



United Steele Workers PTA Meeting

Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.
Virtual meeting

Attendees

Trudi Jackson
Kate Hume
Ann Griner
Meg Ford
Shanna Weaver
Ryan Capp

Governance

President Trudi Jackson called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. A quorum was present.

No new members.

Secretary Ann Griner moved to approve the February and March 2021 meeting minutes, and Treasurer Meg Ford seconded.

Budget

Meg presented the budget report.

- We are doing well with finances.
- There haven't been many changes.
- We have started receiving donation and sponsorships for Steele the Show. We've raised a little over \$1500 so far.
- The Chipotle fundraiser (\$475) posted to the account in March.
- We need to hear ASAP for sponsorships for Steele the Show so we can add them to the program and film on-air sponsorships.
- We have about \$15,000 in the account, so we are in good shape to start next school year.
- Trudi said we can write the check for library support.
- Hoping to get some more ticket sales and sponsorships.
- Shanna Weaver moved to approve the March finance report, and Vice-President Kate Hume seconded. Motion carried.
- Ann asked if Courtney Hertner was still verifying the monthly balance sheet. Meg said she is, and she did approve the March report.

Principal's Report

Principal Ryan Capp provided the Principal's Report.

- Mr. Capp said most of his report is based on PTA activities.

- Naomi Skee is doing an amazing job on the Steele the Show.
 - When the dances are filmed on Sunday, there will be a small audience of school staff. Very excited for this.
 - We will keep highlighting this in Steele Notes. Mr. Capp will send a message in the next few days reminding the school community they can sponsor the event.
- People are getting excited about Focus Day. Mr. Dominguez is especially excited about teaching Guatemalan dances to the kids. We feel like we've been back in the swing of in-person school for a while, so this is a perfect time.
- CMAS testing has begun. We didn't have very many opt-outs this year. Third grade only takes language arts, fourth grade only does math, and fifth grade only does language arts – so there are fewer tests than a typical year. Normally this would be a big conversation for the School Accountability Committee, but we do not have data from last year. It would be great if they could re-design the test to require less impact on the instructional time. Fifth grade normally has nine tests.
- We are reaching out to the community regarding kindergarten. We had about 10 families show up to a kindergarten information night via zoom. We may do some yard signs to drive interest in kindergarten enrollment. We have about 25 choice enrollments for next year's kindergarten classes. Kindergarten, first, and second grades look fairly full for next year, with slightly lower enrollments in the upper grades.
- We are looking at what COVID rules will allow us to do – we'd like to do a two-day field day experience in the last week of May. We would have to stick to cohorts. We might be able to invite parents to hang out around the edges.
- We are making a plan for the 5th grade continuation event. That would be the last day of school.
- Meg asked if vaccinated volunteers would be allowed at field day. Mr. Capp said that's not a topic of conversation yet. We will have to address that before next fall, but it's a hard conversation right now. Not sure we'll be able to find a way to address that for the spring events.
 - Trudi asked about the possibility of an end-of-year celebration. Would it be possible to tag along with the field day event? Maybe we could participate in a small way.
 - Mr. Capp said District 11 hasn't opened dialog regarding volunteers at school events. Meg suggested an ice cream social event.
 - Shanna suggested decorating for the event, which would be a way to show support without having parent volunteers among the kids.
 - Meg said that could be a good time to hand out the seed packets previously discussed.
- Mr. Capp said Steele will provide some sort of thank-you to Naomi for all her work. Meg will ask the county PTA what we're allowed to contribute for gifts.
 - Trudi wondered if we should also provide some thank-you gift to the back-up dancers.

- Shanna asked if the SAC meeting is in the morning; Mr. Capp said that is incorrect, the meeting is in the evening.

Calendar

Kate presented the calendar report.

- Bleating Heart Night at Goat Patch is April 13th from 5-9pm.
- Focus Day is April 16th. Kate thanked Shanna for all her wonderful ideas.
 - Trudi asked if there is an opportunity for parents to dial into the online sessions. Kate said yes, we will send out links. Mrs. Ogren will try to record the live sessions.
- Steele the Show is May 1st. The kids seem to be excited to see their teachers dance.
- The year-end event needs to be addressed; piggybacking on the possible field day would be a great opportunity.
- Teacher Appreciation Week starts May 3rd. We are considering options.
- Trudi said Mrs. Niemier will try to work with the kids on making promotional posters for Steele the Show.
 - We could ask Khristine Vadala to share the Steele the Show sponsorship information with the Old North End Facebook account.

New Business

Working on board recruitment. We have a few leads on the Treasurer position.

Shanna noted that with 25 choice-in students for kindergarten next year, we may want to think of ways to ensure they feel welcome and engaged in the Steele community.

Trudi asked if we should do something for Ms. Cousino, who injured her knees in a skiing accident and won't return to the classroom full-time for a while. We can do a card, but we probably can't buy something directly for her. Trudi said she would put together a card for her.

Trudi adjourned the meeting at 9:26 a.m.