

## PTO Meeting Minutes

November 6, 2012

**Attendees:** Steve Bonds, Rachel Wilde, Ann Nangle, Leah Lundy, Hadeel Oleiwi, Marne Oyen, Rhonda McCall, Sandi Bone, Lisa Taylor, Sarah McAder, Maureen Jaimes, Tera Lynn Shimel, Lisa Taylor, Suzy Sapra, Kim Bonds.

After introductions were made, the minutes from the PTO October 2, 2012 meeting were reviewed and approved with no changes.

Principal update was given by Sandi and Lisa; Mrs. Marson had a Title One meeting she had to attend. Her update is as follows:

1. Thank you everyone for attending parent teacher conferences. Our parent participation was 86%. The format was a bit different, but many favored the new set-up. At this time, I'm not sure we'll have spring conferences.
2. At our last PTO meeting I promised to provide you with grade level breakdowns of our enrollment:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>						
<b>AM Kinder</b>	<b>31</b>						
<b>PM Kinder</b>	<b>30</b>						
<b>Full Day Kinder</b>	<b>28</b>						
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Grade</b>	<b>85</b>						
	<table border="1"><tr><td>Class I</td><td>29</td></tr><tr><td>Class II</td><td>29</td></tr><tr><td>Class III</td><td>27</td></tr></table>	Class I	29	Class II	29	Class III	27
Class I	29						
Class II	29						
Class III	27						
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Grade</b>	<b>94</b>						
	<table border="1"><tr><td><b>Class I</b></td><td><b>31</b></td></tr><tr><td><b>Class II</b></td><td><b>32</b></td></tr><tr><td><b>Class III</b></td><td><b>31</b></td></tr></table>	<b>Class I</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Class II</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>Class III</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Class I</b>	<b>31</b>						
<b>Class II</b>	<b>32</b>						
<b>Class III</b>	<b>31</b>						
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade</b>	<b>90</b>						
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Class I	29						
Class II	30						
Class III	31						
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>78</b>						
	<table border="1"><tr><td>Class I</td><td>26</td></tr><tr><td>Class II</td><td>26</td></tr><tr><td>Class III</td><td>26</td></tr></table>	Class I	26	Class II	26	Class III	26
Class I	26						
Class II	26						
Class III	26						
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>75</b>						
	<table border="1"><tr><td>Class I</td><td>38</td></tr><tr><td>Class II</td><td>37</td></tr></table>	Class I	38	Class II	37		
Class I	38						
Class II	37						
<b>Total</b>	<b>511</b> (last year 489)						

3. On December 4<sup>th</sup> I will host an (optional) informal meeting to discuss District Learning Teams. The information shared at the meeting will build upon your current knowledge and understanding about the role of Learning Teams in the Beaverton District and Fir Grove. Meeting time – 6:00-7:00pm, Location: Library
4. Thank you for your continued support!!!!

There was a brief discussion about the size of the 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes. It was noted that Mrs. Marson is very concerned with the class size and trying to talk to the district about options and what might be done. Currently Mrs. Marson has Jen Burkhart helping out the 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes by doing a math and reading groups.

It was also reiterated that late starts are off the table at this time and the meeting on December 4<sup>th</sup> would help parents understand the importance of District Learning Teams and why time still needs to be made for them.

Indi Petranek-McHugh, treasurer, was not in attendance but her update was given by Lisa. The PTO has spent \$15,682.22 so far this year. The Harvest parties were our latest big expenditure. We also covered the costs of the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classes going to see the play *Duck for President* and the Kindergarten classes traveling to the apple orchard. This year the PTO again provided dinners to teachers on Wednesday night of conferences, since that is a marathon day for them. Sandi then read a very warm hand written thank-you note from the music teacher saying thank you for the dinner and how wonderful it was.

Lisa next mentioned that we had reimbursed teachers for \$552 for supplies that they needed. Feedback had been very positive from the teachers regarding the ability to request “needed” supplies.

