

Fruchthendler PTA

Executive Board Meeting

12/19/22

Minutes

Attendees: Kelly Watkins, Rosemary Bright, Julianna Adams, Tim Eriksson, Nicole Poly-Dixon, Kim Mulligan, Stephanie Keller, Christina Garcia, Michael Benneyworth, Ms. Clements, Michelle Garmon, & Jessica Carter

- 1) Meeting called to order
 - a. By Julianna Adams at 2:45 pm
- 2) Treasurer's Report (Michael Benneyworth)
 - a. \$1900 Net Change
 - b. Expenses this month include
 - i. Spelling Bee Prizes (few more expenses to be pulled)
 - ii. Book Fair Payment
 - iii. Teacher's expenses (technology)
 - c. Miscellaneous – refunds from audible issue
 - d. Jessica Carter asked if Dinning for Dollars from December is included- Michael B. responded no
 - i. (Chick Fil A) needs to be picked up (at physical location) by Julianna, they have called, and it is ready to go – this will be in by the end of the month
 - e. No other discussion or questions from board/audience
- 3) Science Fair (Kelly Watkins)
 - a. Sean has sent out a call for judges via email – hoping this will result in a good turn out
 - b. Awards/Science demo night
 - i. Feb 2nd
 - ii. Children's museum will come and do the demo
 1. Will need to require RSVP to know numbers of student to help the presenters know how they will be able to give their demo (hands on vs. on stage)
 2. Will split up the grades to ensure the kids get a hands-on experience, currently thinking K-2 and 3-5.
 - a. Discussion between Kelly, Tim and Michael included splitting up K-3 and 4/5. Kelly thought this was a good point, but will decided the split based upon the numbers of RSVPs
 - iii. Location will be cafeteria
 - iv. Times TBD but thought is group 1 will be 5 to 6 and group 2 will be 615-715
 - v. Jessica asked when the awards will be, Kelly responded that these will be right at the beginning of the night followed by the demo.

4) Spelling Bee (Nicole Poly-Dixon)

a. 3rd-5th Grade Spelling Bee

- i. Went great without any issue
- ii. 1st place winner was Jeremy Lee (Clements); he also was previously the K-2 winner
- iii. Original budget was \$250 (\$500 in total for K-2 and 3-5 spelling bees)
 1. Receipts and itemizations have been submitted to Michael
 2. Since there was a tie for 3rd place another trophy will need to be ordered
 - a. Jessica C. asked why there was a tie, since that normally does not happen, Nicole realized that too and said it just kind of happened and they rolled with it
 - b. Extra trophy will be less \$25 or less
 3. Funds are available because some of the items for the K-2 has been purchased, may need to order more ribbons
- iv. Nicole asked how we support Jeremy at this point
 1. Tim stated that his name has already been passed to the district
 2. Ms. Clements has already provided him the spelling list
 3. Jessica encouraged Nicole to access the district website and provide him with all the resources listed there- she will send this to Ms. Clements to pass to Jeremy's parents

b. K-2 Spelling Bee

i. Dates

1. At beginning of discussion no date had been decided
2. Stephanie encouraged the do this spelling bee by the end of January
3. Nicole felt that this was a somewhat of a tight deadline
4. It was pointed out that February is hard because of Science Fair, Valentines, and Rodeo break
5. Jessica stated that the K-2 don't need that much time to study, and Stephanie said K-2 teachers are willing to administer and grade the tests
6. Date decided - Jan 31st
 - a. Some concerns because science fair awards/demo will be the same night (Kelly), but the K-2 Spelling Bee will only affect about 24 students, and it should be ok.
 - b. Jessica said to request the names from teachers by the 18th

5) Room Parent Update (Rosemary Bright)

- a. Not very much to report, Rosemary asked Julianna for a fully updated list of all the room parents
 - i. Suggested she asked the front office to confirm the email addresses
- b. Julianna voiced a concern from teachers- Teachers are upset that room funds are being used for their gifts rather than for classroom activities- They explicitly had stated that they wanted their funds to be used towards classroom activities
 - i. Rosemary had also heard this- she is also confused why the room parents are not following the teachers wishes

