APPROVED MINUTES
CORL STREET ELEMENTARY
PTO BOARD MEETING
MARCH 13, 2012

Minutes:

Attendance: Scott Mato (Principal), Heather Ross (President) Kasey Hearn (Treasurer), Linda Erickson (Secretary), Robin Bierly, David Hutchinson (SCASD Board Member), Jill Ross, Lonni Friedken, Sue Barger, Kate Hooper, Katie Shoemaker, Lorraine Taylor

1. **Call to Order: Welcome and introduction of members present:**
   Heather Ross called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and members signed in.

2. **Approval of Minutes:**
   Sue Barger motioned that the February 14, 2012 meeting minutes be approved. Katie Shoemaker seconded the motion. Motion passed.

3. **President's Report:**
   Heather Ross reported all going smoothly currently and we're maintaining financially in terms of meeting our current budget.

4. **Principal's Report:**
   Scott Mato reported. Erin LaMotta has been hired as a 1st grade paraprofessional for Mrs. Shoffner's class. She is reading certified and has young children. She is a good fit for the school.

   PSSA's are currently taking place. The feedback has been that they are going o.k. with most kids saying they are pretty easy. Lonni Friedken questioned how PSSA dates are determined and she had concerns about the tests occurring right after daylight savings. Mr. Mato indicated the State is moving testing to April next year, but commented that the teachers felt that the kids could handle testing to start this week, on Monday. The testing does not seem to be causing undue stress.

Read/Write/Unite is currently in progress with each grade choosing a poem. Kick off will be on April 4th culminating with a collection of poems on April 27th, 2012. There is school-wide participation for this program.

5. Treasurer's Report:

Kasey Hearn reported. She is still working on new computer program in terms of getting information loaded onto the new laptop. The Cougar Cat run figures have been updated. There has not been much activity this month. $590 was paid to Penn Skates. There were no deposits. A line item has been added to the budget for the 5th Grade trip. Income/expenses are pretty even. We're a little over in terms of expenses but upcoming fundraisers will cover these amounts. We have not received patron sales funds yet from the yearbook sales. Teacher allocations will be done once the process for doing so is determined. We will do a second apparel sale and there are restaurant nights coming up. We will most likely not need a Marianna's fundraiser. There is money in savings ($3,000+) and we are trying to operate within the budget and leave money in the bank for next year. We can currently afford the 5th grade trip.

6. School Board Report:

David Hutchinson reported. Next year's budget is moving forward. 75 people recently attended a public meeting and things are going well thus far. A resolution was passed at last night's board meeting supporting reform to prevailing wage regulations.

7. Teacher Representatives:

Jill Ross reported that EXPO was well received and the kids really loved the performances. The issue of space for performances was discussed and it was suggested that exhibits be moved into the corridors in the evening with performances being done in the APR.

Kate Hooper reported that it was a good Read Across America week.

8. Open Forum:

Nothing presented.

9. Request for Funds:

Kate Hooper requested funds for the 5th grade trip to the Pittsburgh Zoo on 5/25/12. The cost is $8 per student for the zoo. Fullington Bus will be an expense of $1,225. A nurse will not be needed. The students will do a class on endangered animals at the zoo and will do a scavenger hunt. Lonnie Friedken motioned to fund the trip. Sue Barger seconded the motion. Motion passed.

10. Standing Committee Reports:

a. Author Visit:

Heather Ross reported. 108 books were purchased at a total of $866. This does not include classroom books. All classrooms and the library will receive a hardcover book.

b. Book Exchange:

Heather Ross reported for Kristy Witmer. There will not be a book exchange this year because of the Books for Africa program. We will return to doing the Exchange next year.

c. Spirit Sale:

Heather Ross reported. There will be a spirit sale from 3/30 to 4/16. This sale will not include magnets.

d. Rewards:

Heather Ross reported. We have 126 designations for Giant A+ rewards and as of February 29th we have earned $1,617.32. Karen Moser has looked into restaurant fundraisers and there will be a Corl Street night at Five Guys on 4/24/12 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.. There is a Papa John's fundraiser from 3/19-3/21/12. There will be a Hoss' night 3/20/12. Chick-Fil-A has "Spirit Nights" which are only scheduled on Thurs. nights. A percentage of food sale purchases by Corl Street families would go to Corl Street. They also have a program that could earn extra money for the school during that time, but it would have to be staffed by someone from Corl Street.

e. Yearbook:

Currently looking for additional patron sales.

f. Penn Skates Family night:

108 Corl Street students attended.

g. Movie Night:

Lorraine Taylor reported that the next movie night will be 3/16/12. The movie will be Treasure Buddies. There was a motion to purchase a popcorn popper from Sears at a cost of $40. Jill Ross motioned to approve the purchase. Lonnie Friedken seconded the motion. Motion passed to purchase the air popper for movie nights.

h. Dodgeball:

Robin Bierly reported. 60 people have signed up. People can sign up to help with concessions through the website. There will be a Women's Dodgeball Clinic at Corl Street in the APR on Wednesday 3/14/12 at 6:30 p.m.

i. Garden:

The committee would like to have a fence around the garden. They were told to come and request funds and there is money budgeted for the garden.

11. New Business:

Lynn Moore is going to help the garden committee with grant writing.

Heather Ross brought up the issue of pursuing tax exempt status. An attorney or CPA is needed to help with the process. It was discussed as to whether or not there might be Corl Street parents willing to help. Achieving tax exempt status would enable the PTO to get a small games of chance license and open us up to participate in some additional fundraisers that require tax exempt status. There was some concern expressed by Lonnie Friedken that the risk might outweigh the benefits as it brings attention to the PTO by the IRS. It was reported that Ferguson Elementary is tax exempt. Leslie Byer, who has done our audits, will be contacted to potentially talk with us about this process. We will revisit this issue at the next meeting.

12. Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.