

Dennison PTA General Meeting Minutes

Date: November 19, 2015

Place: Dennison Elementary School

Presiding: Connie Weiss, PTA President

Call to Order: Connie Weiss called the meeting to order at 6:39pm. Anne Warren was present as secretary.

Welcome: 8 members were present.

Approval of Minutes:

The October 15, 2015 minutes were reviewed and approved by the members. Stephanie Cathers made a motion to approve the minutes.

Treasurer's Report:

Connie Weiss presented the Treasurer's Report on behalf of Leah Morgan, Treasurer. We need to add the ABC cost to the respective budget line item. The Eagle Bolt 5k revenue worked out OK because the cost was down this year, however we discussed the idea to add the sign up to 'sleep in ' (instead of show up to run) to increase registration sales. The Craft Fair profit may be put towards a joint effort to provide a water bottle filling station. Kristy Russman made a motion to approve the report.

Principal's Report:

Maureen Curtiss, Principal, presented the Principal's Report.

On behalf of her staff, she expressed appreciation for the teacher's conference food. Ms. Paschke led the D'Evelyn marching band to a first place state title! The vision and hearing screenings went well and examples were sighted that truly benefited some children who had recently been to the doctor. Most of the direct-to-student funding comes from this PTA. Two weeks ago a lock down drill was performed and went well because we learned some new things, especially with all the 6th graders in the gym at the time! Now the staff and students know to never leave the gym during the drill. Open enrollment interest nights are still ongoing. In October about 115 families attended. In November about 100 families. The January meeting is typically the largest attendance. The founders of Dennison focused on what effect size is best for improving achievement. In example, a .5 effect size is average whereas a 1.6 effect size is off the charts. What makes Dennison's high performance unique is the early intervention across subjects at K-2. Ms. Paschke's musical programs include: October, 5th grade, November, 6th grade and December, 4th grade. This week's art and craft fair was nice to have in the cafeteria and the gym for spacing and to hear Mr. Chavez's music playing. At the 11-5-15 board of education meeting Ms. Paschke's Dukes of Uke played and sang. Dennison Morning News (DMN) with Ms. Choun started in October. The kids self film and submit to her for editing. We need to find out the format for nominating / receiving the True Grit Student. How does it work?

PTA President's Report:

Connie Weiss presented the President's Report. DCSF also has Amazon Smiles so we will

encourage families to select DCSF's account. Halloween costume exchange program planning has begun with Jenny Meade and Mandy Mainwairing. This month Mandy is collecting the donated costumes. The collection box will be out again for donated costumes next September. From there the event will likely have a \$5 door fee and each fee can select 1 costume. DCSF could do a gift card raffle for a new costume. There could be a door prize of a new costume from the local store. Details are still being worked out.

Committee Chair Updates:

Arts & Crafts Fair ~ less attendance likely due to the stormy day.

Class Parties ~ Carpenter's 2nd grade class didn't get a leader to step up so Jenny Meade will do it.

Lego Club ~ 100 kids are in the club and we didn't need to do a lottery. The kids involved are mostly calm and serious about building.

Box Tops/ Milk Caps~ 3rd grade is winning with 1700 box tops and 1st grade is in 2nd place. The materials are picked up on the last day of the month and turned in on the 5th.

Reflections ~ The Jeffco level is still judging. The winner goes to Red Rocks open house on 12/6/15. After the holidays Kristy is hosting a volunteer dinner. The operations improvements from check in and the web site will be discussed.

Goodies with Grandparents ~ Still need more fruit donations. The set up is going on now.

Web Site ~ Keith Weiss is creating legacy. The admin page will allow content change on the fly. He can automate the process of designating chair leads and team of volunteers. This will also create efficiencies for Keith and for Dana (who currently collects and disseminates volunteer data). Keith has donated at least \$1k to the PTA and his time to date. He can use his budget for the domain name and site renewal (about \$200 for 2 years coming in 2016) as well as about \$100 for a Content Management System (CMS) product.

New Business:

The 2014/15 leftover funds discussed in last meeting were again discussed and 2 proposals from Stuart Signs (the electronic marquee for front of school) were considered. The 6 lines with 5.5 inch tall letters and 19-23 characters per line is preferred. The estimate is \$12,300 at a discounted price. The student council and Principal have a collective \$9k available to spend towards this marquee. This sign is valuable to solve the information gap, reduce the amount of messenger calls, provide quick info changes and state activity and meeting notices. The members voted to supply the difference in funds of \$3300 towards the cost of the marquee.

Kindergarten playground ideas will be presented to the Principal and then the agreed upon ideas will be approved by Jeffco.

The members voted to fulfill the teachers' \$1500 wish list at Sam's club. We are moving fundraising idea discussion to the January meeting.

Announcements and Adjournment:

Stephanie Cathers motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm.