

PTO Meeting March 6, 2018

Came to Order at 7:00

Participants: Amy Soumar, Scott Kasik, Heidi Gawne, Laurie Conley, Maureen Spain, Stephanie Thomas, Laura Temple Wesley, Kristin Alfonsi, Kate Haarvei, Elizabeth Cruz, Kathy Dull, Jenn Harte, Kevin Cohen, Brigitte Brostrom

Welcome and Introductions:

February 2018 Meeting Minutes

Minutes Approved

Principal's Welcome/Report - Jim Doyle

PARCC in full swing Kindergarten registration March 15, Music concert next week, Report cards home on March 16, March 20 no school teacher institute, Chorus concert March 22 at OPRF.

Principal search is in the final stages. They are hoping to present candidate next Tuesday.

Building security. Parents may want to come in the building in the morning but safety is of most concern. Parents have to come in the main door. If anyone sees safety concerns, let the principals know. Individuals must sign in and sign out at the office. PTO offered idea to have lanyard passes. The main camera on the front is working and others are being worked on.

Treasurer's Report/Budget

Next month the PTO will be working on budget for next year. Fundraisers are exceeding expectations. The spring book fair raised \$1362. Trivia Night raised \$8200.

Treasure was wondering when to donate Oak Park Education Fund. PTO discussed whether to raise the donation. The OPEF runs programs in the school.

Stove

Stove in teacher's lounge is broken. \$570 to buy a new stove. High price is \$700. PTO asked about self-cleaning option. The PTO approved move spend up to \$800 for nicer stove. Asked if there is a building inspection necessary.

2018/2019 PTO positions

Current co-chairs reached out to current position holders. Also asked each position for a description of jobs. Openings include Co-President, Co VP for Fundraising, Secretary, VP of Wellness, Co VP of Green Team, End of School Year Picnic, Fun Fair, etc

WISE

WISE chairs raised need solution for volunteers. They proposed a paid position and presented a job description. Cost for the year would be \$4000. There have been some behavior issues in WISE classes. There is a discipline policy. Behavior policy was drafted last Spring. Discussed

providing behavior expectations to teachers to reinforce expectations. Also discussed sending a BLAST to specific classes of WISE. If paying a volunteer, PTO discussed if a price increase was necessary. Raised idea to offer a WISE discount for attendance volunteers. One person can handle dismissal. Try a BLAST for Attendance volunteers of \$50 off per volunteer shift up to the value of your WISE class. There is a WISE team that handles problems. A suggestion of using PAWS to reinforce behavior was made.

PTO council meeting six schools there, spent entire time talking about registration. All schools do it differently. Most schools have a software to manage registration and would reduce volunteer time. It is \$1000 for the year. Would be better coordination. Could be used for World Language as well. Maybe could get a district discount. First time had that meeting.

Committee Updates

Parent Engagement

Brainstorming how to get more people involved. Generated a google survey on volunteer interest.

Fundraising

Pot Belly \$250. Lou Malnati's in April. Despicable Me Three made almost \$700. March 23rd show Co Co and May 4 last movie date.

Book Fair, Whittier Wear, World Language

Whittier Wear - \$600 raised. Have items in PTO closet to be sold later. Still want general vinyl banners to advertise. Look into spending scholastic dollars that will expire. Rolling rack for Whittier Wear discussed.

World Language 40 students signed up. Made \$1700. Set to end in April/May. German teacher is moving away so looking for replacement. Asking if interested in other language interests.

Yearbook

Plan to send to press by May 1. Two before that would like to have pictures etc finalized. Would like to have as many pictures from events as possible. Remind teachers with a deadline.

Green Team

Usually do an Earth Fair. Doing something different. Craig Henley. He is a falconer. Talks about conservation, endangered species April 17. Service day will be Sunday April 22. Funding Factory is where send items for recycling. Student Council could become involved.

Other

Discussed having a display case inside the school.

Discussed doing a PTO/Staff number at the Talent Show. Talent Show is the Friday before Memorial Day.

Ethnic Day Festival on May 5. Feel there is poor representation from Whittier. Senora Deaton is the lead for Whittier. Could encourage as goodbye to Senora Deaton.

Meeting concluded at 8:40.

Next meeting will be April 3, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Harte

Secretary