



PTO Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm.

Introductions

- The Executive Board - (Co-Presidents – Amy Helmick & Toni Masters; Co-Vice Presidents – Kristine Rosen & Kim Merrill; Secretary – Traci Haake; Treasurer – Ben Cooper; Asst. Treasurer – Stephen DiRose; Co-Fundraising Coordinators – Pat Hagara & Karen Enney; Staff Appreciation Co-Chairs – Lana Barrett & Stacey Mari) & Assistant Principal Sara Harp
- Staff – Mary Salter – K; Kristin Raney – 1st; Shelly DeRock – 3rd; Samantha Dennard – 4th; Joanna Schott – 5th; Lora Grapner – Speech/Language; Lisa Meier – Science & Technology

PTO Board Work Plan – Amy Helmick & Toni Masters

- We want to be community based - focus on the students and encourage positive behavior
 - Asked teachers to collaborate on ideas
- Cookie Dough should be our only major fundraiser as long as we meet this year's budget (approved last year)
 - It is important to attend meetings when issues will be voted on (denoted by an icon) to have your voice heard
 - If we have excess monies, it will go toward technology upgrades
 - Document cameras & projector (replace overheads) – the expense is \$700+ per classroom

Treasurer's Report – Ben Cooper

- The 2009-2010 budget is posted on the website
 - Approved budget is \$23,631
 - \$1,200 per grade level – focus on staff appreciation, graduation & RAZ kids
 - Any excess will go towards technology – the school is 6 years old
 - Currently have \$7731
 - \$3387 carried over from 2008-2009
 - Entertainment Books sales were over \$7,000 (331 books) giving the school a profit of \$4,030
 - Skate City \$214
 - \$90 in donations

Fundraising – Pat Hagara

- Cookie dough – hoping to raise the needed \$16,000 to cover this year's budget
 - We receive 45% of the sales
- Entertainment books were not a direct fundraiser - this was a service for parents who had asked for it in the past
- Chick-fil-A – we receive 20% of sales from restaurant night
- Next school year's fundraisers & budget are voted on & set 2 months before the end of school – look for the vote icons on agendas
 - We will try to be more cognizant of next year's budget based on the recession

Scrip – Leslie Maegley

- Gift card program – will be setting up student & teacher information for on-line ordering which will be placed once a month instead of once a week
 - Checking into reloadable cards

Student Directory – Leslie Maegley

- Leslie, Cathy Painter, & Tonia Johnston are putting this invaluable tool together
 - The cost will be \$5
- There are a few changes this year
 - Customized forms to make it easier for parents to add or edit information
 - Using a new printer which will save us \$0.82 per book
 - Cover will be a new color to distinguish between the different years
- Forms are due 9/18 – cannot publish info without parent consent
 - Have received 60% of new & 50% of returning student forms
 - Have 13 ads sold
 - \$1,600 earned last year from ads, which paid for last year's Halloween party
 - Ads are not just for Meridian family businesses
 - Pricing: \$25 – business card; \$50 - ½ page; \$100 - full page
- No date for completion and distribution, but aiming for mid-Oct with 100% accuracy

Jute Bags – Rachael Rome

- Available for \$12, retail for \$25
- Supports DI (Destination Imagination)
- Not many bags left and they won't be available again

Halloween Dance – Kristine Rosen

- Safe, fun, & *FREE* community event for Meridian families
 - We had 900 people last year and are in need of volunteers
 - So *EVERYONE* can enjoy the event, we would like to have 1 hour shifts for games, food, decorating, greeters, raffle
 - Contact Kim Merrill or Kristine Rosen to sign up
- Possibly encourage families (adults) to dress up by giving extra raffle tickets

Teacher Appreciation & Volunteer Forms – Stacey Mari

- Volunteers provided meals for teachers on BTSN
- Bubbles & balloons at the main & Kindergarten entrances on the first day of school to make it less stressful and more exciting for the students
 - Positive feedback, so planning to do it again next year
- New concept of a homeroom parent
 - Gives the teacher one point of contact to all the parents
 - Wish list, party planning, take care of teacher (i.e. Birthday, staff appreciation)
 - Positive feedback - lots of volunteers
 - First to email back “wins” the homeroom parent position which will be underway shortly

A Precious Child – Carina Martin

- This is a Broomfield non-profit that helps children and families in need
 - Need clothing for all ages
 - Located at 54 Garden Center – off Midway
 - Relies on volunteers
 - Volunteers needed for clothing bank (inventory, sorting, distribution), administrative (accounting, media relations), etc.
 - Works with CASA, Boulder Safe House, Lutheran Services, North Metro
- Provided 1,000 children with backpacks & school supplies
- Have a clothing drive & Christmas drive
- Suggestions
 - Get student council involved
 - Get students involved in future community service
 - Co-curricular activity to educate the entire child

Science & Technology – Lisa Meier

- Cartridges for Kids (CFK) recycles electronics (list of items on PTO website)
 - The school earns money to purchase small items, i.e. Mouse pads, specialty paper
 - There is a box by the rock in the main entrance to place donations all year
 - There will be a Recycling Contest 10/2 - 10/8; flyer going home as the date gets closer
 - On average we earn \$300 during the contest and CFK adds \$50

Website – Jennifer Bragg

- All PTO paperwork can be found on the website
 - Trying to go paperless – working on keeping the school & PTO sites in-sync to ensure the forward progress
- Loves feedback – what else would you like on the website?

Calendar Review – Kristine Rosen

- Calendar includes *both* PTO & non PTO events to provide an overview of the year for parents to pick the options that work best for them
 - It is subject to change and an updated version may be found on the website
 - Holiday boutique has been canceled
 - Contact Kim Merrill or Kristine Rosen with questions

Answers to Questions – various

- Climbing wall has been purchased; still working on arrival date & installation
- Music system was purchased by the district and has been installed

The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 pm.