Later this week a gentle letter will be sent out requesting parents to please pay for their school supplies. We are coming very close to breaking even this year. Steve Bonds also mention that he will move the Paypal button from the Fun Run page to the front page of the PTO website to give parents an easy way to pay.

Rhonda McCall, co-volunteer coordinator, was next up. She was very happy to report that we have logged **over 3000 volunteer hours so far this year!!!** She also had a big thank you to the hearing, picture and vision volunteers: Margie Lusk, Kimberly Motto, Julie Liggins, Nicki O’Reily, Maureen Jaimes, Lisa Taylor, Rachael Wilde, Amy Nnoli, Nicole Burnham, Kathy Nicholson, Steve Boulter, Sarah Cooper, Litsa DeCoster, Kara Kojima, Lorie Long-Lara, Ann Nagle, Vicki Shelton, Sarah Scott. For the Book Fair a big thank you to Gretchen Wright. Book sales this year totaled \$5,300 which was almost \$1,000 more than last year. The library will take in \$1,000 of this in cash and \$600 in books. Fun run volunteers each received a personal thank you note. Big, big thank you to all who helped out.

### **Important Dates – Mark your Calendars**

November 9 & 12<sup>th</sup> No School

November 10<sup>th</sup> Garden Clean up with Boy Scouts @ 10am

November 20<sup>th</sup> Passport

November 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> No School

November 29<sup>th</sup> Picture Re-takes

There are still some spots we are struggling to find volunteers for please, please help if you can. Please contact Rhonda McCall and/or Tera Lynn Schmiel with any questions, and/or desires to volunteer. If you know a family member, neighbor, teacher, etc. that would like to volunteer please send them their way. Rhonda and Tera are looking for coordinators for events next year too.

Regarding volunteer hours, it is never to late to enter them, just let Rhonda or Tera know how many hours and for what; example: I spent 2 hours working on games for the harvest party at home. They can be reached at

[volunteers@firgrovepto.com](mailto:volunteers@firgrovepto.com)

### **Volunteer Opportunities:**

#### **Events –**

**Picture Re-takes:** Need to help shuttling kids from class rooms. November 29<sup>th</sup> 8:10-10:30

#### **Current Ongoing Needs –**

**Reading help:** We are looking for help with reading groups in our Kindergarten classes. Dire need of two helpers for 12:10-12:25 T, W & TH Contact Jennifer Burkart @ [Jennifer\\_burkhart@beaverton.k12.or.us](mailto:Jennifer_burkhart@beaverton.k12.or.us)

**Math help:** We are looking for a volunteer to help with Ms. Long’s 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class who could come in weekly or bi-weekly to run some small guided math games groups. This would need to be in the morning between 9:30-11:00am. Any day of the week is fine. Contact Hope Long @ [hope\\_long@beaverton.k12.or.us](mailto:hope_long@beaverton.k12.or.us)

**Library Help:** We need help in the library with checking in books, shelving books, small projects and keeping the library clean and tidy. Contact LisaKaren Donnelly library assistant @ [LisaKaren\\_Donnelly@beaverton.k12.or.us](mailto:LisaKaren_Donnelly@beaverton.k12.or.us)

**Kindergarten Class Help:** Our morning Kindergarten classroom needs a volunteer from 8:00-10:30 every day of the week. This does not have to be the same person every day. If you are available only every other Tuesday, or can handle one day a month they will take you!! Please contact MaKenna Bishop.

**ESL Help:** Is looking for some extra help with making copies, getting materials ready for the next week, sharpening pencils. Also could use an assistant at 8:10-8:45am M-F to help with small groups. Contact Mary@

[Mary\\_priester@beaverton.k12.or.us](mailto:Mary_priester@beaverton.k12.or.us)

**Garden Help:** Saturday November 10<sup>th</sup> at 10am a Boy Scout Troop will be here clearing out our vegetable garden and doing some landscape clean up. Anyone is welcome to join.

Tera also noted that treats are being supplied for staff on the first Friday of the month but since there was an overwhelming response to contribute we are also providing treats for the second staff meeting of the month. This is all provided by parent donation. Mrs. Marson has mentioned in passing that the staff loves the treats.

