

PTO Meeting

Tuesday, September 17th 6 - 7pm

Attendees: Alex Powell, Kate Smith, Averi Kotnour, Jacqueline Weisse, Walt Smanski, Amanda Durnen, Meg Jelen, Andrea Poukey, Vanessa Alves, Michelle Miller, Kristin Damstra, Kara Seiffert, Jacob Johnson, Joel Morcilla, Armand Bustamante, Faye Hanley

Alex called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Introductions with new PTO members.

Secretary Report: Motion to approve minutes from August meeting: 1st: Kristin 2nd: Kate

Treasurer's Report:

Current Balance \$ 5,725.47

Combining SEL and PBIS. Last year we didn't use all of the allocated money. Staff combined the committees because of overlap.

1st motion to approve to combine those funds. 1st: Walt 2nd: Kate

Fieldtrip fund: \$14 per kid. 320 students.
\$4,500 field trip fund

Motion to approve: 1st: Kristin 2nd: Kara

We want to cover the 5th grade Madison field trip and their end of the year party.
Walt renewed the raffle license in early September.

Available balance: \$ 225.47

Swings account: \$1,684.18

Motion to approve treasurer's report: 1st: Averi 2nd: Kristin

Principal's Report:

Yearbook cover discussion. The theme is Adventure is waiting.

Next year, pay for the yearbook at the open house. This year we can do yearbook order at conferences as an option for parents? Alex's golf team won the bowtie classic which will give Southern Bluffs \$1,000. Alex and Averi will meet with Principal Durnen outside of PTO for updates. The fence will be closed by the softball field. Second recess was initiated at the start of the year. Every student gets both recesses. Staff talked about the fall festival and how they want

to celebrate moving forward. Spirit week for the week of Halloween. Staff will decide if costumes are allowed. They will do a halloween party regardless. The district gives the school autonomy currently. Amanda has collected costumes for halloween and for props for plays. Alex and Principal talked about enhancing experiences for older grades. Lower grades have opportunity for flexible seating. Amanda wants to add standing desks to all 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade classrooms. They want to create safe learning environments for peer learning. Amanda has done presentations in every classroom. Her role and goal is to be visible to the kids. She uses a cart as a desk to be mobile. Student standing desk is \$149.95. Instilling "ask 3 before me." Upgraded mobile desk for the Principal. She was a principal in Byron, MN for 10 years.

Motion to approve standing desks for older grades: 1st: Alex 2nd: Kara

Vanessa wants to look into putting a drinking fountain on the playground. This could be collaborative with the city, school district, and PTO.

High school students may be working on a second Gaga Ball Pit. We want to add turf to underneath and designate one for the older grades and one for the younger grades.

October 10th Picture Retakes: 1 or 2 volunteers

Conferences: 17th and 21st. First one Jimmy Johns. Second one we will cook and order chicken.

Current Business:

Plan A vs Plan B for the Holiday Fair

Plan A is our current Holiday Fair plan and what we've done in the past. Plan B is a raffle in the style of Beer By Bike Brigade which has the potential to bring in more funds.

Motion to change the holiday fair fundraising: 1st: Kate 2nd: Walt

New Business:

Businesses the Board will reach out to to be included on our raffle coupon:

Mt La Crosse

Festival

Culvers

Rudys

Toppers

Fiesta Mexicana

Freight House

Jump Start

Aldi's

Ship Shape

Caribou
Dahl oil change
Loggers
Howie's/Big Al's/The Crow
All Star
Pizza Ranch
Kwik Trip
Great Clips

Motion to adjourn 1st: Averi 2nd: Kate

The meeting ended at 7:35 pm