Sand Creek Elementary PTO- Meeting Agenda

Meeting Date: April 11th, 2023 at 4:15 pm

Meeting Location: PD Room

1. Welcome and Introductions- Sarah Burgoyne

PTO Board present, Christine McMahon, Katie Lawson, Pam Pekarek

1. 23/24 Open PTO Positions:
   1. Open Board Positions: President, VP/Communications

These will be voted on at next Board Meeting

* 1. Open Committee Lead: Restaurant Night, Meet the Teacher/School Supply Drop Off, Spring Fling, & Hospitality

PTO Board asked teacher reps and school admin to reach out to any parents they think would be interested in being on PTO.

* 1. Committee Support/Members needed: Fun Run

Sarah will be the chair, but she needs a committee.

1. Teacher Grants Budget available at beginning of the meeting is $2,600.
   1. Francoeur VOTE: YES (unanimous)
      1. 10 Circuit Kits for use with 3rd-5th grade- 675.50 + tax/shipping

* Excerpt from grant request: “This will be integrated into curriculum for STEM transition 23/24 school year as an electrical engineer unit for 3-5th grade.”
* The Circuit kits will help with the rebranding from Technology to STEM for Mr. Francoeur. The grant is for additional funding that is not provided by the district.
* PTO Board members shared there will be a special appeal on the Spring Fling auction website for Robotics funding for our STEM program.
  1. Willie
     1. Blending Board- $60.95 VOTE: YES (unanimous)
* Excerpt from grant request: “This resource will be used during whole group and small group literacy instruction to demonstrate and practice blending sounds.”
* This is the same blending board that was voted on and approved for Mrs. Marshall. Since it was discussed in a previous meeting, details were not discussed.
  + 1. Butterfly kit- $54.78 VOTE: YES (unanimous)
* Excerpt from grant request: “The caterpillars will help us learn about life cycles and then be released when the weather warms up. We will be able to tie in weather lessons as well prior to the release of the butterflies. We have 2 habitats so each class will have their own cup of caterpillars and habitat to observe. “
* Purchasing caterpillars for both Kinder classes. They will aid in learning life cycles.
  1. Rudolph
     1. Garden Rules Sign- unknown cost VOTE: YES (unanimous)
* Signs that detail rules and expectations for the garden area.
* The grant is asking for two signs because there are two entrances to the garden.
* Amount of signs is TBD because Michelle was asking the PTO to help with the vendor. Expectation is that these signs would cost approximately $75 each.
  1. Hartlieb
     1. Butterfly kit- $48 VOTE: YES (unanimous)
* Excerpt from grant request: The caterpillars will be kept in the classroom for observation and recording by students.” Item Description: Live Butterfly Growing Kit: Shipped with 10 Live Caterpillars Now, Pop-Up Cage, Book and Stickers Bundle, Our science unit focuses on life cycles of living things and adaptation for survival. The live caterpillars give students a chance to make scientific observations of development through the life cycle of butterflies.
  1. Rubenzer
     1. Butterfly kit- $45.85 VOTE: YES (unanimous)
* Excerpt from grant request: “This will help during our lifecycle science unit. The students are excited to learn more about metamophosis.”
  + 1. ~~math intervention ALL GRADES- 297.00 OR 497.00~~ Prior to PTO meeting, Mrs Rubenzer asked us to not vote on this. She wants to understand her role more to see if this is the right kind of training for her new position.
  1. McMahon/Lopez Teachers were present to present their grant request.
     1. Generation Genius - Yearly Subscription $350 VOTE: YES (unanimous)
* Grant is for the 2023-2024 school year.
* Online program offering videos and materials for math and science. The videos are entertaining and interactive.
* Discussion at meeting:
  + Is this something that should be a line item for curriculum on budget? Why doesn’t the district pay for this?
  + Pam helped clarify that the district approved program is Stemscope (which PTO pays for already). The teachers do use this but the program is more for lesson plans whereas Generation Genius is front facing for the students. Its understood that since Generation Genius is a supplemental program to Stemscope, the teachers will submit grants every year. If PTO has funding, they can choose to approve, otherwise teachers will have to figure something else out.
    1. Fraction bars- $174 VOTE: YES (unanimous)
* Teachers have some Fraction bar sets, however they are requesting enough for two thirds of the students (they can work in partners). The grant request includes fraction bars and magnetic sets.
* The bars are important because fractions are a huge part of the curriculum.

1. Principal Update - Pam Pakerak

* At the next PTO meeting, Pam will have 15 minutes to make a presentation on the proposed Bond. The superintendent is asking Principals to reach out to their parent community. PTO has agreed to put the info about the presentation of Facebook so parents can join if they’d like to learn more.
* CMAS testing is finished for grades 3-4, now 5-6 will begin their testing. Students and parents were writing encouraging notes to students who participated in testing.
* iReady end of year assessments will begin soon.
* There’s been a lot of hiring for open positions.
  + SCE has hired a new 1st grade teacher, art teacher, full time school psychologist, and full time social worker. We’re still looking to fill Music teacher, AN teacher, etc
  + There are teacher shortages so the process doesn't have as many applicants.
  + Mrs. Hogarth will move to third grade since there isn’t a need for three 6th grade teachers.

1. Teacher Update- Christine McMahon and Misty Durante

* Camp Day will be at the end of May. They asked if PTO had funds. PTO shared they have $300 in the budget allocated to these PBIS events. Camp Day will be a whole class goal for participation.
* Christine shared we might have to look into a new rewards program. PBIS is raising their prices significantly and requesting a three year commitment. They’re hoping they can get the company to give a discount for the 23/24 school year because the cost increase was not in the school budget. This will not, however be an option for the 24/25 school year.

1. Committee Reports
   1. Restaurant Nights- Ashley Scott-Trainer
      1. April 11th- Micci’s Italian
      2. May 1-12th- Krispsy Kreme Pre Sale Fundraiser
   2. Community Events- Sophie Betser
      1. Clarity? Plans? Updates?
      2. Clear definition of what is included (Father/daughter, Mother/son, Fall Community Event, Winter Bingo, Donuts w/ Grown-Up)
   3. Teacher Appreciation- Ashlee Franklin
      1. Teacher Appreciation Week Update

* Moving forward, chair would like to use classroom reps to help request donations for teacher snacks. Asked if Pam can share information.
  1. Donuts with a Grown up- Jodi Deschmukh
     1. May 16th
  2. Garden- Emily Drost
  3. Spring Fling- Becca Winegar
     1. April 22nd- Spring Fling- The Sports Book Highlands Ranch
  4. Watch Dog Dads- Lydia Murray
* Lydia is chairing this. She put together orientation information and general information about the program.
* The program will be called “Eagle E.Y.E” Lydia wants to have the acronym mean “Engaging Youth Everywhere.”
* Lydia shared shirts that program at her last school used. For now, we’ll just use a yellow safety vest for volunteers.
* There has been discussion with Mr. Bolser to hold a golf tournament to help fund the program.

1. Questions/Comments from the Community
2. Announcements
   1. Next meeting: Tuesday, May 9th 2023
3. Adjournment