

**APPROVED MINUTES
CORL STREET ELEMENTARY
PTO BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 15, 2011**

Minutes:

Attendance: Scott Mato (Principal), Heather Ross (President), Ben Salinas (Co-Vice President), Kasey Hearn (Treasurer), Linda Erickson (Secretary), Michele Rowland, Anna Muramoto, Caleb Yoder, David Hutchinson (SCASD Board Member)

1. Call to order: Welcome and introduction of members present:

Heather Ross called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. and members signed in.

2. Approval of Minutes:

Michele Rowland motioned that the September 13, 2011 minutes be approved. Linda Erickson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

3. Report from Caleb Yoder, Eagle Scout US Map Project:

Caleb Yoder presented a slideshow describing the US Map Project that he completed for his Eagle Scout project on the Corl Street playground. He has submitted the report on the project for his Eagle Scout status. Students are using and enjoying, the map.

4. President's Report:

Heather Ross reported that there had been an Executive Board Meeting on 11/1/11 at which committees were divided between the Co-Vice Presidents. They will communicate with the chairs. A list of volunteers will go out to committee chairs and they should contact the volunteers. Heather may post names of volunteers and what they have volunteered for to make the process more transparent.

Heather reported that Ann Deighton has volunteered to co-chair the garden committee. Maren Larson, Joyce Porter and Darlene Nardoff have volunteered to oversee Teacher Appreciation. Jaime Miller has volunteered to co-chair the Author Visit. She will be put in contact with the chairperson.

There will be a post holiday spirit sale. There will be a possible design contest for a new t-shirt logo for the fall. Jill Garrigan and Anukampa Ghandi will come to the January Meeting to discuss this further. Jen Salinas had some good ideas about potential new spirit items through Café Press.

The auditor's report is not yet done.

There is to be a new teacher representative. Kate Hooper was to attend tonight's meeting.

Al Verbanec will update the website.

5. Principal's Report:

Scott Mato reported. It is currently Anti Bullying Week. Mr. Mato was videotaped reading the book "One" and it has been posted on the website so that teachers can show the students. It identifies what bullying is and how to deal with it, i.e. what to do, who to tell. Ms. Weissman has been doing classroom activities. The students are really exposed to anti-bullying messages on a daily basis, throughout the school year.

The first edition of the newsletter has been published. There has been positive student involvement and the kids are taking ownership. They may even want a monthly publication, but the frequency of the newsletter has yet to be determined. There is an issue with Comcast customers not receiving the newsletter via email, which will be checked into.

The 5th grade students are taking a leadership role in recycling at Corl Street. They are training classmates and other students on recycling lunch trays.

Mrs. Casey is leaving Corl Street and Mrs. Mary Beth Zlock has been hired to take her place. Mr. Mato reported that she has substituted here and that teachers like her and have requested her. He feels we are very fortunate to have her.

Jim Peterson, the night custodian, is leaving to go to Mt. Nittany Elementary school to take a custodian position. Bob Brown, the daytime custodian, remains on medical leave, and Jim will stay until his return.

6. Treasurer's Report:

Kasey Hearn reported. The Cougar Cat Run earned \$6,034.17 for the school. This will allow us to do teacher allocations. It was agreed that the initial allocation would be \$100 for classroom teachers and \$50 for specials. Kasey Hearn motioned for the above allocations. Michele Rowland seconded. Motion passed. The current budget will be approved upon determining the final tallies for these allocations.

7. Teacher Representatives:

None present.

8. Open Forum:

Michele Rowland brought Cook Tavern Soups in as a potential fundraising idea. The profit would be \$3.25 per bag which is almost 50% profit and the soups are locally produced.

9. Request for Funds:

Heather Ross motioned that Caleb Yoder be reimbursed for an additional expense of \$136.97 for the US Map project. Ben Salinas seconded the motion. Motion passed.

10. Standing Committee Reports:

a. Cougar Cat Run:

The Run earned the school a little over \$6,000. Adrienne Krasowitz is looking for a co-chair for next year's event.

b. Scholastic Book Fair:

Anna Muramoto reported that the fall Book Fair had gross sales of \$5,400. One for Books earned books for the school (\$1,600). Teachers benefitted from some of this, but the bulk of books went to the library. A small number of books were kept aside for prizes. Profit can be taken from the sale in book dollars versus cash, and the school would receive \$2,500 in books if this option is chosen. If the school chose cash, the amount would be \$1,250. Anna Muramoto motioned to take profit from Scholastic in book dollars. Heather Ross seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Donuts for Dads was very successful. Weis donated the donuts, and Giant gave the school a gift card.

c. Movie Night:

Heather Ross reported for Lorraine Taylor. 130 people attended the movie night and the kids had a great time. There were issues with making popcorn as fuses were blown when using the popcorn makers. In the future this needs to be reported to a custodian or Mr. Mato as milk and food were lost as a result of the blown fuses in the kitchen. We need to look for better options for preparing the popcorn.

d. Yearbook:

Heather Ross reported for Sheridan Sheehan. The deadline for yearbook ads is 11/21/11.

e. Rewards:

Giant has 124 designations and we've earned \$419 thus far. We're behind this year in the number of people signed up for this program.

Karen Moser is working on a date with Applebee's for restaurant night, but they need a tax identification number, and tax exempt number. We are not tax exempt.

f. Box Tops:

Box Tops has a program through which purchases made through their shopping portal earns Box Tops credits.

11. New Business:

Heather Ross recently attended a PTO President's meeting where they talked about Papa Johns pizza nights. These can be scheduled once a month and are fairly easy fundraisers. Mrs. Ross is looking for a volunteer to arrange this fundraiser and Heidi Knutelsky might be interested. A motion was made by Heather Ross to pursue implementation of this fundraiser. Michele Rowland seconded. Motion passed.

Heather Ross is looking for a volunteer to do a Facebook page for Corl Street. She motioned to move forward to explore this option. Linda Erickson seconded. Motion passed.

Spirit Days were discussed. These do not seem to be as widely publicized as they once were. Mr. Mato will make sure they are posted on the website and will mention it to teachers at their next staff meeting.

David Hutchinson, State College school board member, commented on Voucher legislation which recently passed in the Senate and is now in the House. He encouraged people to contact their representatives to oppose this legislation as it will take money from the school district potentially taking away from children in the public schools.

12. Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

