

Sand Creek PTO Meeting

October 11, 2011

Taken by: Julie Pobuda, PTO Secretary

In attendance: Kerri Tomandl, Julie Pobuda, Donnie Hurrelbrink, Paul Anderson, Deborah Rollie, Jill Bornes, Stacy Sullivan, Vicki Mochinski, Lori VanHulzen, Cher Manowski, Heidi Casey, Julia Wippler, Jackie Fabel, Barb Novinska, Kelly Hesli, Sheri Stikich, Pam Baker, Kristin Plugge, Valeka Petersen, Nancy Tester, Jacque Diederichs, Deb Erickson

Special Guests:

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teachers – Jacque Diederichs, Deb Erickson, Valeka Petersen, Nancy Tester

Julia Wippler – Sand Creek Social Worker

The meeting was called to order at 6:34PM, 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:

- Julie Pobuda presented meeting minutes from September. Deb Rollie made a motion to approve September PTO Meeting minutes. Jill Bornes seconded that motion. A vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teachers gave an overview of how school had been going so far: Nancy Tester spoke of the Guided Reading program they are using in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. They are sharing kids from all classes and grouping them in their appropriate reading levels. This allows students to get extra help with reading based on his/her need. Valeka Petersen talked about the four types of live organisms the students are currently working with: butterflies, meal worms, tadpoles, and fruit flies. Jacque Diederichs said the school year is going well. Deb Erickson expressed "thanks" to the PTO for purchasing privacy screens for the classrooms last year. They are working great.

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. "The Social Worker position is evolving and forming into something great for our kids!" (Paul Anderson) Julia Wippler is available to students and families in crisis situations. She is also available for everyday needs and is the Lead Teacher when Mr. Anderson is out of the building. Students are welcome to drop a note in her Question Box hanging outside her office door. She is also doing groups. She sent home an information sheet at beginning of year to ask for any students who have a need for a group. These groups include: Friendship, Problem solving skills, and Changing Family. She is seeking ideas for large groups, especially for younger kids. Ms. Wippler has been looking through the Bullying posters. Winners of each grade level will receive a prize. Those winning posters will then go on to the District Office.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Kerri Tomandl expressed "thanks" to all those who donated to the wine baskets for AHEF's Northern Stars Ball.  
- Chip Shoppe kickoff is Friday (October 14). There will be a presentation in the gym. Orders and money due Friday, October 28. Distribution is on November 29. Students can enter at the main office once he or she has sold 5 items - daily drawings for prizes. Pizza party for the top selling class. Ice cream for each grade's top selling class.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Donnie Hurrelbrink presented the Treasurer's Report. Julie Pobuda made a motion to approve the October 2011 Treasurer's Report. Kelly Hesli seconded the motion. A vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:**

- Paul Anderson shared two videos with the group. The first was the thank-you DVD that was created and sent to the North Star Lions, in appreciation of their sponsoring the all-school dinner. The second was a video of several Sand Creek teachers thanking the PTO and Sand Creek parents for the wonderful meals provided during conference nights.

**VOLUNTEER SERVICES COORDINATOR'S REPORT:**

- Barb Novinska reminded group to turn in Volunteer Application forms, even for field trips. They must be turned in at least two weeks prior to volunteering.
- She stated that everyone was very appreciative of the staff meal donations and clean-up of the lounge.
- Free Money Contest is going on now through October 31. Turn in Box Tops, Kemps milk caps, Land-o-lakes milk caps, Campbell's Labels for Education labels, and Tyson's Project A+ labels. The winning classroom will get a popcorn party. A board will be placed outside the gym doors showing how each class is doing in the contest. The next Free Money Contest will begin in January. We are adding Coke caps (all Coca-Cola product caps), Capri Sun Pouches, and Qwik Trip Milk caps on November 1 to the Free Money program. We can pick free items for our school from the Campbell's points program at the November PTO meeting.
- We have a volunteer who will be promoting the AHEF Gift Card program monthly. Order forms were passed out with an explanation on how to use the program. AHEF accepts cash and checks, no credit cards.
- Current Volunteer opportunities: Field trips and parties occurring in October; Memory Garden fall and spring cleanup (team of volunteers needed for this); Math Plus needs volunteers to take groups 8-9AM once a week. There is training for this. Also, Challenge Reading program is being built. If interested in doing this, contact Barb directly.
- The Halloween Parade is on Monday, October 31, 2PM in the gym.  
Barb's 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 orders are due October 13. Apparel will be distributed on October 26. The Welcome Back Spaghetti Dinner netted \$1350 (unintended fundraiser). Julie Pobuda made a motion to give those funds to the school to purchase Guided Reading books for the bookroom. Pam Baker seconded that motion. A vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously. Santa's Secret Shop is being planned for Saturday, December 10, a committee is forming and will be lead by Jessica O'Hanlon.

**\*10/27 UPDATE: Santa's Secret Shop has been changed to Saturday, December 17.**

Funds Requests were discussed and voted on individually.

Announcements: Next month's meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 15. Bring a "Never been to PTO" Sand Creek friend and get a chance to win in 2 raffle drawings.

Sand Creek PTO email address: [sandcreekpto@hotmail.com](mailto:sandcreekpto@hotmail.com) Like Sand Creek PTO on Facebook – look for the Star.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:09 PM