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Meeting Minutes

Date | *Meeting called to order by* Jen at 6:04pm

In Attendance –

Jen Vandenburg, Emily Austin, Sara Exner, Ali Lapidus, Beth Mellick, Christal and Jim Kass, Jody Green, Kelly Vice, Ashley Marmaro, Melanie Maslan, Angie Glucksman, Zahra Kakal and Zoom attendees

Welcome –

Last meeting of 2023

Approval of Minutes

* Motion by Christal Kass to approve minutes from last meeting
* Second by Angie Glucksman
* Approved unanimously by PFA membership

Principals Report

* Last time we met gearing up for No Place for Hate and Trunk or Treat
* Feels like we do a lot of things quickly
* Several classes have done field trips
* Ag Fair was a success
* Red Ribbon week was low key and appropriate
* Last Minute Yoga at lunch. A parent was asked to host the yoga session and it was awesome. We may try to do it again sometime
* Hope everyone is enjoying conferences with teachers.

Treasurer’s Report

* Christal: mainly 5th grade events recently. They have done well, they are close to the $30,000 number that they wanted to be at
* Trunk or Treat did well ($2,000 this year vs $1,000 last year, they outperformed last year)
* Bell Canyon event was on par with last year
* Halloween grams brought in $8,000 this year vs $5,000 last year
* Yes Fund – still hoping to land around $210,000. Recurring payments are coming through
* Holiday Boutique is online right now. Hope to get some funds in, since not doing it on site this year.
* Nothing major to report on expense side

Vote on Budget

* We noticed at the last meeting that we wanted to increase the hours for the PE teacher by 5 hours a week
* We received an estimate of around $7,000 from the District
* Motion by Emily Austin to increase the budget by $8,000 to be used to increase the hours of the PE Teacher by 5 hours a week
* Kelly Vice seconds the motion
* 13 in person votes Yes
* 5 online votes Yes
* No one opposed
* The motion was approved by PFA general membership

Vote on Steam Engineering Corner Build to 12,000

* To contract with someone over $5,000 we have to have it approved in minutes
* We want to build out the unit and have shelving through 2bit circus.
* It is already in the budget as a line item up to $50,000.
* We want a line-item vote to proceed with contractor
* The $12,000 is coming out of the $50,000
* The by-laws do not need the vote. It is a significant expense to spend on the contractor.
* We have 6 zones planned out
* Engineering, Lounge, Manipulative (games, Lego), Arts and craft, Media space (green wall, create video), Technology zone (robot, coding, circuit board)
* It is in the budget as a line item
* Emily Austin made a motion to allot up to $12,000 for the STEAM engineering corner for the maker space at Round Meadow
* Jim Kass seconded the motion
* No more discussion
* 14 in person votes Yes
* 7 online votes Yes
* No one opposed
* The motion was approved by PFA general membership

Budget Update:

*Assemblies*

* We want to bring back assembly dollars to bring interesting experiences for the kids
* Planning to have an assembly during Kindness week.
* One example is Spirit Dancers
* Before covid, someone was in charge of assemblies at Round Meadow
* Another example is a Basketball group – they can show skills and tie in with anti-bullying.
* Question: Is it enough because assemblies are expensive
* Maybe next year we have to increase the line item in the budget.
* The school has some funds that can help be spent towards some assemblies.
* The school can get a discount if more than one school books an assembly with a vendor in a specific time period.
* We are noticing a proposal to vote on Assembly line item addition of $4,000 to the Budget. We will vote in January
* Principal Exner shared that we are having Eagle Dancers. They are coming during Native American Heritage month. It was inexpensive compared to others. $600 to &700 for the dancers and it is coming out of the Colts Care committee funds.

*Science Fair*

* Jim Kass submitted a proposal for a science fair

Jim gave an overview:

* Want to do an annual science fair.
* Can’t start until after January, until after it is voted on by the membership.
* May not be able to do it by March like originally envisioned
* Plan that it will be a traditional science fair with Boards, Scientific process, experimental process
* Flyers will go out and we plan to have 2 information sessions going over what to expect and how you can do it.
* Some ideas are “What flavor of bubblegum lasts the longest”
* RMPFA will provide the boards.
* The work will be done at home.
* Would be nice if they could do some during regular school day in their free time. The kids will need help. It is not part of the curriculum.
* Exner and Kirkhope have talked about successful fairs
* Kirkhope had great ideas
* At the fair we can have competitions with kids on how far a paper airplane can go
* There are outside vendors who could come, like an ice cream guy using dry ice
* Question: Will it be for all grades? Answer: Yes, it will be for all grades
* It will be optional and we will encourage everyone to participate
* We have a science teacher for 4th and 5th and other grades have science in the curriculum.
* This is an option to do another STEM activity
* Question: Will they do the work at home? Answer: Yes, but it depends on the project. Maybe they can do some at recess depending on the project. It would be a parent night, a community night
* It may be kind of like the Ag fair, where they are making their project at home
* This is parent and kids working together on something.
* STEAM room would be an ideal place to be able to work on it (when it is ready)
* The science fair could be part of a school club, like a science club
* Could also do it like an assembly where people do the experiment as a presentation. We would like for the kids to be able to it and that is what we are trying to organize.
* Amount to budget?
* Costs:
  + Judges for science fair and rewards or prizes
  + Boards
* Many committees have a $2,000 budget
* We will notice a $2,000 budget for the Science Fair committee
* Can do prizes, ribbons, certificates
* Can have food truck come during the Science Fair event
* Will come up with a date
* Outdoor ed date may change and if it did that week could be used for Science Fair

