tests on chromebooks/iPads for the upper grades for next year. We need to have a checklist of classrooms to make sure every classroom is visited.
 - Pizza Bingo and Movie Night were discussed, but there are still issues with space for full school events.
 - Everyone thought the Peace Festival was great. We talked about a different plan for food for next year. Possibly having 4-5 food trucks instead of pizza or at least multiple vendors.
 - The option of having online payments for next year for things like donations, quiz bowl, etc was discussed.
- Principal's Report - Mitch Lynch
 - Our preliminary enrollment numbers for next year look like they will be similar to this year. We should hopefully be able to keep the same number of staff, depending on kindergarten enrollment.
- New Business (Jill Smith)
 - Nominations for PTO Officers for 2017-2018 - As of right now we only need a nomination for treasurer, although nominations for all positions are welcome. Tina Zhang was nominated for treasurer. An email will be sent out asking for nominations. We will be voting on officers at the May meeting.
- Adjourn
 - Jennifer Stensaas motioned to adjourn the meeting.
 - Julie Beaner 2nd to adjourn the meeting.