

Red Pine PTO Meeting Minutes
January 6, 2022 @ 630 PM CST

Present: Amy Bailey, Mark Moret, Amber Fagan, Beth Kaiser, Drew Goeldner, and Mary Arneson

Next Meeting: February 3, 2022, 6:30 pm

1) Welcome and Introductions (ALL)

2) Principal's Update (Drew Goeldner)

- We are doing dismissal a little different this week. We are letting the parent pick-up students first. There are times we do not know when buses will arrive so instead of having our students waiting outside, we are waiting for the bus to arrive and then making an announcement for those students to leave. Buses are released a little later because of this, but we don't want students waiting out in the cold for a long period of time.
- Open Paraprofessional Position. We have posted it 3 times and getting no applicants. In the district there are 15 open in the position that aren't getting filled.
- Our open nurse position was filled with Nurse Andrea. Started a few weeks before winter break.
- We are having huge staffing issues. Every school in our district is feeling it.
 - Today we had 13 licensed staff positions that weren't in school. 4 of those were not filled. Mr. Goeldner was a Special Ed teacher today. My Washington and other staff members stepped in to assist as well. Our staff has been great supporting each other. It is everywhere. We don't have a lot of non- class teachers. When someone is out, we feel it. Mr. Goeldner has been able to this point to make the teachers not feel it. He is trying to be the buffer. We have been fortunate to have non teachers step in.
 - The student cases we have seen so far this week are not from close contacts with other students.
 - Within the district they are reallocating staff from other schools to help with the vacancies the district is feeling each day.
 - Amy Bailey brought up how and if the PTO can help?
 - We can do the coffee truck or something to try and upbeat. We can drop off stuff.
 - Mrs. Henning – she scheduled a person to come into the conference room every other Thursday and set up a little coffee stand. It's a little store.
 - Mr. Goeldner will let us know what the PTO can do to help.
 - Let's plan a Friday in January for a treat day for the school. i.e., Popcorn. Movie theatre popcorns (support staff).
 - Nurse Andrea – Nurse position was filled. Started a few weeks before winter break.

- Our school psychologist left this year and a took a position in a private company. The school district is working on reallocating a school psychologist for Red Pine.

3) Treasurer's Reports (Amber Fagan)

Budget Update

Cash Balance of \$35,364 as of 10/7/21, including special designations (Minimum Required Bank Balance of \$5000, Gary Anger Scholarship Fund (\$4500 = \$9500).

- ADD: Boosterthon, Party Money, Boosterthon Sponsorship, Calm Kits, Corporate Donations, & Donations (AmazonSmile, Thomas Reuters, Garten's, Box Tops, Benevity Community Impact Fund)
- Less: \$ Party Money Reimbursement, Staff gift cards, non-party reimbursements, returned checks, USA Inflatables
- Pending: \$30, 538 (Conference meals and fee to Boosterthon)
- Cash Balance of \$56, 771 as of 11/10/21 (including special designations)

4) Old Business

- \$35,000 approved for Class/Grade Funding & Literacy Library
 - \$5000+ additional for the literacy library
 - Class/Grade Funding total will be finalized by next meeting for the staff to start to utilize
 - Is there anything that at the end of the year the staff could potentially need? Reserve some of the budget for those requests? i.e. More money for class parties Mr. Goeldner will research this ask.
 - Once the purchases are made, we will be posting pictures & share with RP Community as how the funds are being used.

5) New Business (All)

- Fundraising – We have reserved the date for Boosterthon 2022. We can cancel without any penalty for next year. We did go with a lower tier from Boosterthon. That means less interaction from Boosterthon, but a higher percentage that will go back into the school. It will be the same week as last year, but only Tuesday – Wednesday. Next year there will not be any leaderboards.
- School Supplies - Do we want to offer this service again? It is an at cost service and we never mark it up for money to come back to the PTO. This is not a fundraiser for us. Last we had 8 people utilize this service. The cost varies with every grade because it is the average cost. It's a nice service to offer. Do we want to add a fee on top as a fundraiser? NO
- Reminder: Mason Jar Takeout Tuesday is January 18th, 2022. Red Pine will get 20% from this Fundraiser for those who mention Red Pine when they are ordering.
 - Art Adventure - Can volunteers go into classrooms
 - Sarah and Mr. Washing have been in contact on this. Highly doubtful we will have volunteers back into the classrooms in Feb/March. Do we want to utilize videos? Last year the videos did not have a lot of views. Mr. Goeldner took a poll of the teachers and one teacher responded to skip due to there are other priorities. We can cancel art adventure without penalty.

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- Hospitality - February Conference Meals are scheduled for February 9th and 10th.
 - Amy hasn't reached out yet for the people who did it for Fall Conferences, but will be doing that shortly
 - Staff LOVES the meals that PTO provide
- Spring School Event –
 - Spring Arts night too early to determine if possible. Still on the calendar. There is not a date of when we would have to cancel the event. We will have to decide when we get closer to the date. Let's see how February is with everything.
 - Ashley Brown oversaw the raffle in past years, and she said she would coordinate it if there were a few other volunteers.
 - We could have the audience in the field and the students could be on the blacktop for the spring events.
- End of the year event – Slated for June 7th. Additional Conversation will take place in February for more of the specifics.
 - We moved away from the Color Run idea as it would hard to get attendance on the weekends and evening. Plus, an idea was talked about having it during the last two hours of school, but than Amy brought instead of a color run let's try and end of year celebration like our Welcome Back event.
 - Potential ideas: Inflatables, carnival games, Dunk tank (Mr. Goeldner and Mr. Washington will be the ones in the tank), Grade level raffle, ice cream treats (buy form Costco house in the kitchen but have the ice cream truck there handing it out), snacks for students, and have the State Fair meal that day by food services.
 - Student are brought out by grade level to enjoy the activities. Parents can attend like they did for Boosterthon. We will have to find a solution if parents check them out (who will manage that table).
 - We have \$3000 budgeted for the event, but we it could be an additional cost.
- Arts night - Arts night -always compared with the raffle night.
 - Let's see what February looks like with the state of the world and then decide. Ashley Brown oversaw it. Would she potentially do the raffle again. Help coordinate it. A few people did sign up to help with the fundraisers at the beginning of the year. Concerns if we will get enough donations this year? We don't need it as a fundraiser, but it is a fun event. The PTO can set aside money to help supplement the baskets.

6) Open Forum

Do we still want to do a swag store for apparel? Yes, Mark is going to research it and get back to us.