Open Board Positions

* Will have elections in Spring (March/April)
* Nomination process will start in February
* Officers have 2 year terms
* Open positions: Vice President, Parliamentarian, Treasurer A/R
* Also want to know if there is any general interest in any positions
* If anyone is interested in being co-president with Jen next year
* February there will be an election committee
* Good to talk about it with newer parents with younger kids
* On RMPFA website, there is a list of the committees and you can find out more about the committees. We welcome everyone and anyone to get involved

Carpool line and Parking Lot safety

* If you are going to use the loop, don’t get out of the car
* Please park in an actual spot
* Don’t park in staff spots
* Don’t park in PFA spots, people bid on them for a lot of money
* The main goal is safety
* Put your kids on the right side of the car
* Would be nice to have some parents volunteer for an afternoon colt patrol
* When you pick up kids, you need to take them back to the car; it is not play time
* There used to be a video, it was old however it was also effective
* We want to remake it
* Exner: it is frustrating after school when kids are running in plants and dirt and jumping off the green bench
* Exner yells at them to stop
* We want them to be safe
* At most schools you have to pay for sibling club. We offer free sibling club
* When we release the kids to you, it is hard to monitor them and keep the kids safe.
* Kids should not be wrestling.
* The kids are in custody of parent but on school grounds
* Comment: Maybe a room parent communication
* Question: Can there be TK sibling club?
* Answer: It is an hour. The kids in TK are done, it is a long day for them. That hour is an hour they don’t have support
* Sometimes at pick up parents are conversing and kids are playing away from the kids and that is not what we want
* Comment: At a prior school everyone knew what to do and everyone volunteered, that prior school did a video and parents would take license plate pictures
* They have done it in the past
* At the other school, they brought music, 5th graders walked kids to class and got extra credit for that
* RMPFA has been thinking of vests
* We can brainstorm ideas
* Principal has looked into other ideas to handle the traffic in the morning but they have not been viable options
* Question: Can we pay for TK sibling club? Answer: the aids have not shown interest in extending hours

Question about enrichment

* Can we have more options for enrichment?
* Answer: Yes, we are looking at Art and Steam program on Tuesdays for next Semester
* Can look at more options
* They have to go under Boys and Girls club umbrella
* A parent heard of cooking class, coding class
* It was a quick shift last year from being managed by PFA to going through Boys and Girls club (change was required by the district)
* Tuesday art was not able to get up and running
* Boys and Girls provided options and we are excited to do that
* Should have new schedule for enrichment out before winter break
* Question: Have we considered Growing Outdoors?
* Answer: They wanted to be exclusive and they have their own people. We wanted to continue working with our own people (Like Dante, Hano and Danny)
* Question: enrichment for TK – Dante said there was no space to set up
* Answer: Will look into that
* Someone asked about Ms Wilson, the art teacher before covid
* Providers have to meet criteria of Boys and Girls club
* Regarding Ms Wilson: Her daughter did it last year for enrichment, she could not get under the Boys and Girls club
* Will look into enrichment options

Events and Committee Happenings

Trunk or Treat

* It was a success
* Thanks to Angie, Emily

Red Ribbon Week

* Thanks to mom who did Yoga

Online Shopping Week

* Happening this week instead of in person boutique
* Local, small businesses; some are parents in school
* Thanks to Rachel

Holiday Performances

* Will send out info about purchasing a DVD recording

Staff Holiday Luncheon

* Sara thank you in advance

Kindness Week

* Assembly to end Kindness week
* More info about daily activities coming

Read a Thon

* No theme yet

Family Dance

* Feb 9
* Ariella offered to help chair that one

Please reach out if want to get involved on a committee or co-chair

Galloping Colts stopping Thursday

* Pause during the cold winter months

Update on Turf:

* It is in DSA
* First we had to submit turf request with portables and then they said no so it had to be requested again separately
* Hope it will be approved in February
* It takes 3 weeks to install and it is hard to go 3 weeks without the field.
* We are considering doing it a week up to spring break, spring break, and the week after

Working to paint whole school

* Siding of the school is deteriorating, have to repair it before it can be painted
* Picked 2 colors for the school
* Once repairs are done they will start painting

Hydration stations

* Picked the upper classroom area and media center
* Back classroom, having issue with plumbing so moving it to a different wall
* Media center area had plumbing issue that is being worked on this week

Front area landscaping

* Too much mulch was put in

Garden is going nicely

* Growing lots and 4th and 5th getting involved
* Want to get younger grades involved too

Class Act:

* Class Act Auction in December for front row seats
* Next play will be Lion King

Dodger night

* Christal and Ali working on organizing Dodger night
* Looking at a group rate
* Have to get level of interest first
* Then we will put a deposit
* They will refund up to 10% back so we don’t want to overshoot
* They come back in April
* We are looking at maybe the first weekend of June

Closing - Next Meeting January 9th 8:15AM

*Adjourned by Jen at 7:12*