

PTO Meeting Minutes – October 8, 2013

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

Present: Jill Priestley, Kerri Mose, Shaun Harrison, Martha Reck, Lindsey Wolfe, Anthony Lauer, Marj Lamoreaux, Jenn Carlson, Samina D. Barritt, Simone McDaniel, Jen Duman, Carol Shakarian, JoAnn Parkus, Teresa Maldonado, Beth Morgan, Tina Gould, Deanna Kempke, Tricia Blake, Tatum Theodore, Amy Pufahl

Introductions

Teacher Presentation

Bill Farmer – Media Specialist – not feeling well, apologized for having to miss the meeting

Karen Stein – Title 1 – also a member of SIT

- Provides extra reading and math help to students
- 30 minutes/day
- Seeing kids from all grades this year
- Can do home visits, if necessary
- Provided many handouts for us to look at
 - Top Ten Title 1 Tenets
 - Title 1 Parent Involvement Policy handout
 - Parent compact
 - Math handout
 - Reading handout

Principal's Report – Carol Shakarian

- Swift "Listening and Learning Tour" will be at Pittsfield Dec. 10th at 6:30pm in the Media Center
- NWEA is over – nice thing about this test is that it suggests to teachers where reading and math help is needed for each student
- MEAP started today
- Coming Events
 - Picture retakes
 - Fall Festival
 - Scholastic Book Fair
 - Parent / Teacher Conferences: be sure to schedule yours! Goal is to have 100% participation.
- Family Survey Results (taken spring 2013) shared

President's Report – Simone McDaniel

- Would like to start a Monday Message from PTO through School Messenger to prevent multiple emails to parents.
 - Lindsey Wolfe volunteered to compile messages to send to Jenine
 - Suggested to have communications person in future and combine email and newsletter
 - Look into aspect of School Messenger that can call home with a pre-recorded message to reach those families that don't have email
- Office Depot – new card with school number on it. When used 4% of every purchase will come back to Pittsfield. Simone will get more details and send them out.
- PTOC Partnering Up Launch Party is Oct. 21st 6:30 pm- 8:30pm
 - Every PTO member is welcome
 - Keep Pittsfield visible
 - Foster parent and district relationship
- Tricia Blake is addressing issue with Richard St. crosswalk. She will put a sign up to see if that helps. Looking for people to help to mark the crosswalk off with cones at the end of the school day. Possibly in the morning also but the after school traffic seems to be worse.
- PTO Officer Training to be this Wednesday and Thursday night. Jill Priestley is attending the Officer Training and Anthony Lauer is attending the Treasurer Training.
- Spirit Gear orders extended to Oct. 11th. Orders are taken once a year only.
 - Question was raised regarding help to those students who can't afford a Pittsfield t-shirt. Something to discuss for next year. Possibilities discussed were adding it to the budget and asking parents to buy two shirts and donating one back to school to give to another student. Jenn Carlson will think about options.

Approval of September meeting minutes. Jenn Carlson moves to approve with edits. Tatum Theodore seconds. Motion passes.

Treasurer's Report – Anthony Lauer

- Will be keeping a cashbox with \$150 on hand to help with timely reimbursements.
- Have sent letters to the teachers letting them know how much grant money they have remaining.
- Scrips – can order gift cards online
- Donation Drive is on target at \$1800 donated so far
- Custodial costs will be charged to PTO events that occur on the weekends. Cost for the Fall Fest will be \$210.

Fundraising – Shaun Harrison and Samina Barritt

- Catalog Sale: orders due by Oct. 28th
 - Raffle tickets can be returned to teachers.
 - Two top selling classrooms get pizza party.
 - Was not made aware ahead of time of the prize incentives to the kids.

- Fun Run: possibly in the spring. Darcy Knoll has expressed interest in running the event with the kids. We need a parent to organize it.

Fall Fun Festival – Kerri Mose

- Need volunteers. Will ask 5th graders and request parents of 5th grade volunteers be in attendance.
- Activities to include: class pumpkin contest, cookie decorating and guess the number of candy pieces in the jar.
- Square will be utilized at the event

Newsletter Update - Tatum Theodore

- Please make newsletter items brief.
- No pictures unless off to the side.
- May have a parent willing to translate items.

Vote to Endorse Sinking Fund Millage Renewal – Simone McDaniel

- This is a Renewal: We've already been paying for it.
- This pays for building maintenance and capital improvements
- If millage doesn't pass then money for these items will start to come from operational funds.
- Simone McDaniel moves to have Pittsfield PTO endorse the millage. Deanna Kempke seconds. Anthony Lauer abstains. Motion passes.

Playground Equipment and Book Fair – Deanna Kempke

- Been hearing from students about lack of playground balls
- We currently have \$800 from Campbell's that can be spent on playground balls. Jenn Carlson will get in touch with Stephanie Riegler and Deanna to make this happen.
- Deanna still needs volunteers for the Book Fair that is happening the week of Oct. 21st.

Open Discussion

- Ms. Babcock's class won the Marco's Pizza Party from the restaurant night.
- Marj Lamoreaux thanked everyone for voting for custom yearbook cover.
- Carol Shakarian asked about providing childcare for parents to attend the "Listening and Learning Tour" meeting on Dec. 10th. Deanna Kempke moves to pay \$60 for childcare services. Jenn Duman seconds. Motion passes.
- R.A.H.S (U of M school based health center) flyer was distributed. Teresa Maldonado will check into putting the info on the PTO website.

Meeting adjourns at 8:16 pm.