

PTO Meeting September 6, 2016

Came to Order at 7:03

Participants: Amy Soumar, Keshia Warner, Lauren Hecht, Ingrid Wilson, Kathy Sweeney, Marcus Croom, Kathy Dull, Christine Reeds, Elizabeth Cruz, Lori Robert, Mary Furman, Julie Burwell, Katie Tomlinson, Gayla Morales, Tammy Adkins, Steph Thomas, Jenn Harte, Destinie Brannigan, Laura Temple Wesley, Claire Frieling, Janet Wright

Welcome and Introductions:

September 2016 Meeting Minutes

Minutes Approved

Principal's Report

The school has raised almost all money to meet the goal for the Fun Run event already. There will be an all school dance party to celebrate the success. There will be Daisy troops started for Kindergarten and first grade. The refugee project will continue again this year. Mrs. Warner reported that only one of the water fountains is off limits to date due to elevated lead levels.

Old business

Members discussed how to send event photos to drop box to share with the community. David (although not present) sent a message if you have something for digital backpack it must be in by 5 on Mondays.

Treasurer's Report

There is no formal budget for year yet. Many big events are starting now like WISE, FUNRUN, etc. An updated budget will be provided next month. Last year the PTO was conservative with the budget. With the new events and successful fundraising, there was a surplus of around \$7000.

World Language

The topic of adding world language opportunities has come up in the past. Lori talked to several individuals interested in teaching languages during lunch at Whittier. Hatch has a successful program. They run the program Nov through April. Students bring their lunch and have their language lesson. The program is open to all but is recommended for 2nd through 5th. The cost per child at Hatch is \$170 per child with a discount for a second sibling. Students have 20 classes once a week. Questions raised - Would there be scholarships? What day would it occur? When would it start? Challenges identified - Students at different levels, Space. Lori volunteered to be parent lead for program. Languages that could be offered were French, Spanish, Japanese. Members discussed a shorter program this year, if possible, January through April. The primary focus would be speaking. Reading and writing can be introduced

later. This is a program that could develop into a WISE program for more proficient learners later.

Library Follow Up

The library budget was cut in half as discussed last meeting. Members discussed holding off on putting the library as a separate line item in the budget. A motion providing \$2000 to library was approved.

Year Book

Paula Spring, the instructional coach for Whittier, may be able to lead the year book club. This was discussed as a club for fourth and fifth graders this year. The club will need to get active with photos soon. Elizabeth Cruz and Kristen Comm offered to manage finances for the year book.

New Business

Ms. Little is on family leave and discussed a Whole Food gift and/or gift card or cash. Members approved \$300 gift.

The Book Fair will occur in a couple of weeks. They are looking for volunteers.

Committee Updates

Whittier Wear - There is a store on the PTO website. Katie keeps a stock of shirts as prizes, etc. The last order was two years ago and she is asking to order 60 shirts. Cost per shirt is \$10 and they sell for \$15. Members approved ordering 60 shirt.

Fun Run - The school is only \$310 away from the goal. There will be two limo lunches with the principal for biggest student fundraisers. Everything is all set for the event tomorrow.

Fundraising for Trivia Night - The date is set for Saturday February 4, at 7 pm at the 20th Century Club.

Fundraising Night for Whittier - Thursday November 10 the Thai Oak Park Express restaurant will donate 20 percent of sales from Whittier families back to the school. Thai Oak Park Express is a Whittier family owned business.

A shopping night with Lively in March was proposed.

PTO Donations have reached the goal of \$2500.

New ideas for Friday Night Gym Night were proposed. Liz Cruz brought up getting local businesses to come in and run the night. An activity night for families was proposed.

Green team has set a date for cleanup of Sunday October 16 from 12:00 to 3:00.

Concluded at 8:30.

Next meeting will be November 1.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Harte

Secretary