

## Approved PTO Meeting Minutes

May 6, 2014

Attendees: Gretchen Wright, Rhonda McCall, Sarah Scott, Stacey Wallace Benefiel, Kelly Burns, Jason Burns, Kyle Templin, Maureen Jaimes, Lisa Taylor, Sarah Makela, Erica Marson, Ivonne Renderos-Rivas, Marne Oyen

Introductions were made and the minutes from the April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 PTO meeting were reviewed and approved with no changes.

Kyle Templin, our P.E. teacher was first on the agenda. He wanted to let us know field day is scheduled for June 6<sup>th</sup>. He is looking for volunteers, approximately 30+ for the morning session and 35+ in the afternoon; he stressed more help is better. He will also be using some 5<sup>th</sup> graders as volunteers but expressed that he will still need parents to help guide them. He will be running the event fair style with over 34 games set out. It was noted when Leah Lundy, the volunteer coordinator, returns she will send out an email blast to help get volunteers. Kyle also went on to describe his tug-of-war event that sounds like fun. He even handmade rope trophies.

Our principal, Mrs. Erica Marson, was next up on the agenda. She noted she had three main points to cover. First, the volunteer social that was originally scheduled for May 29<sup>th</sup> might be switched to the first Tuesday in June due to a conflict with 3<sup>rd</sup> grade presentations. She will let us know. Second, the staff was thrilled with the conference meals and very impressed. Mrs. Marson brought a thank you note card they had all signed. Third, the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of math testing for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades will be starting for those who did not meet their goals. The good news on testing is Fir grove is up 4% in reading and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade has a 75% math score, 4<sup>th</sup> is at 60% and 5<sup>th</sup> grade is struggling a bit.

Mrs. Marson warned that there will be staffing changes for the next school year. She doesn't even know them all yet, but she will by the end of May and will share those changes at the next and final PTO meeting of the school year in June. One final point Erica mentioned the staff Cinco De Mayo party she had for the staff, they loved it.

Sarah Scott was next up with a budget update. She reviewed budget expenses and income for April. Almost all classes have had or scheduled their field trips. She is prepping money for end of year parties which are normally done by the teachers. She also noted that not all teachers had spent their \$100 or submitted for reimbursement and she plans to put a "stop" sign in their boxes to remind them to get it done. She also noted that expenses from the penny drive need to happen after June as the money is for the following school year. Final point was 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be taking a college ready trip to Western Oregon for a tour in June.

Leah Lundy was absent. Total volunteer hours will be available at our next meeting.

Fundraising was next up. Fir Grove raised \$858 for P.E. in the Penny Drive. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade class won and they will be having their ice cream party soon. There was discussion about timing of the Penny Drive and the possibility of moving it to coincide with Open House next year to get more foot traffic. There was also a discussion about the best way to send out a big thank you to parents for the Penny Drive due to concerns about it not being seen in the Fir Grove school newsletter (not to be confused with the PTO newsletter). Discussion about the website and email occurred and whether or not future emails will contain attachments or just links; this may end up applying to both the Fir Grove newsletter and the PTO newsletter.

Rhonda McCall was next up with the president update. She wanted to send a big thank you out to the parents who helped/teamed up to take over conference meals for the teachers; we provide 2 awesome meals from our Fir Grove families. Science Expo is over and next year Jason Burns has volunteered to chair it. There was a discussion about moving the Science Expo to the end of February when there are fewer events going on at Fir Grove.

Teacher appreciation week was next up. She talked about what was planned for teachers each day and how much work was put in to each project. The teachers had been polled to find out what some of their favorite things were. They were showered with their favorite drinks, magazines, flowers and candy. They also received a catered lunch and clip boards painted by our resident artist, Gretchen Wright, with their college mascot. Pizza was also provided for dinner on Thursday night when they had to stay late for Open House. It was also noted that there will be a 5<sup>th</sup> grade talent show after the Open House at 6:30 in the gym.

Committee updates – there were none.

Old Business was next. There was discussion regarding purchasing a water filter for the staff. Much research has been completed regarding this project that was requested by the teachers. The most feasible option was a counter self-cleaning water filter by Britta. Rhonda was able to find a school district approved plumber to do the installation. The plumber generously offered his services for free as a donation bringing the total cost of the water filter to \$750. This project was put to a vote and approved.

Next up was voting for PTO officers for the 2014-2015 school year. The positions were voted on and approved by PTO attendees. The following ladies were elected:

<b>2014-2015 PTO Board</b>	
<b>President:</b>	Rhonda McCall <a href="mailto:president@firgrovepto.com">president@firgrovepto.com</a>
<b>VP of Fundraising:</b>	Ivonne Renderos Rivas & Lisa Taylor <a href="mailto:fundraising@firgrovepto.com">fundraising@firgrovepto.com</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	Stacey Wallace Benefiel <a href="mailto:secretary@firgrovepto.com">secretary@firgrovepto.com</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Sarah Scott <a href="mailto:treasurer@firgrovepto.com">treasurer@firgrovepto.com</a>
<b>Volunteer Coordinator:</b>	Leah Lundy <a href="mailto:volunteer@firgrovepto.com">volunteer@firgrovepto.com</a>

New business was next up. There was discussion about buying water bottles to cover the expense of the water filter. Cost estimate for 200 water bottles is over \$1000 and will need PTO approval to move forward. Discussion on who will handle the purchase ensued and discussions about finding a parent to chair Fir Grove Spirit wear. There was also discussion on tabling water bottles until next Fall. Issue was tabled.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:21am. Next PTO meeting will be June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm