

Dennison PTA General Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, January 21, 2016
Place: Dennison Elementary School, Library
Presiding: Connie Weiss, President

Call to Order: Connie Weiss called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm. Crystal Frigo was present as Secretary.

Welcome: 8 members were present.

Approval of Minutes: The November 19, 2015 minutes were presented and reviewed by the members. Shawn Wine made a motion to approve the minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Leah Morgan was not available and will present at the March meeting.

Principal's Report: Debbie Morrill, Vice President, presented the Principal's Report.

Ms. Morrill gave an update on the latest staff developments. The staff have received training on "mind set", a book study with Pam, as well as, safety and team building with Lisa.

Ms. Morrill announced the CMAS results have been sent home. Ms. Curtiss will present the results at the March 2016 PTA meeting.

Ms. Morrill announced the Geography Bee winners were as follows:

First place; Gary Rabinovich,
Second place; Logan Spendlove
Third place; Jack Stalnaker.

Ms. Morrill announced the Spelling Bee were as follows:

First place; Colm Murphy
Second place; Phoenix Lee.

Ms. Morrill reported this week the 4th Grade class Mellow drama was a big success.

Ms. Morrill explained the curriculum changes. This is the first year for the Library/Lab special. The State would like to have feedback on this change. Ms. Morrill is requesting parents to log onto the Dennison Website and complete a survey.

Ms. Morrill reported the Kindergarten literacy night has been moved to February 25th. This night will show parents how to learn the nonsense words, set expectations and answer questions they may have about the decodable books.

Ms. Morrill was asked to discuss testing. She reported Dennison has fewer tests this year versus last. Chromebooks have been purchased for several grades and this has allowed our kids to spend less time taking the tests we do have. The chromebooks also allow the kids to test in their classrooms, instead of using other areas of the school. Results show us our kids spend less time booting up the test and less time is taken away from the classroom.

President's Report: Connie Weiss presented the President's report.

Connie announced the new Yearbook Chair is Yingmei Piao she is Johnson Zhu's mother. She will need photos from both teachers and parents to complete the yearbook.

Connie reported the school supply lists will need to be updated due to many of the items and their quantities are no longer available for purchase. Connie will work with Ms. Morrill to provide a date and prepare some incentives for the teachers. Tim will need them by the end of February.

Connie reported Good Night Dennison (last year was called Smores Night), will be Tuesday March 1st. There will be an Indian storyteller, a yoga instructor, cookies and milk and a book donation to Eiber Elementary. The teachers have volunteered to bring the cookies. Our students will be able to come in their pajamas and take home one or more books.

Committee Chair Updates:

Science Fair - Alison reported they need a few more volunteers. The science fair speaker was great and did a good job getting the kids excited. There are more registered this year than last. The 5th grade classes are selling bracelets to help with the cost of the fair. Alison reported a change from last year. They will not allow liquids in the fair. Every project with liquid will be in picture form only. Alison noted a second change, each project will have a number assigned to it. Connie will send out reminders on the Dennison PTA facebook page. Connie reported the PTA has \$1000 to help with the fair.

Class Party - Connie reported Leah Morgan, PTA treasurer is in the process of getting Valentine Party money to the appropriate parent volunteers.

Young Writers - Connie announced an author is currently being pursued for the assembly in the next couple of weeks. Kids will write a book or a collection of stories (with or without illustrations) and turn into Ms. Kroog. It will be published for \$20 and any additional publications will be \$10.

Boxtops and Milk Caps - Connie reported we have received a check from boxtops for \$1545.

Reflections - Kristy Russman reported we have 8 winners who have gone on to Jeffco. Kristy announced she will be stepping down as chair for next year and we will need to pursue another chair.

New Business:

Fundraising - Connie announced a Read-a-thon for next year's fundraiser. This will occur at the beginning of the year. Parents/friends/family will sponsor a child for a week of reading. Connie will

get feedback from teachers regarding the logistics of it. If this does not produce enough money we will also do a Yankee Candle fundraiser.

Announcements and Adjournment:

Kristy Russman motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:00pm