

PTO Meeting Minutes – September 10, 2013

The Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Present: Jill Priestley, Jennifer Reed, Kerri Mose, Teresa Jones, Shaun Harrison, Martha Reck
Lindsey Wolfe, Anthony Lauer, Marj Lamoreaux, Jenn Carlson, Samina D. Barritt, Simone McDaniel, Jen
Duman, Carol Shakarian, JoAnn Parkus, Brittany Mack, Carol Ferguson, Anne Wizauer, Teresa
Maldonado, Beth Morgan, Tina Gould, Deanna Kempke, Alex Theboud

Introductions

Principal's Report – Carol Shakarian

- Great start to school year!
- A couple of changes:
 - Continuation of Focus School designation
 - Based on MEAP test (grades 3-5, 1 test time/year)
 - Many of the 21 Ann Arbor Elementary Schools designated as Focus
 - New color system this year, Pittsfield is “yellow”
 - Simply means there are gaps that need attention
 - Biggest gaps are between Special Needs and English as Second Language and the rest of the student population
 - Less Title 1 dollars
 - Staff changes
 - Hughes – moved to Allen
 - Sheets – ½ time Reading Intervention
 - Swartz – moved to another school
 - Gildersleeve – ½ time Teacher Consultant
 - Dekeon – moved to another school
- NWEA testing (math and reading) will begin soon. Kindergarten will test in January
- MEAP testing will begin in October
- Thank you to the PTO for funding the “Big Bully” assembly. It will be this Friday, 9-13-13 at 2:15 p.m. All are welcome!
- Pittsfield theme this year is “Honoring Our Diversity”
- Atmosphere in school is exceptional this year. Looking forward to our collaboration this year.

A thank you card from Cathy Babcock (K) and Barb Killewald (1st) for funding Confidence to the Core conference is being circulated.

President's Report – Simone McDaniel

- Fall Festival is around the corner, Oct. 26th
 - Need a chair and/or co-chair
 - Suzy will do food
 - Talk to Stacy about Maze
- Need movie night chair
 - Usually 3/year but can be as many as chair would like
- Merchandising Chair is Simone
 - Need someone for next year (if not before) since Simone is a 5th grade parent
- Need cones for crosswalk to prevent parents from parking/blocking crosswalk before and after school. A parent could head up a "Safety Patrol" to train and organize kids.
- PTOC meetings held 3rd Monday of every month if anyone is interested in attending
- Teresa will add link to PTOC website on Pittsfield PTO website
- Sinking Fund Millage renewal
 - Raise funds locally
 - Help to spread word: this is a renewal up for vote in November. Will not raise taxes.
 - Anyone interested in helping spread knowledge about the sinking fund let Simone know.
- Need Spanish translator for newsletter items. Possibly ask U of M interns if we can't find parent. Or possibly use internet translator program with someone proofreading prior to publication.

Fundraising – Shaun Harrison and Samina Barritt

- Donation letter has brought in \$1,390 so far. Ends in October. There was a suggestion to put it in the newsletter.
- Market Day rep is also the catalog sales rep. Catalog sale will be in October. Items will arrive in November (in time for holiday gifts).
- Market Day: school gets portion of sales
 - Restaurant quality food
 - All types of food: breakfast, lunch, dinner, snacks, etc.
 - Order online or use form and pick-up food at school
- Little Ceaser's Pizza kit sale scheduled for winter (around Super Bowl time)
- Easy fundraisers for school
 - Hiller's, Meijers, Target (go to FB page and vote for Pittsfield), Kroger, Scripps program, Box Tops and Labels for Education. All school codes on blue 411 backpack flier.
- Fun Run possibly in the spring. We need someone to chair. Have a couple people willing to run the event with the kids on the day of.

Restaurant Night – Jen Duman

- Did really well with Marco's and California Pizza Kitchen last year.
- Tuesday, September 17th (Curriculum Night) : Marco's Pizza
- This year's line-up: Marco's, Chuck E. Cheese, California Pizza Kitchen, Noodles & Co., Chili's

- Please send all ideas and concerns to Jen.

Approval of June meeting minutes. Samina Barritt moves to approve with edits. Jen Duman seconds. Motion passes.

Treasurer's Report – Anthony Lauer

- Balance Sheet: current net assets \$28,496
- Teacher grants every year (\$20/student), receipts are starting to come in
- '13/'14 Budget
 - Look at Scripps program to stay below the next tax level
 - New line items: garden, insurance, retirement/farewell, parent-teacher conferences (dinner for teachers)
- Approval of '13/'14 Budget: Jenn Carlson moves to approve. Shaun Harrison and Anthony Lauer seconds. Motion passes.

Open Discussion

- Marj Lamoreaux – Yearbook Advisor
 - Thinking about making a custom yearbook cover this year since school turns 40.
 - Maybe make it a contest for the kids
 - Starting a Yearbook Club for 4th and 5th graders
 - Allow community upload of pictures to yearbook site to include in yearbook
 - Teresa will add link to PTO website
- JoAnn Parkus – 5th grade camp in May (13th year)
 - Need camp coordinator to send out request for money from parents and keep organized.
- Jill Priestley – need to get in contact with Busch's regarding ice cream donation for ICS this month. Jill will get in touch with Jen Diaz and Nicky Geyer (last year's food chairs) to get info and check into it.

Samina moves to adjourn. Beth seconds. Meeting adjourns at 7:46 pm.

Other Important PTO Meeting Minutes and Business

PTO Budget Meeting Minutes – June 20, 2013

Present: Amy Pufahl, Jill Priestley, Jessi Guthre, Shaun Harrison, Jenn Carlson, Samina D. Barritt, Simone McDaniel

Amy moves to approve \$100 for Rich Priestley to paint a hop scotch and four square on the playground. Simone seconds. Motion passes.

PTO Email Vote to Approve Money for Yearbook Cover by President Simone McDaniel September 27, 2013

At the September 10,13 meeting Marj suggested having a school contest to design the yearbook cover and was going to price it out. Lifetouch says this will cost \$2 per yearbook so it will cost between \$600 - \$700 depending on our student/staff count. Lifetouch needs the cover by mid October. Also, the art that is submitted can also be used inside the yearbook as well so several kids can have their art in there. And the dilemma is that the contest was already announced by Mrs. Shakarian to the school population. (just sort of a mixup on timing before we had a chance to vote)

Marj has formed a Yearbook Club to help with the design/picture taking etc. and because of the cost + early announcement she has suggested they fundraise for the money. Simone felt the kids should be working on the actual yearbook and not have to fundraise. We already have a catalog sale coming up that they are involved in.

Email Vote: Simone would like to propose we pay the cost of the cover this year since it has already been announced.

Vote passed with a majority via email to pay for the Yearbook Cover this year.