



October 20, 2016, 7:00 PM

## Minutes

In attendance Jill Roberts, Thirmanda Zavala, Areli Perez, Andrea Bornemann, Miguel Perete (illegible?), Anna Toth, Dana Parkhill, Melinda Hafenrichter, Mayra Johnson, Anthony Hansen, Leslie Smogor, Becky Lee and Jill Podzimek.

1. Call to Order (President Anthony Hansen) – Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM..
2. Condolences – A moment of silence was observed for the YMS student who passed this week.
3. Questions for Administration – Parent questions can be submitted anonymously on forms at meeting or via PTO web site.
4. Budget Report
  - a. Fundraising Goal (Treasurer Becky Lee) – \$20,000 fundraising goal to purchase 60 Chromebooks and two carts; 30 Chromebooks and one cart already purchased, feel confident about purchasing remaining 30 Chromebooks and cart. Additional stretch goal of \$5,000 to purchase playground equipment for older students. (These goals are above and beyond \$4,000 budgeted for teacher grants this schoolyear.)
  - b. How Are We Tracking? (Becky Lee) – Already earned more than 50% of \$20,000 fundraising goal; remaining opportunities include Monster Mash, WERQ Event, Color A Thon and private donations.
  - c. Fall Fundraiser Recap (Vice President Leslie Smogor) – Through paper order forms alone, the Fall Fundraiser generated \$16,746.87 in sales; online credit card sales are additional, and cost of goods sold will be deducted, for an estimated total income of \$8,000, plus \$825 in donations.
  - d. Budget (Becky Lee) – Budget updates reviewed: some Restaurant Night income will shift to Back to School Bash; technology budget increased to \$20,000; babysitting cost of \$20 for September meeting. **Motion to accept, first Jill Roberts, second Thirmanda Zavala, all approved.** Request copy of tax exempt letter if needed; sales tax will not be reimbursed for purchases going forward.
5. Old Business
  - a. Green Apple Day of Service (Anthony Hansen) – Both the reading rings and buddy bench are on site, and awaiting installation. PTO is looking for this to become a school event next year, perhaps led by student council and / or teachers, in

partnership with YMS and / or YHS students. Larger scale projects may attract corporate sponsors.

- b. Fall Fundraiser Recap (Leslie Smogor) – Cherrydale Farms and Chip Shoppe fundraiser, including frozen foods and other catalog items, kicked off with a school assembly 9/27; orders were due 10/14. Items will be delivered to ACES 11/9. Approx. 40% of families participated, including those who donated via the PTO web site. Estimated total of \$9,000 raised for technology fund.
- c. Harlem Wizard (Anthony Hansen) – District event took place 10/17 at YMS. Although not sold out, the event was well attended. ACES PTO will receive \$5 per ACES ticket sold, including walk-up ticket sales; final sales to come.

#### 6. Principal's Report (Principal Mayra Johnson)

- a. Constant Contact Newsletter – New newsletter format, consistent across the District, will be sent the first of each month; it uses a different system than the automated phone calls.
- b. Erin's Law Curriculum – Information will be coming home with students about this curriculum taught during P.E. about stranger danger, safe touch, etc.; parents may opt out if they wish.
- c. Halloween – While focusing on teaching time, and remaining cautious about food allergies, ACES will celebrate Halloween as follows: incorporate holiday into regular coursework, students may wear costumes all day, dance and parade for all grade levels. Parent volunteers will help with dance in the gym.
- d. Conferences – Teachers and staff are excited to visit with parents, and aim for no surprises during conferences; parents are encouraged to bring questions. There is no school for kindergarten students on 10/27, all others have a half day; there is no school for students on 10/28.
- e. Pearson Math Curriculum – New District program with student login for home component. Teachers are getting up to speed on this new resource; parent tips are available on the ACES web site.
- f. YMS Loss – Crisis team in place to work with ACES family members of YMS student who passed.