**Maureen Jaimes, co-fundraising coordinator, said we made \$25,000 from the fun run!!** Money is almost all collected. We also made \$384 from the movie ticket sales.

The Prize Assembly will be held the afternoon of Friday, November 30th. The kids who raised \$150 or more will have a Pizza Party lunch with Mrs. Marson that same day during their regular lunch time in the cafeteria. The principal (and winning grade's teachers) will be performing at the assembly since we beat our goal of \$18k.

Lisa noted that the Fun Run is an amazing event. When she attends the PTO presidents meetings she said our event really stands out. She stressed it was something we should be proud of. It was also mentioned that we could not hold this event without the volunteers who helped that day! Huge Kudos ;)

Rachel Wilde mentioned that we should be receiving \$240 in box tops soon with an additional \$235 on the way in December. Sandi Bone, co-president, gave the president's update. Battle of the Books will be starting up. Information on this program will be heading home with the children on November 28<sup>th</sup>. This program is for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders. They break into teams and need to read 16 books and then teams battle each other to see who knows more about the books. Volunteers will be needed for this activity which will take place in January and February. The party at the end of the event is a huge hit with the children and really helps motivate them to read and work together with their teams. The PTO also bought the books for this event and they will be set up in the library along with the binders to help the children track who has read what.

Next up Joyce from ESL make a funding request from the PTO. She did a brief proposal on the United Streaming program for use by teachers and students at Fir Grove. It would provide tools to cover Science, Math, English and Music. This program would make it much easier for teachers to have access to "educational" video instead of having to search YouTube which is very time consuming. This program was available to teachers last year but equipment to use it was difficult to borrow and use. Now that each classroom has a Smartboard and the right equipment to utilize the subscription the program was cut due to budget reductions. A subscription to this program might help teachers fully embrace/utilize their Smartboards. Finally teachers are no longer able to borrow materials from ESD. This program could provide a strong educational tool for teachers and students, it is currently lined up with core standards as well. The cost would be \$600 for this year and \$900 each year moving forward.

Discussion followed. It was mentioned that Fir Grove teachers would be doing training with Kinnaman to see how teachers there are utilizing their Smartboards. Also mentioned was the vendor trainer went a bit fast in his training and teachers were a bit overwhelmed. Kinnaman also has an educational coach that has been helpful. We will be working to get feedback on if that process/training was successful and if the proposed program/subscription would be beneficial at this time since there is a high learning curve at the moment. It was also mentioned that the board would need to review the budget to see exactly where we are since there have been a large number of expenditures lately.

Another quick point under unfinished business was the Fun Run Prize Assembly. It will be held November 30<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon. Students who earned the pizza party will be notified and the party will take place before the assembly.

Last item on unfinished business was the Keurig. It will be given to teachers on November 13<sup>th</sup>, National Kindness day, along with a supply of coffee, as a special treat for teachers.

New Business started off with Steve Bonds mentioning he has a form online for people to apply for funding from the PTO. Kim Bonds also mentioned she is working on the directory and the online version will be coming out soon and hard copy will follow a bit later. The directory can be used in spreadsheet form or PDF.

Pack 685, the Cub Scouts, said it has only enrolled about 1-2 kids from Fir Grove. They are struggling with how to notify parents of their program. Currently their flyer is only being sent out electronically and this misses about 100+ Fir Grove parents and may be overlooked by the others since the email that was sent out had a lot of other attached fliers. Our help was requested and the PTO will make a mention of the Scouts in the next newsletter.

Sandi and Lisa mentioned putting out some feelers to the staff on using the United Streaming program. It was noted this may not be the year to start a new program but to look toward future use once teachers become more familiar with the Smartboards.

Items for the PTO newsletter are due by November 16<sup>th</sup>.

Sandi mentioned there are now suggestion forms available at each PTO meeting for parents to offer up feedback.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:20am

**Postscript:** The next PTO meeting will be December 4<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Babysitters will be provided.