Sand Creek Elementary PTO- Meeting Agenda

Meeting Date: May 9th, 2023 at 4:15 pm

Meeting Location: PD Room

1. Welcome and Introductions- Sarah Burgoyne

1. Teacher Grants- $928.72 remaining in budget
   1. Francoeur Vote: Yes unanimous (4 board members, teacher rep, Pam Pekarek)
      1. 30 hard laptop cases- $311.67
   2. Marshall Vote: Yes unanimous (4 board members, teacher rep, Pam Pekarek)
      1. Math Games and Manipulatives- $167.01
   3. Mr. O Vote: Yes unanimous (4 board members, teacher rep, Pam Pekarek)
      1. Tether balls- $169.76 - feedback- kids have been asking for tether balls and we don’t have any.
   4. Esparza Vote: Yes unanimous (4 board members, teacher rep, Pam Pekarek)
      1. Three manuals UFLI is an explicit and systematic program that builds students foundational reading skills. - $240
2. 23/24 Open PTO Positions: 2 PTO Board members have timed out at their positions, open positions are President and VP or Co President
   1. Open President: Candidate: Emily Drost
      1. Vote: All people present at the meeting had a vote, all 12 votes yes for Emily, she will be the 23/24 PTO President.
   2. VP/Communications Jenna
      1. Vote: All people present at the meeting had a vote, all 12 votes yes for Jenna, she will be the 23/24 PTO VP or Co-President.

C. Talked about wanting a lower level grade rep so the PTO understands the needs of lower grades. Pam will reach out to see if anyone wants to volunteer.

1. Principal Update/Presentation - Pam Pakerak
   1. Pam shared superintendent Kane’s presentation about a potential MLO and Bond for the November election. This is just proposed, the school board needs to vote in August whether to move forward.
   2. Presentations detailed how Douglas County wants to continue providing excellent schools. They want to remain a destination district providing high quality education to students.
   3. Property values and therefore property taxes are increasing this year in Colorado. Doesn’t this mean more money for school districts? NO IT DOES NOT. The school funding stays the same, only shares from local and state governments change. When the local taxes increase, state level contributions decrease and the bucket doesn’t change.
   4. How does Douglas County compare with other districts?
      1. There is a huge pay disparity between DC and neighboring districts. DC teachers and staff earn significantly less.
      2. DC wants to retain talent, but this is difficult with cost of living increases and lower earnings.
      3. DC pays the lowest for EA’s, teachers, and other staff.
      4. Only .6% of funding for the district goes to staff because the county wants the students to have more. This will not sustain forever.

E. There was a discussion at the PTO meeting and the bond portion. Graphics show areas in Castle Rock and Sterling Ranch needed new schools because of new developments and more families. This is concerning to Highlands Ranch families because we’re facing school combinations and a big portion of these potential bond funds would go to other areas. Pam is going to provide the district with feedback from our PTO meeting.

1. Proposed SCE Cares Committee
   1. This will be headed by Jenna with collaboration with Tammy Velasco and Jenna Marshall.
   2. This was discussed to see if the community and PTO Board is open to this being a committee. Potential committee heads need to iron out the details with Pam regarding components of responsibilities including giving tree to protect the privacy of families.
   3. Proposed committee would help address basic needs for classrooms and families, ie providing snacks for classrooms, clothing drives: Coats, Gloves, boots, Giving Tree.
      1. Thought was needs would go through teachers. Pam thinks this might have to go through Tammy Velasco because of privacy (need to iron out the details).

D. Committee will ask companies to sponsor certain programs and ask the parents community for donations.

E. Becca (treasurer) pointed out that any funds attributable to this committee would need to be a line item in the budget.

F. Community and PTO Board is interested in the committee, but details need to be worked out with Pam.

1. Committee Chair Needs 23/24: The following is a list of open committees for next year. We need to get more involvement from parents. Parents would lead committees but PTO would support the committee, provide outlines of responsibilities, have access to notes and files from previous years.
   1. Grade Rep/Class “Moms”
   2. Restaurant Nights
   3. Community Events
   4. Kindie Welcome
   5. Meet the Teacher
   6. Thankful Turkey Grams
   7. Candy Cane Grams
   8. VIG/daughter/son Events
   9. Spring Fling Event
   10. Spring Fling Auction
   11. Donuts with a Grownup
   12. Field Day
   13. Garden Club
2. Landscaping Update- Becca Didn’t have time
3. Questions/Comments from the Community
4. Announcements
   1. Next meeting: August 2023
5. Adjournment