#### 7. New Business

- a. Monster Mash (Anthony Hansen) – The event is quickly approaching, and details are finalized, including a costume party, (free) pumpkin painting, competitions with prizes, caricature artist, (repurposed) carnival games, DJ, food and more. Alexa Thornton will perform in the cafeteria. Library competition pumpkins will be on display, and winner will receive a prize. 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students are decorating witch hats for display; these decorations will be delivered to community essential services after the event. Letters to soldiers has been changed to letters to local superheroes. Laura Balles secured great prize donations. All volunteers entered into a gift card raffle. Promoting throughout community web sites, and entering event with a few hundred dollars in profit.

- b. Ladies' Night Out (Anthony Hansen) – WERQ dance fitness event on 11/18, 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM. The event is open to all women in the community, and is being promoted via the District web site and elsewhere. Suggested donation of \$10 each, pre-registration available on PTO web site. (These events are typically more costly, but three area instructors are donating their services.) Door prizes are planned, and additional raffle prizes include cleaning services, jewelry and more. Light snacks and (non-alcoholic) drinks will be served. Playlist will be posted soon.
  - c. Other Upcoming Events (All)
    - i. 10/25 Family Fuel Up (with Book Fair), begins at 7:45, and organized by Magda Emmert.
    - ii. 10/26 Cappuccino with PTO, 9:00 at Starbucks.
    - iii. 11/11 teacher grant applications due; note meeting attendance and volunteer requirements, as well as PTO budget constraint.
    - iv. 11/15 teacher grant presentations and voting during PTO meeting.
  - d. Clown Around Carnival (Anthony Hansen) – Cancelled due to lack of committee chair and low volunteer participation last year. Reusing carnival games for Back to School Bash and Monster Mash.
  - e. New Concept (Secretary Jill Podzimek) – Board brainstormed new event concept that would require fewer volunteers, while still generating income toward fundraising goals – '80s throwback prom. Targeting a date in February at a TBD nearby, off-site location with a liquor license. Those in attendance seemed interested; other ideas will be considered if presented.
8. Committee Reports
- a. Box Tops / Other (Thirmanda Zavala) – 4,663 Box Tops + 255 from misprint + 8 bonus = \$492.60 to be credited in December. Also received 271 Labels for Education and 185 Coke Rewards; eight volunteers helped count this month. 150,825 Shoparoo points August 2015 – August 2016 = \$301.65 credited in October; 22,795 points since September! Also, Amazon Smile program offers 0.5% or purchase, and Red Robin offers 1% of check. Mrs. Johnson's 4<sup>th</sup> grade class collected over 500 Box Tops in September, and was awarded an extra recess. The winning October class will choose a silly costume for their teacher. Winning Q1 class will have the administrators ride to their classroom on trikes or scooters; winning Q1 staff will receive a coffee break. October count on 10/26.
  - b. Restaurant Nights (Leslie Smogor) – June event a Neveria Moreliana generated \$81; July at Foxy's negligible due to rain; August Southbank Original BBQ \$250; September The Chocolate Shoppe \$250; October Mike & Denise's TBD. Upcoming events include Panera Bread Company in November; McDonald's in December; Culvers in January; Rosati's in March; Foxy's on last day of school in May. Already earned 48% of targeted income! (The Chocolate Shoppe is reopening as organic / farm to table grocery store.)
9. Open Forum

- a. Mayra Johnson expressed ACES appreciation for support and concern following the loss of YMS student this week; the student formerly attended ACES, and has siblings currently at ACES. It has been a difficult time for teachers and staff.
  - b. Mayra Johnson also thanked parents who participated in 10/14 community parade for veteran who moved into Autumn Creek neighborhood; it was a memorable event for all!
  - c. Finally, Mayra Johnson provided details for the quarterly recognition assembly to take place 10/21. Each teacher will recognize two students, one male and one female, based on academics, attendance or character. Parents and grandparents are welcome to attend; future recognition events may be tweaked as needed.
10. Adjournment (Anthony Hansen) – Participate by volunteering, attending PTO meetings and restaurant nights, spread the word about upcoming events, encourage your teacher to submit a grant application or consider a monetary donation. Stay informed by following PTO on Facebook, or visiting [aces-pto.com](http://aces-pto.com). Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.