

Meeting Minutes



September 19, 2017 @ 7:05 pm Meeting called to order by Jenny Schmidt

In Attendance

Cindy Clefish, Jenny Schmidt, Kelley Haaland, Emily Krantz, Anna Moeckly, Stephanie Reding, Allysa Kohnert, Katy Niehus, Marissa Lincoln, Missy Bauer, Michelle Capouch, Rachel Ackerman, Jessica Ellston, Victoria Keys, Melissa Keys, Mandy Torres, Margaret Evans, Ann Mills, Kirsten Alexander, Amanda Roberson, Tammy Verbrugge, Nicole Aicher, Sami Sanger, Sandy Friest, Erin Mullenix, Kelly Armenson, Sarah Jacobus, Holly Hunter, Amanda Kaats, Kelsey Uhl, Stacey Emary, Katie Jones, Elizabeth Lyons, Staci Hemesath, April Stotz, Leah Mensching, Lori Vanderleest, Val Hanson, Nicole Stokes, Jenna Antisdell, Kelly Crippen, Erin Westergaard, Kristin Davis, Jen Halupnick, Melissa Cromley

Welcome & Introductions

Everyone in attendance gave short introductions.

Spotlights

- **Transitional K (Mrs. Ellston):** TK has had 11 days of school. They are working on fine motor movements and letter identification. They will soon move on to letter sounds.
- **Kindergarten (Mrs. Jones):** The kindergarteners have been doing an ABC Boot Camp. They will transition into making letter sound connections. **(Mrs. Freist):** Mrs. Friest is new to kindergarten this year, so she states that she is learning a lot! **(Mrs. Emary):** Something new this year is Seesaw, a new app available to parents. It is like Facebook for classrooms and is quicker than email. Their goal is to eventually teach the kids how to use Seesaw with an iPad. **(Mrs. Royer):** Mrs. Royer is a coach, so she was not able to attend tonight's meeting.

Principal Perspective

Mrs. Mills reports that student enrollment is at 526. That is up 27 kids from last year. The construction is not too far behind schedule. The inside walls are almost intact, and the outside walls are coming in a week. The goal is to have the outer shell done by winter so they can work through winter. They are hoping for good weather this fall so they can continue to make timely progress.

Budget

(Kelley Halaand) A copy of the budget was given to all in attendance. We are in a good spot with our starting balance. We encourage everyone to use Amazon Smile (and select North Polk West PTA as your charity) to bring in additional revenue for our organization. The biggest things that we spend money on are: movie license, field trips, teacher appreciation, teacher reimbursement, scholarship, school improvement, and family events. A motion to approve the budget was made by Missy Bauer. Seconded by Anna Moeckly. The budget was approved.

New Member Update

(Emily Krantz) Membership numbers are looking good. As of tonight, we have 19 E-members and 41 paid members, for a total of 60 PTA members. This is great for our first month. A warm welcome to our new members!

Old Business

- **New Teacher Gifts (Kelley Halland):** New teachers receive \$20 each. This year there were 7 new teachers that received this gift.
- **New Kindergarten/New Family bags (Kristin Davis):** 94 kindergarten and 25 new student bags will go out this week. Kristin plans to make copies of the PTA handouts to put inside each bag. We still have plenty of bags left, so no need to order more.
- **School Supply Update (Missy Bauer):** Approximately 40% of the students participated in the prepackaged school supplies. This is down a little bit from last year. We will offer school supplies again this year. The sale is in May, and we do round up prices a little bit. The extra money goes to teachers, and this year every teacher received a 12 pack of Expo markers.
- **Football Concessions (Misty Fosselman):** We had lots of help at the August football game. It was very busy and we think it made \$1400 or \$1500. This will be Misty's last year heading up Concessions, so **we will need a new volunteer** to take her place.

New Business

- **Fall Fundraiser (Kelley Haaland, Emily Krantz, Holly Hunter):** This year we are aiming big and trying for a larger, more successful fundraiser. In order to achieve this goal, we are extending our fundraising efforts beyond West Elementary families. Parents will be encouraged to send friends and extended family members a link to our PTA website, where they can learn all about our fundraiser. This website will have a Paypal button for online donations, and also a letter that can be sent in the mail or through email. The fundraiser will go on for two weeks. At the end of the two weeks, we would like to have a fun event to celebrate! We have been given permission to take over the Fall Festival. The focus will be on using your BRAINS and BODIES. This event will take place on the afternoon of Friday, October 27. We also plan to ask businesses to sponsor prizes for the kids.
- **Trunk or Treat (Misty Fosselman):** This event will take place the evening of October 27 at Central. Trunk or Treating will be 6-6:30; the dance and costume ball will be in the gym from 6:30-7:30. We will be looking for "trunkers". Feedback was given that last year the kids were a bit crazy and perhaps more chaperones were needed. Misty stated that it is not intended to be a drop-off event, so she will advertise that more heavily this year. A suggestion was made to play roller rink type games periodically throughout the night. Again, this will be Misty's last year with Trunk or Treat, so **we will need a new volunteer** to take her place.
- **Book Fair (Anna Moeckly):** The theme this year will be the Wild West. There will be some logistical challenges with the current construction – so the book fair will be in the library and will work around Mrs. Reams' schedule. The dates for the fair are Nov 9-16, with two late nights on conferences. A sign-up genius will be sent out in October for volunteers. Sami Sanger is taking over for Missy Cromley; **we need a new volunteer** to take Anna's place. It would be advantageous to recruit someone soon so the new person can shadow Anna.
- **Box Tops (Kelsey Uhl):** Students can earn Box Top dollars to be used at the Book Fair. Collection sheets are available on the website. Sheets will be due October 25; we will promote this in the newsletter and on Facebook. There is also an app where you take a picture of your receipt.

- **Round Up at Fareway:** Central voted to do Round Up at Fareway registers, so we plan to do it also. They will be reaching out to the north Ankeny Fareway; we need a volunteer to contact the Polk City Fareway. Kristin Davis said she will do it. All profits are divided with Central. We are trying to find the best timeframe to do this.
- **Teacher Wish Lists (Missy Bauer reporting for Michelle Bequeath):** The teachers are being encouraged to use teacherlists.com to create a sort of registry of classroom needs. This is a very user-friendly site where items are preloaded to an online shopping cart. So far only four teachers have lists available. We're hoping more teachers will provide lists soon.
- **Childcare (Rachel Ackerman):** We need more names of older students that are interested in babysitting during our meetings. Students can earn \$20 or a volunteer hour. Members are encouraged to email northpolkwestpta.org with names and info of potential sitters.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Next Meeting

October 17, 2017, West Elementary Library