

PTO MEETING: 3/7 Minutes

Opening/Sign In:

- Discussed bylaw amendment:
 - Update bylaws to reflect current PTO and times - these were sent to the PTO members on 3/1 and will be posted on the PTO website for review.
 - Must be voted on for approval in April meeting
- Finance Update:
 - Becky stressed the importance for committees to be aware of their spending and stay within budget
 - ALWAYS tell Becky when purchase is made and send receipt - we are having an issue with people purchasing items on Amazon and not alerting her, so we don't know how to label them in quickbooks.
 - Netted \$100,000 so far this year, doesn't include roll over money or Boot Scootin' Boogie which is 6K (which is Playground Fund)
 - All committees are looking like they are on budget
 - Corporate waiting for fun run - 56K profit fun run
 - 3k of 5k goal for givebacks - we discussed ways to increase giveback performance, not many people attending these newer ones. LKN and Chickfila continue to be our biggest performers.
 - Santa Shop: Katrina Lindsey has come on and started doing some shopping, they are well on their way.
 - School store: not making money. Some newer parents said they didn't really understand what it is and whats in there, they would like a video of what's in the school store and some price point ideas.
 - We discussed bumping up prices to make more of a profit.
 - We are over budget set at beginning of year and voted to increase the budget \$1000 and was approved. We are below profit but over \$1000. Perhaps send update on items in school store in classroom email so parents have an idea, increase appearances in morning show.
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- Nominations & Election: Went through this and talked about the new committee members that have been brought on by the nominating committee
 - Votes will be done via online ballot, emailed to all paid members
 - Must be done in April for following year

Upcoming Events:

- Mr. Palmer talked about the building project coming up in the next year and let us know we should really hold off on any projects and grants on grounds.
- We don't really know what the building will entail and what areas of the property will be affected, don't want to spend money on improvements that may be pulled up. The cafeteria area is likely to be a target of the build so we hesitate to do any major work in there either.

- Work orders have been put in for parking lot paving the pot holes but with the winter they don't fill them and with our construction in the future not sure how much work they will do.
- We decided it was best to hold off on an additional Brick Sale but that we should let those who have purchased bricks previously that we haven't done the walkway because we are not sure where we can put it with the building project.
- Spring Beautification Day:
 - March 29th -
 - We decided it was best to just do simple stuff like cleaning playground area, making sure cafeteria area looks nice for lunch outside, flowers in pots and areas around entrance.
 - Katrina talked about the visit she had with a landscaper about needs around the school some we could consider now:
 - rubber mulch in the gaga pit
 - Bermuda in the 5th grade playground
- Spring Carnival:
 - April 6th - 2-4
 - We discussed the need for volunteers to make these events possible. We have been extremely low on parent helpers at the previous events, to the point that they aren't going to be feasible to continue if we don't get more parents to help out. We discussed ways to get them involved and suggestions were given to make a video and show behind the scenes of what goes into the events so parents will know we need help.
- LKN Brewery Giveback Night:
 - April 11th 5:30-9:00
 - Decided not to do a meeting that night - too rushed
 - The food truck will also be doing a giveback that night.
 - Last giveback of the year
 - Givebacks have been slower this year and we discussed why and ways to improve them.
 - Have Rocky at the givebacks
 - New potential giveback: Hickory Crawdads or Gastonia Ghostpeppers
 - Jessica volunteered to get help and man the parking for Denver Fair in June.
- 5th Grade EOY Party:
 - May 21st 4-7 in the gym
 - Game & food provided for 5th graders
 - Parents pay \$5.00 to attend and we will have food trucks
- Teacher Appreciation Week
 - May 5-9: Best Teachers in the World (workshoping name)
 - Hospitality committee (Jacqui V & Keeley B) are working with Amy Burns

Recent Events:

- Dance Breakdown:
 - \$5940 in tickets
 - \$96 water sales
 - \$110 food truck giveback
 - (-\$600) DJ

- NET PROFIT EST: \$5546
- 2024 NET PROFIT: \$6294
 - Did candy grams last but not this year
 - Sold less drinks
 - No florist giveback
- Ideas or thoughts on what worked and what didn't for next year?
 - More food trucks - long lines
 - Different time of year requested for next year to have better weather

Nominating Committee Update by Jillian Werder

Jillian talked about how it was difficult to find people and we still don't have a commitment for Grants or Family Focus. Ideas were given that we should show people more about what goes into each committee.

- We asked that each committee create a slide or video explaining what their committee does, why it's important. We will put this all together for a presentation that will be playing during the BRigance Testing on 5/22 for rising K parents. PTO will setup a table and sell apparel and have info about PTO and our school. We will also setup a coffee bar.
 - Jillian will man it, myself and any others available
 - Jillian also offered to do something next year for the tours.
 - A parent said she would like to see us selling the school more during this event as parents are deciding between charters and our school. This is a good opportunity to chat with upcoming parents and reel them in.
- Family focus (shadow to take over)
 - Mandy Hovis has agreed to shadow Ashley, but is hesitant to lead the committee.
- Grants
 - No takers
- Fun run members
 - Monica Wollack
 - Kristy Walker (can help but might not be able to 100% commit to the week?)
 - Shannon Traylor
 - Jacky Fabiano
- Dance committee (shadow to take over)
 - Monica Wollack
 - Kim Pierrot
 - Shannon Traylor
- Spring Baskets
 - Monica Benkowski
- Santa shop (co-chair)
 - Katrina Lindsey &
- Car-Rider
 - Larona Barnes

People who said they can help as needed by can't take on a committee chair:

- Megan Wiles
- Megan Alonzo

Talk to about other options:

- Lisa Wolff
- Kristy Walker

We will send this information about committee volunteers to current chairs and let them reach out and share information. This is another reason the drive and digital records of activities really helps ease transitions from one committee chair to another.

Monica B talked about baskets and Becky gave her a budget of \$1200 to help with any basket fillers. Monica has already sent home a request list for items to be purchased to help with fillers per class.

Monica has already updated the website and basket page to add the sponsorships and information about businesses that donate on our site.

She is getting lots of donations. Gastonia Ghostpeppers are donating a 14 person suite. The are also interested in a school ball park night

There will be at least 10 baskets

Idea came up to try and get room moms to get 2 volunteers per class to help with volunteer shortages. Task room parents to help get from their class.

Closed the meeting and thanked those in attendance for help! We will follow up with individuals on items of action.