

## Robert Frost PTO Meeting - Tuesday, November 28, 2017

Attendees: Jill Smith (President), Julie Person (Secretary), Colleen Werner (Principal), Jaime Bell (Admin Intern), Jessica Peterson (3rd grade), John Pagone, Mary Grandi-Koball

- Welcome and introductions - Jill Smith
- Approval of September 11th minutes - Jill Smith
  - Colleen Werner motioned to approve the minutes
  - Mary Grandi-Koball 2nd to approve the minutes
- Additions to the agenda- Jill Smith
  - No additions or deletions.
- Chair Reports - Jill Smith
  - Peace Festival (Jill Smith) - We made an error on the budget for the Peace Festival and need to allocate an extra \$500 from a different line item to cover expenses. There was also an error on the budget for the teacher purchase cards in a surplus of approximately \$2000 so a motion was made by Julie Person to allocate the extra funds from the teacher purchase cards to cover the additional Peace Festival expenses. Jaime Bell 2nd to approve the allocation.
  - Spirit Gear (Mary Grandi- Koball) - We had a profit of \$450 from our first spirit gear online store opening. Our second online store opening has a profit of \$145. There was an unexpected one-time fee of \$35 to set up the online store on the website. We will open it up for purchases again in the spring. The second batch of deliveries is on schedule for December 11th.
  - Cardboard Challenge (Jill Smith) - Everything went well. We had about 65-70 entries this year.
  - Conference Meals (Jill Smith) - Food was great and we received a lot of monetary donations that we will save for spring. We need to leave the food out longer so the staff has enough time to eat and make sure the clean-up person shows up.
  - Book Fair (John Pagone) - We were able to sell enough to be able to give funds to the staff to purchase books. Every teacher will get \$50, specials will get \$25, and support staff will get \$10. The library will get \$2,000. We still hope to have more volunteers, especially for the grandparents lunch.
  - Quiz Bowl (Jill Smith) - The Quiz Bowl went well. We had enough volunteers to quiz the K-2 students and having 3-5 take the quiz on Chromebooks went relatively well. We think the assembly and incentives helped and so far we have collected \$8,200. The total pledges are \$15,500. We will go slightly over budget for the school wide popcorn party, but we should well exceed our goal and we still have overage from the teacher purchase cards.
- Upcoming Events/Chairperson Needs (Jill Smith)
  - Flowers for Band/Vocal/Orchestra/Art performances - John and Becky Pagone volunteered for this.
  - Hobby Fair - Mali Teller and Laurie Stadheim will head this up again this year.

- Science Fair - This still needs a chair person. Jill Smith will check in leads received from Kristi and Paul Egland and Sonia Ohling.
- Treasurer Report - (Jill Smith)
  - Our bank balance as of 11/26/17 is \$9,919.00. We discussed separating the classroom party funds from the PTO donations next year to boost the amount of funds received. We talked about having the classroom teachers send out informal notes asking for the \$5 per student classroom party contribution at the beginning of the school year and waiting until October or November to ask for PTO donations.
- Principal's Report - Colleen Werner
  - The focus from the district is on improving reading scores. Our district lags behind state averages in the early grades and we eventually get ahead, but no one is sure why we lag behind in early grades. We're implementing higher standards for reading growth and are working to identify the students that are below average and working with them to become proficient.
  - The district also has a focus on attendance. The school starts by chatting with the tardy students first and then moves on to phone calls to parents and home visits if necessary. We're working on recognizing students with perfect attendance every month by issuing tickets that students can redeem at the end of the school year assembly - such as getting to dunk the principal in a dunk tank.
  - We discussed our playground needs and decided it needs to be a big, year long capital fundraiser. The estimate is between \$30,000-50,000. Mr. Peterson polled the students and the majority of them want more swings. Gliders will cost approximately \$10,000 each and we want 3. We discussed getting a larger structure such as a globe with netting.
  - The Wellness Council has now combined with the Student Council. Korey Erickson is serving as the liaison for the students. There were some parents willing to help out, but not head it up. This will help get us by in the interim.
- New Business (Jill Smith)
  - Jill Smith suggested setting aside some Quiz Bowl proceeds, such as \$1,000, and having 5-10 items for the school that the students could vote on so they could have a voice in how the money is spent and realize what the Quiz Bowl is for and why we raise money for our school. We decided to table this discussion until the next meeting after we have collected the final Quiz Bowl pledges.
  - The school has installed two water bottle filling stations. Student Council raised enough money to pay for one. The school will pay for half of the second one and asked for PTO to pay for the other half. Mary Grandi-Koball motioned to allocate \$350 to contribute to the water bottle filling station. Jaime Bell 2nd to approve.
- Adjourn (Jill Smith)
  - Julie Person motioned to adjourn the meeting.
  - Mary Grandi-Koball second to adjourn the meeting.