

Approved PTO Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2014

Attendees: Rachael Wilde, Gretchen Wright, Rhonda McCall, Sarah Scott, Leah Lundy, Sandi Bone, Lisa Taylor, Sarah Makela, Erica Marson, Shannon Lena, Stacey Mueller, Ivonne Renderos-Rivas, Marne Oyen

Introductions were made and the minutes from the February 4th, 2014 PTO meeting were reviewed and approved with no changes.

Our principal, Mrs. Erica Marson, was first on the agenda. She mentioned taking 4 teachers to San Diego for a conference. She said it was very helpful and everyone learned a lot. She also noted the school district hired Dave Matthews to run a campaign for an upcoming bond measure this May and he may stop in at the meeting today.

Mrs. Marson next discussed OAKS testing. Fir Grove is smack in the middle of testing. Some of the feedback she received from the teachers referred to students getting frustrated and giving up to easily. The students needed help with motivation for testing, to keep at it. Mrs. Marson started a new program to give tickets, called "test tickets" that students may earn. These tickets allow students to be eligible for drawings for prizes. There has been positive feedback on this new motivational tool. Our principal really stressed she is trying her best to make this a positive experience for kids and ultimately they are all that really matters in the end of this whole process. Our testing results for reading so far this year are as follows:

Reading				
	2013-2014*		2012-2013	
Grade	% of Students Meets or Exceeds	% of Students Tested	% of Students Meets or Exceeds	% of Students Tested
3 rd	61%	84%	60%	91%
4 th	70%	86%	75%	96%
5 th	63%	88%	73%	95%

*Only 1st round of testing is complete.

Math testing will begin in April. Students will be completing a mini "boot camp" to help prepare. Also noted, 3rd graders who get an exceeding grade will not need to take the test again this year.

Mrs. Marson also mentioned a new bond that will be up for vote this May 2014. The bond is for \$680 million and will replace the existing bond that is expiring. If approved, this bond means no change to current property taxes. What Fir Grove parents would see in our school is the following: new roof, new doors, new hardware for the doors, new plumbing, new kitchen wiring, new clocks, new wiring, replacement of all playground equipment, new fire sprinkler, emergency generator, new computers and new security. Also the district has plans for three new schools which include a middle school and a high school. They would also replace Vose and Hazeldale. For a more extensive list and further information please visit the school district website at www.beaverton.k12.or.us. Please vote this coming May!

Erica's final update was to ask parents to swing by the cafeteria next time they are in the school. Gretchen Wright is painting a beautiful new mural in the lunchroom for our children!

Sarah Scott was next on the agenda with a budget update. Not much new to report. The PTO voted to pay for calculators and the cost will be about \$1,000. We also just finished paying for the assemblies. Finally the Kindergarten classes are requesting some additional funds for the Bug Chicks.

Leah Lundy, our Volunteer Coordinator, shared that we had hit 6,500 volunteer hours YTD and 1,200 hours for the month of February. She also noted Doughnuts for Dudes was this coming Friday. Corri Lee has been organizing this

event for us and this will be her last year. We are looking for a new coordinator for this event, please contact Leah Lundy if you are interested. Staff treats will be moving to March 13th this month because there is no school March 10th or 14th. Passport will be March 20th because Spring Break will be March 24th–28th. The Science Expo is just around the corner on April 17th. Volunteers will be needed! A big thank you to all who participated at the Clothes Closet. Your help was greatly appreciated!

Lastly, Spring Conferences will be 4/9 & 4/10. Rhonda McCall will be coordinating the meals for teachers and looking for parents to donate dishes. If you would like to help, please contact Rhonda. The PTO is also looking for parents to donate staff treats the first Friday of the months of April and May. One more note, don't forget to log your volunteer hours!!

Fundraising was next on the agenda. Our Penny Drive will be April 7th through April 18th. The jugs will be in the Library and funds raised up to \$1,000 will go to P.E. this year. If we are able to raise money above \$1,000, the extra will be given to the Tech room.

The President's update was next.

Sandi shared a heartfelt thank you from Mr. Templin regarding the approval for funds for playground equipment.

Spring movies have started up but tickets are still available! There will be 8 movies total with 9 show times; Frozen will be showing for two weekends due to its popularity. The cost will only be \$8 and \$3 of each ticket sold will go to the 5th grade send-off. It was also noted you may purchase tickets that can be donated to students who might not be able to afford them.

The final OBOB battle will be this week. It's the 4th vs. 5th grade to see who goes to regionals. The winning team will be determined by total points earned. It was also noted that Lisa Karen has posted information regarding the Beverly Cleary Children's Choice award on the bulletin board just outside the library. 3rd graders read the nominated books and vote on the winner. Some of these nominated books are the same as the OBOB books. It's been suggested the PTO possibly buy each of the nominated books for our library for children to read.

5th graders are having another fundraiser for their send-off at 5 guys this Wednesday. You do have to show the flyer for them to receive credit for your purchase. The 5th graders will receive 15% of all sales noted with the flyer!

Next up were the committee updates.

Rachael Wilde noted the Clothes Closet event went well. Also she has collected \$350 worth of box tops and will be sending them in. Mrs. Jackson's class won with 1050 and will be receiving small treats and a free meal coupon for Applebee's.

Under old business, next up was a request that had been made by Sarah Makela for a buddy bench for the playground. The motion was put to vote and approved with a \$1,000 budget. There is still some coordination that will need to happen regarding the placement and if Gretchen will paint it (depending on the material of the bench).

Science Expo update included a huge thank you to Jake Scott for stepping in to run a day of experiments for the children to see and experience what a project should entail. Make sure your child turns in their entry form if they want to participate and \$1 if they also want a board. Participation is required for the 4th and 5th graders.

Under new business it was noted the volunteer lunch will be May 29th at 10:30. Also Rachael Wilde wants to do some planting in the greenhouse to be later moved out to plant in the green space. There were no questions or general discussion. Meeting was adjourned at 9:07. Next PTO meeting will be April 1st at 7:00pm no fooling ;)