

PTO meeting minutes

October 4, 2011

In attendance: Sarah Chiccarello; Jennifer Minor, Principal; Linda Gallie; Whitney Crutchley, VP Community Business Partnerships; Deanna Labella; Jackie Kostas; Suzy Collins, School Treasurer; Heather Fuentes, Co-Chair Bookfair and Volunteer Coordinator; Stephanie Cunningham, Hospitality Committee Chair; Chelly Maniuszko, VP Communications; Joe Muth, PTO Treasurer; Sheryl Thomas, VP In-School Fundraising; Holly Busch and Sandy Meris, Co-VP School Spirit and Events; Karen Odden, President; Tracy Caruso, Secretary; Tami Taylor, UPC; David Franks, Vice Principal; Crissy Malouf; Amanda Frazee, Co-Chair Bookfair

Tami Taylor, UPC President

UPC is the United Parent Council. UPC meets every third Wednesday of the month for meetings. The meetings take place at the district office a little south of Greenway on 32nd Street. We have people come in after our break at 10am. October 19th is our next meeting with Tom Elliott, business services and November we will have the superintendent of Human Resources. We also occasionally have outside speakers, too. Tami also gets to be a part of SLAC (Superintendent Leadership Advisory Community). We also have subgroups, involvement and teacher appreciation awards. You don't have to be a member to attend. We always love having others there. Some of the items we are discussing to funding to repair school buildings, update fire installments (to have everyone on the same systems, school business, playgrounds, etc. The bond will go to renovate and replace items in the school district. Capital override for instruction material, as well. The state has reduced funding from 7.2 million to 145,000. The bond will not increase taxes. Vote yes for PV students.

Joe: Is there any organized opposition to the bond?

Tami: No, we haven't heard of any.

Amanda: What will happen when we do Core Standards when they change?

Tami: We are aware of that and we would not have to buy new items. We are monitoring for 2015 Compass.

Remarks with Jennifer Minor

Jennifer: Next Wednesday continues the solar project process. It's a big project with the Fire Marshall. The back pick up lanes might have to lessen the amount of panels used.

Professional Learning Communities – Student outcomes to help to look at data and project read data when they complete DRA assessments and others.

Teachers common assessment meeting – Rob Allen was here at staff meeting. He gave tools to the teachers to skill area on aims where students are lacking. Ann Sturmiss is coming Thursday to show us what the data looks like in every area.

Growth and Tech Committee – what do we want to put in here and what program/software that will help the students.

Soft capital fund through tax credits – Technology, software/program making decisions. We will bring ideas to the PTO before any decisions are made.

Student study team looks at the students that struggle academically and/behaviorally. It's also brought to Echo Canyon Elementary to help. Response to intervention to help those bottom 5% students including support to add 3-6 graders and reading skills class.

Dana Evans new school council – Joe Muth attended. Jonathon Kaufman is a partner through Tasti-D-Lite. We discussed compass 2015 and what adjustments we need to make and the topic of bringing your own technology. Many parents have asked. Mensing went to Google training with lots of bring your technology to school. I'd like to do a survey of bring your own technology.

Teacher Representatives: Deanna Labella and Sarah Chiccarello

Labella: Involved with reading skills. We are doing reading eggs k-2. It's repetitious and animated and a part of Study Island. The program is letter identification all the way up to reading. It's a colorful program with saying it / hearing it. The kids love it.

Chiccarello: We love our AZ Studies subscription and we just got our second set. The students love them.

Approve PTO Minutes: Tracy Caruso

Motion to approve; all in favor, no nays

Updates

Joe Muth, PTO Treasurer

Joe: There is \$58,285 in the checking account. Back to School expense – When we get the checks in, we don't know where to apply them. There is no budget for school events and spirit: other category. The

number is that category was for Ned show's yoyo. Deposits and checks were written under that category. It's a wash but that's where the numbers come from. Also, staff development and support's \$995 should be under teacher materials and supply. We've already spent \$4,495 out of the budgeted \$6,500 for that category of Staff Development and Support. Sub days are already high even though some are for later on in the year. School store only has \$34.

Malouf: Yes, Amy was waiting to do the school store until after the pilots come back.

Suzy Collins, Treasurer School

Chelly: Can you remind the teachers to submit an envelope for the treasurer? We found checks from February and March in the safe.

Labella: Kindergarten checks were found in the safe.

Gallie: Five checks from last year. The process is breaking down.

Chelly: Each week I keep finding new ones in the safe from August.

Labella: Don't worry. We will put an email out regarding this.

Stephanie Cunningham, Hospitality

Stephanie: Last month we had the 1st grade level lunch in the front conference area with Dilly's Deli. Bird and Webster were there. They said it was great. October is for 6th grade on the half day of Tuesday, October 11. We are also doing dinner on Monday for the week of conferences. I will send out the evites. I am also meeting with hospitality on Wednesday the 5th.

Karen: Yes, I plan on coming tomorrow for that.

