

Orchard Elementary PTO

Meeting Minutes

November 15, 2018

- I. Call to Order – President, Jen Drake, called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.
- II. Approval of Minutes – Minutes from the last PTO meeting on October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018, were reviewed by everyone present. Megan Pratt made a motion to accept the meeting minutes as presented, Sarah Landon seconded the motion, motion voted and passed.
- III. Treasurer’s Report – Megan Pratt gave the treasurer’s report. The available balance as of November 15, 2018, is \$22,245.73. \$21,260.54 was netted from Jog-A-Thon. Get Movin’ Crew online donations are not included in our current balance, but are approximately \$10,000. Bill’s Berry Farm tickets were paid for, but this is deceptive, since we have already taken in the cash for these tickets. Megan and Mrs. Arsanto explained the Needs Based Charge as a Visa card that has been used to purchase items and pay bills for families in need. These cards come out of the large donation fund that we received earlier in the year. The cost of a Visa gift card is \$5.95, but we have netted \$8.45 interest from this account to offset some of these fees. Spirit wear still needs to be paid for in November, as well as the retrofit and labor for the water bottle filling station. See treasurer’s report for additional information.
- IV. New Business – A detour was taken from the agenda, as the 5<sup>th</sup> grade team were in attendance to discuss a gift request and they were unable to stay for the end of the meeting.
  - ALEKS Math Curriculum Gift Request
  - The 5<sup>th</sup> grade team has filled out a gift request for an online math curriculum that would cost \$36 per student, for a total of \$4500. The teachers presented more about the curriculum and fielded questions from all present.
    - to provide enrichment for gifted students
    - to provide interventions down to the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade level
    - goal setting
    - teachers can view and run reports
    - similar to what is being used in middle school
    - students will have 12 months of access
  - It is unknown at this time whether or not this program will be needed next year, as the district is in the middle of a math adoption and the new program may have an online component. The teachers already inquired about additional discounts available. It was decided that PTO will send home a flyer telling 5<sup>th</sup> parents about the program and asking them to contribute. The balance of the money will come from the PTO, utilizing the curriculum grant fund and possible discretionary funds or Jog-A-Thon surplus.
  - Sarah Landon made a motion to support and pay for the balance of the ALEKS math curriculum. Joni Kranz seconded the motion, motion voted and passed.
- V. Principal’s Report – Mrs. Arsanto reported that conferences will happen this coming Monday and Tuesday. A Giving Tree will be set up in the lobby next week. Orchard will once again host a holiday sing-a-long in December. The PTO board will be honored and recognized at the November 27<sup>th</sup> RSD school board meeting.

VI. Teacher Representative Report – Mrs. Morrow thanked Sarah Hall for the hospitality treats that were provided to teachers this week and Kriste Colley-Kummer for maintaining the PTO FB page. The school wide component of Class Dojo will take a back seat as a means of communicating with parents, as the FB page is covering much of the same information. Amazon Wish Lists are currently hosted on the PTO FB page.

VII. Committee Reports –

- a. Cultural Leadership Team – Sarah Landon reported on the Action Team for Partnerships, they are thinking of an academic opportunity to possibly tie in with Engineering Week in February, as well as have resources in the front lobby relating to character traits, etc. They don't know where Reading with the Owls is going to be continued or not. There was a concern expressed over Halloween being a spirit day, with a dress-up opportunity. Angela Buck presented an idea of a parent support group being held at the end of the school day, when parents are here at the school anyway. Child care could be offered by high school students who are in need of service hours. The idea is to connect parents with resources and help them feel linked in. There was also discussion of making the lobby feel more 'kid friendly', to younger siblings and also to our own students. This could be achieved through books, magazine, small tables, etc.
- b. Instructional Leadership Team – Janet Wright suggested positive reinforcements for attendance and for students who are tardy. Mr. Langdon and Mrs. Arsanto said that stickers have already been ordered, to identify students who are struggling with attendance and also to provide the child with something to welcome them to school.
- c. Hospitality – Sarah Hall provided popcorn treats to the staff this week, just because ;) PTO is providing a soup dinner for the teachers on Monday, but are still looking for one or two people to help clean up.
- d. Spirit Wear – Orders have been placed for socks, bows and shirts
- e. Yearbook – CJ reported that she got many photos of Jog-A-Thon and has given a flash drive to Sally Yoshida to check out to teachers if they need it
- f. Chess Club – Approximately 70 kids have been showing up, and a Sign-Up Genius will be on the Chess FB page for club volunteers

VIII. Old Business

- a. Water Bottle Filling Station – Sarah Landon reported that it will be installed over Thanksgiving break in the commons and that everyone at RSD has been great to work with on this issue
- b. Missoula Children's Theater – Mr. Langdon presented information that he received from the theater company. There is a \$3050 charge, most of which is made up at the door in ticket sales. This company works with our students for a week and then a production is put on at the end of the week. The company provided a list of dates and Mr. Langdon will be contacting them again about our requested date. Megan Pratt said that the money would come out of the assemblies budget. Megan Pratt made a motion to move forward with this if our date was available. Sarah Landon seconded the motion, it was voted and passed.

IX. New Business

- a. Chuck E. Cheese – An Orchard family owns Chuck E. Cheese and has contacted us about doing a future fundraiser. We are working on communicating with them and finding a date.
- b. Volunteer Update – PTO board met to discuss how to capture volunteer information into our database. The possibility of a social hour both during school and in the evening was introduced, this would be a way for potential volunteers to ask questions and investigate opportunities.
- c. 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Take-Home Books – Angela Buck presented on a gift request from the 1<sup>st</sup> grade team. They need leveled book sets that are higher than their current books. The cost would be \$1621.37. They are putting together an official gift request. This will be on the next month's agenda, unless it is determined that the PTO board can vote on it without a general meeting.
- d. Get Movin' Crew – Sarah Hall reported that if we refer other schools to use the Get Movin' Crew for their Jog-A-Thons, we get a discount on the fee. Mrs. Arsanto will share this information at her principal's meeting
- e. Cultural Fair – Cultural Fair is April 19<sup>th</sup> this year. Cynthia H would like to have a volunteer meeting before Christmas break. We will refer volunteers to her using our general database

X. Meeting Adjournment – meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm by Jen Drake

Those in Attendance

Jen Drake

Sarah Landon

Stephanie Fox

Angie Scherer

Janet Wright

Jana Mapes

Jennifer Hubbard

Tammy Morrow

Angela Buck

CJ Rodriguez

Sarah Hall

Alysia Arsanto

Sean Langdon

Karen Lipp

Megan Pratt

Joni Kranz

Kriste Colley-Kummer