

PTO meeting minutes

March 6, 2012

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

Welcome, Karen

Karen: Good morning. I am putting together the ballet for the PTO board. We are still looking for some more people so if you know anyone that is interested, please let us know. A question that has arisen is the idea of the treasurer and the president leaving at the same time. Holly and I want to amend this stating that these two positions cannot leave the same year.

Whitney: I think we should do this for multiple positions.

Karen: Yes, I think some sections of bylaws need to be amended. There's even something about membership, but we don't use that right now. This new amendment is under article 3 section that talks about qualifying for a position.

Chelly: Why add it? We add for two years but we can't help from a person quitting. We might have to change the bylaw again later on.

Crissy: I don't think you would need to change the bylaw later but just have the president and treasurer alternative the year they leave. When I left, two others left from big positions too.

Joe: We aren't just solving problems for this year but for future years.

Sheryl: I second the amendment.

All in favor.

Remarks: Jennifer Minor

Jennifer: Thanks to the carnival committee and Sheila for such a great carnival. I've heard such positive feedback from it. Thanks, also, to the PTO for donating smart boards. Cunningham, Dunn, and Smith did get awarded the smart boards. They are going to do training soon. Kindergarten Roundup is tomorrow. Whitney, Holly and Chelly are coming to share information on PTO and Kindergarten. There are 104 open enrollments so far. Tech night is on Thursday for kids and parents. It's in the multipurpose room at 6:30. Wyatt's room won the annex name and will work on over the summer. Deanna was interviewed last Thursday by Spirit Publishing and her students did a video.

Teacher Representatives: Deanna Labella and Sarah Chiccarello

Deanna: We had an awesome lunch, thank you. Technology is great and so is Study Island/Razz Kids. Some are doing reading eggs program.

Sarah: We are geared up for tech night. Thank you for dinner.

New Business

Teacher money for second half of the year

Karen: What does our budget line look like?

Joe: \$9,600 for the year. We've spent about \$6,000 so only \$3,300 for the second half.

Stephanie: What was last year?

Deanna: I think it was \$100.

Joe: We only did start it up in spring because we had money but now we don't have as much. But we do have \$3,300 in the budget left for the spring.

Karen: \$100 for the teachers in the spring.

All in favor. Approved.

Brianpop/Brainpop Jr subscription renewal (April exp) \$1417 or \$1780

Karen: A year subscription plus student access with a percentage off equals \$1,417. We can add in teacher's availability to give students at home access for \$1,780.

Sarah: I asked a lot of teachers and most of them said let's keep it the program but without the student access. Only one out of the bunch said yes.

Deanna: Yes, I agree to only have it for the classroom. It keeps the material fresh and there isn't too much information for the parents/students to peruse at home.

Karen: I propose \$1,417.

Chelly: Motion to approve

All approved.

SmartBoards

Karen: The new SmartBoards will be mounted in the rooms for Cunningham, Smith and Dunn's rooms.

Crissy: Megan Bird asked if she could be included in the ballot because there is no technology in her

room. She is tech savvy and serves 115 students. I mentioned if I won, I would give it to Megan.

Karen: We still have a Now!Board, too. I want to get one for Squier. Should we get one for Bird, too?

Amanda: Megan put in a PTO grant request for a different board since it saves the notes. I didn't know if the Now! Board did it, too.

Chelly: Yes, my sister-in-law uses it in her classroom. The Now!Boards can save the notes.

Joe: There are 22 prototypes in the field right now and they aren't available until April 15.

Amanda: Why aren't teachers putting out requests?

Karen: Now!Board for Squier to test it. It costs \$550 for the Now!Board. Several are interested but we can get one in the building and get Squier testing on it now.

All in favor.

Karen: A separate issue is resource and honors and finding out what we need. What are their criteria? Should I approach and ask what would you want?

Joe: I have a grant request for Minio Tech which is similar to a Now!Board, but now that we know it can capture notes on it.

Stephanie: What's the difference in price?

Joe: \$499 and SmartBoards are \$1,500 plus mounting it.

Crissy: Amy is willing to give hers to Bird.

Joe: Is it hers to give away and should she?

Chelly: Why doesn't district provide computers to those two teachers? Now, media has the chrome.

Deanna: They are going back to district.

Stephanie: Maybe we should reevaluate for next year.

Joe: All auction money will go to technology and we should revisit this issue after the auction. Let's talk with Megan about SmartBoard versus Now!Board.

