

Sand Creek PTO Meeting  
September 13, 2011  
Taken by: Julie Pobuda, PTO Secretary

In attendance: Kerri Tomandl, Jessica O'Hanlon, Julie Pobuda, Donnie Hurrelbrink, Paul Anderson, Deborah Rollie, Jennifer Drummy, Jill Bornes, Stacy Sullivan, Joe Defoe, Becky Defoe, Vicki Mochinski, Heather Downing, Paula Marty, Anne Cook, Sarah Anderson, Kristine Howard, Mike Troiber, Lori VanHulzen, Sheri Sikich, Heidi Casey, Brian Owens, Julie Owens, Darci Olson, Katrina Robinson, Dee Johnson, Rebecca Foy, Pam Baker, Ann Vinson, Chelsi Walter, Kathy Stenach, Shelley McCumber, Sherri Watkins, Mary McDonough, Hussein Ibrahim, Mary Kay Ortler, Julia Wippler, Cher Manowski

Special Guests:

1st Grade Teachers - Kathy Stenach, Shelley McCumber, Sherri Watkins, Mary McDonough, Mary Kay Ortler  
Julia Wippler – Sand Creek Social Worker  
Dee Johnson (Box Tops Volunteer)

The meeting was called to order at 6:31PM by Kerri Tomandl.

All in attendance did quick introductions.

Kerri Tomandl read the Sand Creek PTO's Mission Statement, Objectives, and Membership requirements.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

- MINUTES: no Minutes to approve since this was the first meeting of new school year.
- Julie Pobuda gave an update of the planning status of Sand Creek's Welcome Back Spaghetti Dinner. The North Star Lion's Club is donating food & preparing the meals. Hostess Brands is donating all bread items. Chip Shoppe is providing three inflatable bouncy houses. This has become an unintended fundraiser.

Dee Johnson announced that Hanes is now on board with the Box Tops program. Sand Creek made over \$4500 from the Box Tops program in the year 2010-2011. The goal for 2011-2012 school year is over \$5000.

1st Grade Teachers gave an overview of how school had been going so far: Kathy Stenach reported that they have been educating on bullying, with a focus on safety, caring for each other, and kindness. Sheri Watkins and Mary McDonough expressed the liking of the new Promethean interactive white boards they have been using this year, and expressed "thanks" to the PTO for purchasing 1st grade books last year. All 1st grade teachers stated that the

students really like the new Inquiry Specialist (Science), Mrs. "E".

Julia Wippler, Sand Creek's new Social Worker, introduced herself to the group and explained how she could be of assistance to students and families at Sand Creek.

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Kerri Tomandl discussed the Northern Stars Ball. Tickets are available to purchase and looking for donations of items to go in wine baskets for the event. The event raises funds for AHEF program. She asked if PTO could donate up to \$100 towards items still needed for Wine Basket donations.

Jill Bornes made a motion to approve \$100 donation to Northern Stars Ball. Deb Rollie seconded that motion. A vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

- Kerri explained the Fund Request's policy. Notices go out to staff via mailboxes the week of 9/14. Requests can be submitted to PTO thru October 6. An open discussion will occur from 7:30-8:00PM at the next PTO meeting, Oct 11. Vote will be taken at 8 PM on funds requested. Next Fund Request's meeting is February 2012.

- She talked about PTO Fundraising and is looking for more members to help on the committee. Happenings kicked off Sept. 9, orders, money, & returned books due Sept. 20. Books and prizes go home Sept. 22.

Chip Shoppe kick-off is Oct. 14, orders & money due Oct. 28, distribution is Nov. 29

A suggestion was made by a parent: Could PTO communicate, prior to fundraising, what the intended use of the funds will be? PTO agreed to look into how that info can be clarified and communicated.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Donnie Hurrelbrink presented the beginning budget for the year 2011-2012. Nothing to approve at this time.

- He welcomed ideas for other reward type fundraisers. Some suggestions were made by the group: Coke caps, Capri Sun pouches, Sunny Delight, Qwik Trip, etc.

- He explained the AHEF gift card purchasing program and handed out order forms.

#### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

- Paul Anderson talked about the New Back to School Kick-off, an all school assembly in gymnasium on first Friday of school: As staff gathered outside the gym, Mr. A addressed all students, they recited the Pledge of Allegiance, he introduced each staff member, showed 1st Day of School video, staff circled kids while Mr. Anderson talked about bullying, being safe, and helping each other (learn & teach).

- He is visiting classrooms all week this week to discuss School Rules

- Sand Creek Elementary is now on Facebook, "Like Us"
- District families should receive a voicemail providing information on the upcoming 3-part Levy Renewal/Request
  - A. Renewal (no new taxes) B. Request for Technology C. Request for Maintenance over next 10 years
- Constitution Day is Friday September 16. There will be an Assembly with 5th Grade Color Guard focusing on "Freedom & Citizenship"
- Paul showed the video he had taken of staff and students on the first day of school.

#### VOLUNTEER SERVICES COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

- Barb Novinska reminded group to turn in Volunteer Application forms.
  - She explained that K-Data is being collected week of 9/12 and will be collected for a total of 4 times throughout school year. Training is available for this volunteer opportunity, (1 hour for renewal, 1 ½ hour for new training)
  - She discussed volunteer opportunities for upcoming Spaghetti Dinner 9/15 and Picture Days 9/28 & 9/29
  - She explained how Food Perspectives works and looking for volunteers to sign up to be taste testers. Only taste test once every 3 months, kids can taste test. Volunteer gets paid \$30, of which, \$10 goes to Sand Creek.
  - She announced that Teacher Appreciation will be held both evenings of night conferences, 10/4 & 10/6. Meal idea is Mexican Fiesta for first night, looking for volunteers and prepared food donations. Requesting funds from PTO up to \$125 for purchasing food the second night.
- Jessica O'Hanlon made a motion for PTO to donate up to \$125 for food for Teacher Appreciation event. Julie Pobuda seconded that motion. A vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.
- Barb is recruiting volunteers to work in the Sand Creek Workroom and/or directly for a specific teacher. She says to contact her with questions. Her new office location is Room 133 (to the left of Media Center). Her hours are Monday thru Thursday, 8 AM-3 PM.

After all reports were given, some old and new business items were discussed: Sand Creek apparel is expected to be available for purchase the first couple weeks of October, a committee is forming. Santa's Secret Shop is being planned for Saturday, December 10, a committee is forming. Sand Creek's "Dining with the Stars" cookbooks are still available for purchase at \$13, contact PTO or see Dolores in Main Office.

It was announced that next month's meeting will be held on October 11. The Sand Creek PTO has an email address now, [sandcreekpto@hotmail.com](mailto:sandcreekpto@hotmail.com), and is also on Facebook.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:04 PM