- c. Jessica wanted to know the room fund had changed from using it for gifts for the teachers to just classroom activities- from what she had known the class fund was specifically for gifting teachers because there are students in classes that can't afford to buy gifts for their teachers, and it is hard to watch their classmates be able to. She would donate the supplies for the classroom activities to budget the classroom fund appropriately
 - i. Kim said that this year the teachers all agreed unanimously to use the fund for only classroom activities
 - ii. Rosemary suggested that maybe Art Parents and Room Parents can work together to create gifts
 - 1. Jessica stated that this is hard to do – and it is better that a room parent just budgets
 - 2. Kim says she holds the money and then just reimburses the parents for their expenses.
 - iii. Stephanie said that this is not a new rule, and it was communicated to all room parents
 - d. Michelle brought up a concern that she has been getting mixed messages. She has a very large fund, and she is not sure what to spend it on. She was told to spend it on Opera costumes, ice cream party and Halloween party, but she has about \$300 so is she just to spend it on that for Ms. Martin?
 - i. Stephanie confirmed some of the dollars should go towards opera costumes because they are the only grade that does opera
 - ii. Julianna said that they would discuss and help Michelle to better understand what she
- 6) Yearbook Update (Jessica Carter)
- a. 85 left to sell – only 65 sold
 - b. Pre-Orders stop in January
 - c. If more are not sold, then she will not purchase extra which means less to sell in the spring if a student needs
 - d. Will send out more announcements about purchasing after the holiday through all mediums – sent out about a month ago
 - e. Only 19- 5th grade ads were sold
- 7) Art Parent (Stephanie Keller)
- a. No update
 - b. Stephanie did ask if there was a decision on the art show so she can tell her art parents to start saving art
 - i. Per Julianna- Art Show is a go for March 9th
 - 1. It will be a walk through like last year
 - 2. The committee is still light of help – only 2 people currently
 - a. Nicole suggested that maybe the Art Parents should be part of committee automatically?
 - 3. Concerns about space to store
 - a. Michael – he can store in his room and potential at his house- whatever needs to be done to share more art
 - b. Kim suggested that teachers can just keep it in their rooms

- i. Stephanie says that some teachers don't want the clutter
 - c. Stephanie doesn't want the art stored in all different places
- c. Discussion went into Spring Book Fair and if it would be held during the art show
 - i. Tim currently said he dates are set from 3/9 to 3/16
 - ii. Julianna pointed that there is still no chair for the bookfair
 - 1. She can't do it in the Spring
 - 2. If there is no chair for the bookfair, it will either
 - a. Be cancelled
 - b. Go online- no one seemed to like that option
 - 3. Discussed if it has been advertised – yes at the end of October- no comments at all
 - a. Christina asked if duties and responsibilities and time commitments were included- Julianna said yes
 - b. Maybe sent out to early and needs to be re-advertised linked with a sign-up genius
 - c. Both Stephanie and Julianna reiterated that someone need to be the chair- for all the details and being at ever shift
 - i. Christina asked why does the chair have to be at every shift- response was to train the people working the shift – Christina said that it will be impossible to get some to commit to that amount of time and it would be best to host training sessions before book fair to help reduce the burden on the chair
 - d. It was reiterated that there would be no book fair if there was not a chair – advertising strategy would be revisited at start of the term.
 - e. Misunderstanding by Stephanie that she was to ask the room parents to help with the Book Fair- that was more geared towards asking them to art show

8) Families Helping Families

- a. Chair not at meeting
- b. Kim mentioned that maybe it would be best to have a line item for FHF because in the past the PTA has helped cover the gifts that were not purchased
 - i. Stephanie said that PTA has not covered unpurchased gifts, but does have a line item (Michael also stated this) of \$50 for wrapping paper and supplies
- c. Kim also mentioned that the chair has spent money out of her own pocket and it doesn't seem right
 - i. Julianna asked what she purchased
 - 1. Sign-up Genius with no ads for \$50
 - 2. Wrapping paper
 - ii. The board all agreed that the chair should have communicated her needs so we could assist- Michael added that she can submit her receipts for reimbursement
 - iii. Chair is concerned because either items didn't get picked up by parents or didn't end up being purchased (mostly big tickets items)-she feels bad;

- committee said that she shouldn't feel bad if things are not purchased – it happens
- iv. Christina encouraged for next year to make a push to encourage everyone to buy what the family is asking for not just a substitution (ie. Buying pjs rather than workout clothes)
 - v. Michelle mentioned that she tried to wrap her gifts but the Chair said that is not how it is done- needs to be determined what has been bought if it is wrapped
 - vi. Julianna wanted to know if in the future we can balance the gifts (ie. If one family gets a lot can we transfer it)- Christina stated that she thinks this is already being done
 - vii. Michael – happy to review proposal and if everyone is in agreement approve a larger amount.
 - viii. Everyone wanted to thank Chair for all her work in this big undertaking

9) Teacher Report (Clements/Mulligan

- a. Nothing to report

10) Principal's Report

- a. Concerts tonight; dance performance earlier today
- b. Huge thanks to all the PTA chairs and all they do, they have really helped him carry out the activities during his first year
 - i. Maybe we can modify activities and how they were run previously to make them more accessible for our parents to help with
- c. Rosemary noted that it seems like parent involvement has dropped
 - i. Everyone feels like this is true and there is a large involvement by 4/5 grade parents but once those students are gone what will involvement look like – there needs to be more buy in by newer parents
 - 1. Julianna brought up the idea of the Parent Involvement Comm (Michelle has agreed to chair next year- already has some ideas)
 - 2. Nicole's socials are also a good way to get people to come together

Adjourned @ 3:50 pm