Heather: We shouldn't introduce a third technology item.

Karen: Let's research and come back next meeting to discuss.

Heather: Yes, we should but with the knowledge that we will do something for Bird.

"Sing, America, Sing" Enrichment sponsorship by PTO (Jan-May)

Jennifer: With common core standards and Parc assessment, the fifth grade teachers are feeling pressed for time to work on Sing, America, Sing. They are looking to do a class for the speaking and dancing as an enrichment class. We should make a grant request.

Karen: Maybe add more classes.

Jennifer: One speaking class and two dance classes to run during second semester.

Karen: This would be for next year

Jennifer: 10 week class. \$50 per teacher per class totaling \$1,500. They need time for teaching and talking about strategy for helping the students that need help.

Karen: This could create conflicts, if it's after school. Maybe we should do it before school so we don't alienate a lot of students.

Chelly: Can we see the grant? Is the enrichment for only students selected or can anyone join?

Heather: If it is open for all, yes. If we are excluding some students, maybe we shouldn't.

iPads

Amanda: The teachers that want to check them out and come back together to discuss things, they can't with the procedures in place.

Jennifer: Right now, there are two that are on check out. We need to come up with another plan for a check out system. Check out for a week at a time – 2 iPads and 2 Chrome books.

Amanda: Maybe it should even be by grade level.

Jennifer: Leadership team has the information.

Updates

Joe Muth, PTO Treasurer

Joe: Tax returns are done. Information on book fair?

Heather: It depends on if we want to do SmartBoards. Should we get scholastic dollars or money?

Joe: I'm looking forward to the remaining of the year. Right now we have \$40,534.79 in the checking account. We still have BrainPop, Book Fair, Secret Garden, Agendas, AR \$1,350, yearbook and misc payments, teacher's fund and insurance. Enrichment is the biggest money maker this year. Carnival was \$16,000 and still waiting for drinks/food information. We spent over \$17,000 and our budget was only \$9,000. We took in about \$24,000 with an estimated net of \$7,000. That's \$4,200 less than last year.

Amanda: I've heard it was the best carnival.

Karen: Fewer people attended this year.

Whitney: I know a full football team that didn't come because of conflicts.

Karen: Did anyone hear that \$25 was too much?

Heather: Yes, I did.

Chelly: After awhile, I sold the wristbands for \$20 without selling raffle tickets.

Joe: It was excellent. We always hope to make money but it definitely is a great community building event.

Karen: We need to make a realistic budget for next year.

Amanda: We missed out on so many opportunities where we could have gotten things for free. People just need to ask.

Chelly: What were you thinking?

Amanda: Water, for one.

Sandy: Committee had new people and some things fell through the cracks.

Karen: The more itemized the budget, the better it is.

Joe: In past years, Jackie had a budget and whenever she was getting close to it, she would come back to the board and let us know. This year, we had no idea and were surprised.

Heather: The budget needs to be increased.

Karen: There is a track record for this.

Whitney: Ticket sales were down.

Karen: Could it be the ticket prices?

Amanda: Maybe consider having it on a Sunday so it wouldn't conflict with Saturday sports.

Carrie Tunkey, Enrichment

Karen: Did you talk to Arn about microscope class?

Carrie: No, not yet but we should. We should talk about limiting classes instead of just adding classes. There were a few of them that didn't fill up to the minimum this year.

Whitney: How many are we talking about?

Carrie: I'd have to look up the numbers and we are competing with district class, too.

Karen: I've heard of Rosetta Stone (district class) and microscopes.

Chelly: I got great feedback of the variety of classes.

Carrie: Also, parents need to talk to me about any issues that come up. I never hear anything from the parents and I'm always hearing things second hand.

Suzy Collins, Treasurer School

Suzy: Everything is going good. My only concern is the magic yellow school bus. Come August, we won't have enough money for it. \$2,000 for this year.

Karen: We need to have a revenue source for that.

Chelly: We should do a round up to round out our school at the auction so the money can go towards art, music, technology, magic yellow school bus. Magic yellow school bus is to help fund hardships in our school's families. We should do some community outreach to help. Why don't we do pennies for our kids?

Joe: Why is the third grade fund so high?

Chelly: They are about to do the field trip and it hasn't come out of the fund yet.

Stephanie Cunningham, Hospitality

Stephanie: Thursday we are doing dinner – subs and salads. BT's is bringing lunch on the 9th. March 14 is our third grade lunch, half day lunch on April 3 and then Staff Appreciation lunch.