Whitney Crutchley, Community Business Partnerships

Whitney: We have two new partners: BT's Grill and Casey at the Bat (Casey's SportsWorld). They want to be in Friday folders. They paid \$150 since they missed being a part of the calendar. BT's Grill is a Sonoran Sky family. We currently have 19 community business partners. A martial arts business wants to come in as a partner. We will have to decide if they want to come in.

Karen: He called and he wants to do the carnival with a demo, impromptu class.

Whitney: I want to get references for the martial arts studio first and see if we want to support it. Other 501c, Horizon Sports League and others want to join, too. I'd hate to charge a 501c organization.

Whitney: Peter Piper Pizza night made \$260. Chick-fil-A night is on October 20. They will provide signs for us, but we need to do the flyers.

Whitney: Last Tuesday we had a meeting about the silent auction. Eleven of us got together. Another 4-5 other people wanted to attend but could not make the meeting. The date will be March 10 or April 14. We will discuss venues at the next meeting which is on October 11 from 9:15a-11a at Whitney's house.

Whitney: The issue of community business partners in Friday Folders or Bulletin. Proposal is as a community we were trying to eliminate papers in Friday folders. Maybe we should be doing a community business partner corner in the Sonoran Sky Weekly and a soft copy flyer.

Chelly: Minor said no. Preference is to highlight four once a month in its own Eblast since Eblasts should be short and sweet. Unless it is for dine out, it should not go in an Eblast.

Joe: We lost a couple of partners because they didn't think that we were supporting them.

Chelly: We even lost one because we would not do a phone blast.

Karen: My concern is that it is too much information.

Whitney: Maybe we can do a small sidebar with a link to a flyer for the partners

Karen: Minor is envisioning something big.

Chelly: Chick-fil-A will be on there because they need the flyer. Sylvan might be jealous. Also, the PTO site has rotating ads for partners. Non food items need something. There needs to be a clear up front plan...this is what you get for your money like calendar, yearbook, directory, access to Friday folders.

Whitney: Yes, that's what's included.

Chelly: Why are we getting them? We are getting them because the company is providing the flyers. A monthly Eblast of partners has been approved by Minor.

Tami: Speak with Minor because there may be new restrictions if we are doing early planning in February.

Karen: I'll speak with Minor.

Chelly: If you have an attachment, send it to me by Tuesday. If it's just a blurb, send it by Wednesday. Use the Gmail account so I get it. Also, I need help next week with getting labels for the directory using something like mail merge. Crissy is proofing the directory.

Karen: I can help you type them.

Sandy Meris, School Spirit and Events

Movie night is Thursday, October 27. Peter piper pizza is getting flyers. We are going to add more information on the back of the flyer such as people can buy hot dogs and popcorn there and it is a parent supervised event.

Chelly: Can you send it to me since we want to sell Harkins cups there? Want to do a movie night Eblast – movie and Harkins cups?

Whitney: We want to say something for Sylvan donating for the event.

Karen: Let me know, as well, as I want to put a few things on it.

Chelly: “Sylvan proudly presents...”

Sandy: Holly is coordinating selling hot dogs, popcorn, etc.

Karen: Should we ask people to donate a ream of paper?

Sandy: Chelly mentioned at the last meeting and we agreed with nothing since free event is a free event.

Karen: Mr. Popper’s Penguins is a Newberry honors. Can we get copies of the book for the book fair especially since it’s after movie night?

Sheryl Thomas & Linda Gallie, Fundraising & Fry’s/Fresh & Easy

Sheryl: The first box tops count is today which will include the summer collection, too. We are currently in 7th place for School Cents. It started on September 15. Last week I submitted receipts. We are still above all the high schools and the top schools are all elementary schools.

Amanda: Push the Costco at PV to the school.

Sheryl: We have over 11,000 voluntary donations this year. Let’s schedule an Eblast for the end of October.

Stephanie: Before conference week?

Karen: What about Amazon?

Sheryl: We’ve doubled the amount from last month. There have been fewer orders than last month but more money came through. I still need to buy a banner.

Chelly: Vista printing is still offering a free banner plus pay shipping of about \$7. It does expire on October 6, though.

Gallie: 130 Fry’s cards have been linked so far. We are hoping for 200 cards linked.

Chelly: I’m going to put the Fry’s information in the welcome folders for new students.

Gallie: After the shopping night at Fresh n Easy with receipts, we can get a better idea of where we are at.

Heather Fuentes, Volunteering & Bookfair (with Amanda Valentine)

Heather: The bookfair will be in the media center for the first time. It will be at the center tables. If it doesn't work out, we will move it somewhere else for the spring. The next 2 weeks are going to be busy. Amanda will be running it for 3 days. Volunteers will highlight next month on navigator and bulletin board. 55 volunteers for bookfair. Gems of Sonoran Sky will also start next month.

New Business: Grant Request by Erin Kosec (3rd Grade)

Kosec's grant request is for 3 books (bundles of 10) for \$284.13. She would be happy with one or two of them but would love all three.

Joe: Motion to approve.

All: Approved

Other Items:

Karen: Do we know by the requests by grade? Because some ask and some don't.

Joe: Yes, I can look at the numbers.

Our self contained teachers are all that will ask for the grant requests. Other teachers won't even fill them out.

Karen: I will show new teachers the grant requests.