

DRAFT: PTO Minutes
Thursday, February 7, 2019
6:30pm, ERS Library

President: Meeting called to order at 6:30pm; introductions done, and Jan minutes will be reviewed in March due to printing challenges

Attendees: 11 parents, Dr. Wuch, Mr. Hunsinger, Mr. Eckridge, and Mrs. Ly

Vice Presidents:

- **Family Reading Night** (2/23) – Chris Miller is the speaker, with a focus on STEM; dinner is provided
- **Webster Equity Bridge** (3/5, ERS library) –Dr. Simpson will talk about racial equity efforts across the district, and babysitting will be provided.
- **Trivia Night** (3/2) – If people are interested but don't have a full table, the Committee will place you with others who need a table. The online auction will open on 3/1 and remain open during the event. Room parents are working on auction baskets.
- **Valentine's Day parties** are being planned for 2/14. Parties in general were discussed, as some room parents are finding that they are solely responsible for planning, supplying, and running the party. Strategies were discussed for increasing parent involvement in older grades, such as having the 5th graders plan their own parties (5th grade teachers supported this), as well as having the Jaguar Pack (student advisory group) survey students to see what their thoughts are on parties.
- **Enrichment** has 14 participants through a scholarship. Although Enrichment is not intended to be a fundraiser, if it nets money, there is a proposal to put that money toward scholarships next year. This year, outside vendors were asked to donate 1 scholarship per 10 enrollees, and that was met with positive feedback. Safety training was offered before Enrichment started, but only three people attended; a handout was provided to all those running classes who didn't attend.

Treasurer:

- Cash on hand: \$22,479.51
- Kathryn presented a breakdown on over/under of fundraising events.
- The 2019-2020 budget will be voted on in May.

School Updates & Grade Highlights:

- **5th grade teachers:** The ERS Spelling Bee (4th/5th grade) was held; 5th grade ski trip was last week; and the Six Flags field trip is in May. Team 5 is the leadership/service program in which all students are active; activities include playground pals, reading buddies, no waste lunch volunteers, and running the recycling program. For playground pals, Mrs. Lusse teaches the 5th graders how to find kids on the playground who are not involved, approach them, talk with them, and get them involved. Fifth grade focuses on the economy system, in which they learn to budget their money, borrow money (and charge interest!), and be financially responsible throughout the year. Students earn classroom dollars for doing jobs (e.g. line leader, secretary, mayor, banker); rent desks; earn/spend at store (in which they create things to sell and/or sell things they don't need from home); make bank deposits/withdrawals; etc. They can be fined for not doing homework, talking in line, etc. Classroom dollars are designed by the kids, unique to each classroom. To get 5th graders ready for Steger and beyond, the students change classes for math, science/social studies, and ELA. This helps them learn to interact with different teachers, meet different class expectations, and advocate for themselves.

- **Dr. Wuch:** Forty families attended kindergarten information night (vs. 60 families last year); projection is 70 students (vs. 80 this year). Kindergarten registration is Feb 12 from 7:30am-5pm by both appointment and walk-in. Parents that don't register on Feb 12 must make an appointment at the Central Office; this is parents must register online, which requires creating a username on the portal. Drs. Wuch and Moppert are coordinating parent lunch volunteers, with classroom/building volunteers to be coordinated next. Jaguar Pack is researching ideas to create a jaguar on the gym foyer wall where the trophy case is located. There are two teacher tables for Trivia Night; Dr. Wuch will remind teachers that signups are in the teacher lounge.
- The traffic study was done, with pictures sent to the police department. Results should be available at the end of February.

New Business:

- Past fundraisers were recapped, and next month, Ashley and Kathryn will present some new fundraiser ideas.
- March – Create a nominating committee to collect names for 2019-2020 Board positions; discuss open Chair positions; present 2019-2020 fundraising ideas
- April – Nominating Committee will present the slate for the 2019-2020 Board; PTO will approve fundraisers and bylaws, with a performance coordinated by Mrs. Kissick; draft budget will be presented by Kathryn (using fundraiser numbers from 2018-2019)
- May – Approve budge and voting/welcoming new board
- Kathryn will put together a budget after fundraisers are discussed in May and distribute electronically

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:49pm

Next PTO meeting: March 7, 6:30pm