

CCCK8 PTSA Meeting Minutes

April 6, 2015

Present: Jody Dickson, April Duncan Fong, Tami Lawson, Jennifer Brown, Stephanie Rosario, Linda Duffy, Joanna Waggoner, Maria McVey, Heather McLaughlin, Jeannie Ney, Rachel Ney, Melissa Vince, Kristin Grosse, MaryAnn McGinnis

Officer Reports

Membership: no change from last month.

Financial report: no change from last month. \$3394.

Volunteer/classroom enrichment: We need to do a public presentation so CCCIA can come see the results of the oral interpretation program they sponsored. What about the 5-8 folktale presentation?

Student Council: Rachel Ney - Box Tops are collected every month in a contest between classes. (Note: Skyhawk is donating \$100 worth of balls, so we don't need to get balls with Box Tops.) Update on how Random Acts of Kindness campaign is continuing with a different theme each week, leading up to Day Without Hate. DWOH will be the first assembly, with grade-level stations.

Committee Reports

Fundraising: Jody needs a parent volunteer to coordinate school supply list-checking with teachers and Shawn for school supply fundraiser.

Open Business

Events

- General schedule discussion: Screen-free week, Teacher Appreciation Week, Talent Show/Silent Auction, and May PTSA meeting are all the same week. Lots of opportunities for kids to be screen free that week, though. One snow day is built into the year, so no snow day make up as of present. Tie dye day is May 26th, Field Day is May 21. Maybe May 11 can be reward day for screen free week participation.

- Teachers each working on classroom baskets for silent auction, and a list is started in the lounge. Lengthy discussion of who has solicited what for auction donations, how to better organize auction purchases, auction ending times, and blind vs. open auctions. Auction starts at 5:30, talent show starts at 6:30. One Volunteer Spot for everything that goes along with silent auction. Last year we made \$2700. Our goal this year is \$3400, to pay for Writers in the Schools.

- Homework Help Night planned for around April 20 to help 5-6 with their puppet show book project. Jody will get in touch with Mr. Birch.

Nominating Committee: Bylaws actually said that a term is 3 years, so 3 terms = 9 years. Committee needs to check with each officer to make sure they are ok staying on, then make a formal recommendation. We will be voting on the bylaws changes at the May meeting since we need 30 days for review.

Family feedback survey: Only 8 responses so far, please do it and encourage others.

New Business

All school field trip is May 27. Jody has heard some parent feedback that they do not want to go to the zoo or the museum. The zoo is already planned and finding anything else at this late date would be difficult.

Molly hired someone to update our website host and install Google Analytics. Last month the PTSA website had 90 visitors.

Shared time with C3AC

Teacher Report

Michelle Copanas presented how the feedback from the instructional rounds has been used. They have been focusing on higher-level questioning. She shared a chart with ideas of questions to ask. They have found that it is very important to intentionally plan questions ahead of time, otherwise you fall back on easy, one-word-answer questions. The staff has been doing a book club to read and discuss the book "Thinking Through Quality Questioning" from a class Michelle took in the summer. It has been good to hear what teachers are doing. JB says she watches for Highly Effective Behaviors and tries to showcase them and spread examples, so she asked Michelle to share (or start the book club?) after she saw the questioning working with kindergarteners. Kristin adds that they are also working on wait time after questions are asked. Wait Time 1 is time to reflect after the question is first asked; Wait Time 2 is time to reflect after one answer has been given - how to add/react to it. Waiting will get a student to think and go deeper. Exuberant hand-raising is not the way. Karen watched webinar on "hands-free environment," also.

School/District Updates

Three more CMAS weeks. PTSA budgets for snacks.

Staffing changes: Norris will be 4th grade. Kristin Grosse permanently hired for 5-8. Hiring another 5-8 teacher. Yearsley leaving for another job in district. Pancoast leaving state. Copanas FT Kindergarten.

Some of the planned Student Based Budgeting investments for next school year: \$5000 field trip/enrichment (up from \$500), 15 laptops, 25 chromebooks, 1 tech storage cart, math expressions online access, k-3 literacy program, full time teacher at each grade level, 2 days a week social worker (up from 1), two additional Paras, smart boards for remaining classrooms without them, teacher computers.