

PEARSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTO MINUTES

JUNE 13, 2017 MEETING

Members present: Erica Wilde, Dense Wollitz, Matt Brady, Erica Bledsoe, Jennie Juda, Moriah Townsend, Jaime Shockley, Bridget Brady, Eileen Derengowski, Katie Spurr, and Brandy Ward.

Staff present: Kim Dancer

Members absent: Kristin Vaughn

I. Principal's Report

Mrs. Dancer informed the members that the PTO board would be able to tour the new school on Friday, June 16, 2017.

The district anticipates an August 1, 2017 move in date for staff members.

The school will be open for our Popsicles for Pioneer event on August 29th.

II. Approval of Bylaws by General Members

Erica Bledsoe questioned whether the Bylaws would allow for two check signers to prevent fraud, embezzlement, etc.

Erica Wilde indicated that the credit union discouraged two check signers, and that the checks did not permit two signers on them.

Matt indicated that he would not sign checks. Also, he receives text alerts on his phone regarding each deposit or withdrawal from the account.

Bank statements will go to the board's general Google account so all board members can review the statements at their discretion.

Matt also mentioned getting insurance for the board to insure against such issues.

Brandy Brady motioned for the bylaws to pass. Erica Bledsoe seconded. Bylaws passed unanimously.

III. V.I.P. Fundraising Tickets

Tickets are \$10/each and are available until the Popsicles for Pioneers event.

Discussion was had regarding board members being available at Pearson during the summer for families to purchase tickets. Many board members agreed to make themselves available during the summer. Matt Brady suggested each board member take 20 tickets to sell before the next meeting (he did take 20 at the end of the meeting).

Moriah Townsend mentioned that her friend's dad owns the New Hudson Café, and that board members could meet there to sell tickets. Jennie Juda will approach the owners for a possible date to sell tickets. Jennie will also approach Biggby's, Starbucks, Tropical Smoothie Café, etc. for similar events during the summer.

IV. Popsicles for Pioneers

The event is August 29, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. Erica Wilde has secured a donation for popsicles from Jon and Jen Scheel at Haven Construction. She suggested borrowing an ice cream cart from Detroit Popcorn Company to keep the popsicles cold.

Katie Spurr also offered to volunteer an ice cream cart.

Mrs. Dancer reminded everyone that the school will be open during this event. Teachers will be at their respective classroom doors to welcome students/families to the school. Families can take a tour of the building and will get a popsicle when they leave the building.

V. Fundraising

Jennie Juda presented a draft of the opt-form form for board/member comments. She conservatively estimated about \$6,000 being raised through this endeavor (there will be 564 kids at Pearson in 2017-2018). Suggested donation will be \$40/child.

The form has an option to place your donation into one of three buckets: technology, classroom requests, or scholarship-type activities. Matt and Jennie would keep track of these choices as the donations are made.

Board would like to use a credit card feature to capture more participation.

PTO will likely spend \$30,000 during the first year at Pearson.

District is giving the school 5 Chromecarts to start with. Board thanked the district for this gesture.

Jennie suggested hosting a Read-A-Thon in October 2017. Her research shows that schools can earn between \$13,000 and \$15,000 during this event. She presented a proposed flyer for the event with four different prize levels for students to earn. Parents or teachers would be allowed to sign the form for students.

This idea passed. Jennie agreed to finalize the handout for the event..

Jennie also reviewed other fundraising ideas such as Kroger Community Rewards, Busch's card and Mabel's Labels.

Moriah suggested selling Lost and Found items at the end of the year to raise money for the school.

A bottle drive was suggested in the subdivisions that will be attending Pearson with collection dates aimed after Fourth of July and July 8th (subdivision picnic).

A volunteer would be needed from each subdivision to coordinate this, return bottles, etc. with some oversight from the PTO board.

Other fundraising ideas mentioned: giving students a sticker to wear on Hungry Howie nights to encourage/remind parents to participate and collecting Box Tops.

VI. Spirit Wear

PTO raised \$66.00 with our first spirit wear order.

Question was raised whether we can have spirit wear available for purchase at the Popsicle event. Erica Wilde/Jennie agreed to look into this option.

Suggestion was made to have a spirit wear order date from mid-July through August 15, 2017, so that items would be available at Popsicles for Pioneers. This could be advertised through Facebook and Twitter in the summer.

Orders could be re-opened on the 29th at the Popsicle event.

The Board agreed to entertain a staff-type spirit wear option. Jaime Shockley agreed to look at this option through Sports Hut.

VII. Open Table

Erica Wilde brought to the board's attention that the teachers will not be bringing many books to Pearson. A discussion was had about ways to increase the

classroom libraries at Pearson: parents donating books, donating books and getting a ticket for a gift card raffle, book fairs, Scholastic money, etc.

SparkPlus Program – Keith Niedbala and Stephanie Rohrbach will be heading up this program to get students moving in the morning. Three different sessions will be offered.

A suggestion was made about a kickball program and maybe having the final game be a fundraiser for the school. Other ideas mentioned included tug-of-war (teachers vs. kids) or a fun run/family picnic.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erica Bledsoe