Columbia River Elementary PTO

Meeting Minutes 9/8/26

In Attendance: Kristin Chastain, Brandee Rada-Burns, Karalee Ballanytne, Pam Gibbons, Theresa Fenn, Amanda Wilson, Lana Siemon

Welcome- Kristin

Approval of May minutes- Brandee motioned to approve, Karalee seconded

Principal's Report- new kinder on stage, 734 students now, plan for portable(s) in Nov-Dec. Working on improving drop-off/pickup

Officer Reports

Theresa stepping down as secretary- Brandee interested- Kristin motioned, Theresa seconded

FYI insurance for PTO goes Sept '27-Sept '28, cost $180

Venmo needs to be connected to a phone number- Brandee motioned for PTO to get an old phone donated and pay for service monthly (estimated ~$12/month) to use email, venmo, zeffy, etc- Karalee seconded (Looking for an old phone someone is willing to donate- must have ability to use email/venmo etc)

Treasurer Report- Savings $1754.99, Checking $9436.12, with some expected changes will be $9495.71. Current expenses were $348.85. Savings will be used for market day/school exclusively.

Committee Reports

Popsicles at the Playground- would do this again, next time would need to allocate a budget (suggested ~$100 for popsicles), had good attendance, kids had fun. Older kids seemed a little bored (next time brought chalk, balls, which was good). Perhaps look at a variety of times/days of the week?

Back to school backdrop- went very well, would do again, lots of compliments. Difficult to have in entry way but great out front

New Business

Rollarena Sept 15- someone from PTO needs to be there- Brandee plans to be- suggestion of raffle? And make sure to advertise PTO

Book Fair- Sept 21-25- plan to ask PE teacher if we could use part of gym- plan for after school and Wednesday through evening event- thinking of doing candy bar bingo in

evening- Brandee motioned $300 for event costs- Theresa seconded. Will need volunteers for fair and bingo

Fall Carnival- plan for committee. Some volunteers already via online form. Would like to sell pizza and water (Brandee looking at water donations), pizza from Costco? Will be a carnival and trunk-or-treat

Business Sponsorships- will need to create tiers for donations

Bussing- will cost approx. $750 for kinder field trip- Brandee motioned to approve- Kristin seconded. Will need to ensure fundraising to cover this especially thinking ahead for the rest of the grades

Yearbook- lost $1500 last year because we didn't sell all. Looking at another company? Dorian is very expensive. Discussion of quantity- last year requested 300 and sold approx. 250. Need to push sales more this year?

Next Meeting-Oct 6, 2026