

Meriwether Lewis Elementary School
PTO Meeting Agenda
November 18, 2013

Present: Kristina Parker, Susan Wilson, Laurel Geis, Deb Parmelee, Brandi Robertson, Helen Boyd, Holly Stancil, Joanne Rome, Laura Steenburgh, and Dana Quist

A. Review of Written Reports

B. Co-Presidents' Report

- Review Sell No Stuff progress:
 - We have raised \$3500 so far. We have 30 donors with an average of \$117 a family (low of \$10 and high of \$500).
 - We will send out another paper reminder and at least one more email blast on Meriwether matters.
 - Consider listing out goal and how far along we are.
 - Possibly have a table at drop off for kids night out to encourage people to drop off checks.
- Quick updates - misc.
 - Fun fair final numbers - we made approx. \$3700
 - Dec. 3: holiday gift of citrus fruit will be delivered to teachers.

D. Principal's Report

- Kim and Ms. Franco are in DC to receive blue ribbon award on behalf of the school.

- If there is a video of the award ceremony we will include link in Meriwether matters.
- Banner - if we don't get one we will order one and plan a recognition for kids and staff in January or February. PTO Board will be invited to staff ceremony.
- Holiday Pies will be stored/dropped off in conference room.
- Golden apple award info is on county website. Nominations are due 2/12 - we will put something in Meriwether matters.
- Game night - kids were wandering hallways during game night and someone wrote a bad word on wall. A teacher removed it over the weekend. We need to have parents/volunteers supervise hallways during school events and/or close the gates.
- Lost and found - anything not picked up by early Jan. will be donated. Consider a robocall for lost and found the week before.
- School will distribute Kroger cards for \$75 for thanksgiving for ten needy families. No names can be tied to these ten cards. \$50 cards will be given at Christmas for 10-15 families. Holly and Susan will coordinate with Betsy to get the cards and load them - Betsy will give us final number.

- Someone needs to be assigned to close up PTO events like game night or kids market to make sure everyone is out of the building.

E. Faculty Representative's Report

- Oehler ER - mad science presentation. This could come from separate assembly fund - grade level educational support. The 3rd grade project is \$1100. This is \$600. This does not impact the music assemblies. Motion to pass - unanimous approval of ER up to 600.
- Franco ER - request to attend autism conference. Two special ed teachers are already going. Motion to pass - unanimous.
- Sherogan ER - request for tablet covers. Discussion of whether he should use classroom funds. Motion to approve request up to \$111. Motion passed with one vote against by treasurer.
- Deb - Discussion of possible 5th grade expense request. Discussion of possible train trip from Charlottesville to DC to visit museums. Smithsonian is free. Group rate from amtrak is between 33-66 per person. Students need money for lunch. Kids could pick a couple of preferred museum. Also do a lesson on history of trains, etc. This would be instead of going to Richmond museum overnight trip. Would be around \$750. Not official request yet, just bringing it up for consideration. This would offset the cost for parents.

- We are open to Deb's request, just need more information and specific numbers.

F. Co-VPs' Report

- Game Night Feedback: kids had fun, seemed to go well. It was considered a good community event. 70 people came.
- Kids Market is being worked on. Don't know charity yet. Consider having a parent to collect sell no stuff checks.

G. Secretary's Report

- Approve minutes from October meeting. Motion to approve: passed.

H. Treasurer's Report

- Brief Financial Overview - current operations - \$4000 profit right now but we have some expenses that have not been paid. Teacher funds have been spent earlier this year, which is good.
- Need to follow up with Jenny about benches. Laura will follow up with her.

I. Volunteer Coordinator's Report

- Volunteer of the Month: need to choose one - Jody Beaver did game night. Val Newcomb and Melissa Hoover also considered. Motion to approve Jody Beaver - passed.

J. Communications Coordinator's Report

- Nothing to report

K. Other

- One of room parent's email address is wrong - We need an official list of room parent contact info. Kirsty Fittro kirstyfittro@yahoo.com
- Helen will create a room parent list.
- Consider creating a MLS community information site - we cannot use bulletin board on school for this type of communication. Could be a place to post babysitters, post things for sale. Might be something to do with communications coordinators or a person under it. Meriwether matters could refer them to this.
- Helen has received question about gym floor from concerned parent. Building services has been to see it. They have put a product on it to help make it less slippery. County knows we need new floor. We don't have committed fund right now. It's on capital improvement plan. PTO cannot fund it. School is strongly documenting falls on the floor. Parents can write a letter to follow up as well.
- Follow up question on landscaping - Do we still need to identify PTO flower beds? No - Angie knows which beds are for PTO.
- Online vote: We had an online vote on October 27, 2013, to exceed the approved amount for teacher holiday gifts by \$74 because the price of the citrus fruit went up. Motion to approve extra \$74 was made by Dana and online vote was unanimous.