Whitney Crutchley, Community Business Partnerships

Whitney: We've sold 191 tickets so far for the auction. It's going well and we are still getting items in.

Chelly: Over 100 items so far.

Whitney: Anything less than \$50 is going into the treasure box. All food is complete and working out volunteers with Chelly.

Karen: If you are alumni, is there a discount?

Whitney: Yes, it will be \$65.

Karen: Sales?

Whitney: I will be at tech night and also at Kindergarten Roundup selling auction tickets. I like Chelly's round up idea. Paddle raise to give money for a specific item like I'm giving money to PTO to buy an iPad.

Sheryl: Is there an order of importance?

Joe: We do have a list from the teachers but it conflicts.

Chelly: We need to do our own survey.

Stephanie: Yes, a survey to gather information about what they have, what they need and what they

think about things.

Amanda: I've been told that we can't do that.

Whitney: Next week is Oregano's. We have the flyer. It's March 13 all day. You just need to present the flyer when you go there.

Chelly Maniuszko, Communications

Chelly: I am going to be here tonight for the kindergarten roundup. Last year I only collected emails. This year I am going to distribute the directory form. Most will be there and the back side of the form will be your PTO needs you if interested in volunteering, check the checkboxes.

Holly Busch and Sandy Meris, School Spirit and Events

Holly: Carnival was a success.

Sandy: We will work on that budget. Sheila and I were talking about putting together a bulleted responsibility chart showing what you need to do when and how you do it so no one is in the dark. Plus lots of people in the PTO are here to advise.

Sheryl: It'd be great to have notebooks for all positions.

Holly: Yes, last month I mentioned that. The only issue I had at the carnival is that I ordered pizza and water for the 7th grade helpers.

Chelly: For field day, we need to address the ribbons.

Heather: Find a good place and tell the person in charge exactly where to buy it from.

Chelly: Since it doesn't have dates on it, maybe buy them in bulk.

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

Sheryl: We did the final submission for BoxTops. We should be getting \$640.

Whitney: How'd we do this year?

Sheryl: We are above last year by \$250. We passed quota in January. We had \$2,300 in BoxTops not including the \$640. \$866 for Escrip and \$189 for Amazon. \$150 of that from Amazon was from the microscopes.

Heather: You can add a school to your Target Red Card.

Sheryl: Yes, that goes to the school and not to the PTO. This year I will add to the list. I'm also going to check out a Kohl's item, too. I will let you know more about it later.

Linda: We've got \$880 for Fresh N Easy. Fry's is currently at \$192,000 so we should get over \$200,000. Last time we mentioned making one envelope for teachers to make it easier.

Chelly: I think that's a good idea but that envelope is why too big for that space it usually goes on.

Sheryl: Pilots could get involved, too.

Linda: Yes, I'd be happy with that.

Heather Fuentes, Volunteering & Bookfair (with Amanda Valentine)

Heather: We had our book fair workshop. Luau is the theme for the fair. It will be for one week at the end of April/first week of May. We need to decide if we want to receive cash or scholastic dollars. It's only our second spring fair. If anyone knows of volunteers, it can be really easy. We need someone to do it next year. We also need volunteers for picture day which is March 13.

Heather: Woodard and Corkle have software for the SmartBoard. It's okay but it's limited for lessons since you cannot download it onto your computer.

Karen: Which ones can you download?

Heather: The ones through Scholastic.

Lorilyn Kaatz, UPC

Karen: Lorilyn could not attend today's meeting, but she wanted to share the following information with us:

Wednesday, March 14 meeting will be a day in the life of a PVUSD principal. You will be able to meet Troy Bales from Wildfire Elementary, Cindy Daniels from Echo Mountain Primary, Elaine Jacobs from North Canyon HS and Dan Knak from Shea Middle School. Our monthly meeting and educational program is open to the public. There is a meet and greet at 8:45 am followed by the business meeting at 9 am and at 10:15 am is the program / cabinet mixer. The meetings are located at the PVUSD Administrative Center in the East / West conference room at 15002 N 32 Street.

Upcoming Dates:

March 6: Kindergarten Roundup at 5:45pm

March 8: Technology Night 6:30-8p

March 13: Ballots to be distributed for next year's PTO Board election

March 26: Last day for voting

March 27: PTO Board Elections 6:30pm (to allow new members to attend April and May meetings)

March 31: "Taste" at 6pm & Kids' Night Out