

Sand Creek PTO Meeting

November 15, 2011

Taken by: Julie Pobuda, PTO Secretary

In attendance: Kerri Tomandl, Julie Pobuda, Jessica O'Hanlon, Donnie Hurrelbrink, Paul Anderson, Chelsi Walter, Shane Long, Kelly Dunlop, Denise Lewandowski, Vicki Mochinski, Lori VanHulzen, Cher Manowski, Barb Novinska, Pam Baker, Angie Brenny, Anne Cook, Deb Cordes, Judy Curtiss, Rebecca Defoe, Sarah Anderson

Special Guests:

5th Grade Teachers – Shane Long, Deb Cordes, Judy Curtiss

The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM by Jessica O'Hanlon

All in attendance did quick introductions. Jessica O'Hanlon gave a brief statement about the purpose of PTO.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

- Julie Pobuda presented meeting minutes from October. Jessica O'Hanlon made a motion to approve October PTO Meeting minutes. Julie Pobuda seconded the motion. A vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

5th Grade Teachers gave an overview of how school had been going so far. They spoke of the success of the Specialization Program being used: the Math/Science team and the Humanities team. They also talked about the spring Long Lake field trip. The Butter Braids fundraiser for this trip is happening now... all the support is appreciated. They will be having a "Night at McDonald's" event again this year, after the holidays. This has been a helpful event in raising money for that trip, as well. They asked that the PTO support this event once again this year. Fifth grade will be going on a ski trip in January to Hyland Hills. Our fifth graders really look forward to these special events during their last year at Sand Creek.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Kerri Tomandl stated that fundraising in 2011 has been successful. We have extra money in our budget that we will need to choose how to spend. She asked for ideas for this. We will discuss again at December's meeting.
- Chip Shoppe distribution is on November 29
- Kerri proposed that the PTO increase the amounts given to teachers annually for classroom supplies. Old amounts given were \$100 per full time teacher and \$50 per part time teacher. The new proposed amounts are \$150 full time, \$75 part time. A motion was made by Julie Pobuda to increase the amounts given to teachers for classroom supplies in the amount of \$150 full time and \$75 part time. Becky Defoe seconded the motion. A vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.
- A suggestion was made to distribute the teacher classroom supply funds via AHEF Target gift cards versus checks this year. After discussion, it was agreed by the members that this would benefit the teachers, the school, and AHEF.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Donnie Hurrelbrink presented the Treasurer's Report. Donnie thanked Anne Cook for her help with the Chip Shoppe fundraiser.
- PTO gave the school a check for \$1350 to purchase guided reading books. This was from funds received from the Spaghetti Dinner and previously voted on for approval.
- PTO is discontinuing the Tool Box school supply program for the next year. This item has been removed as a line item in the budget.
- Sand Creek Stroll has been removed from line item in budget. It has been determined that this is a school event and not a PTO event.

Vote on Budget was tabled to December PTO meeting. Line item changes to be made to budget before vote.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

- Paul Anderson: School purchased 12 interactive white boards from last Sand Creek Stroll funds and general funds; was able to purchase 5 or 6 boards at half price with matching program. All but two classrooms will be equipped with these boards. Remaining two should be equipped next summer.
- Paul applied for a grant from the Tree Trust and received \$2000. Each classroom will be able to plant a tree on school grounds next spring. Money may also be used for new outdoor classroom near hill along 121st Ave., replacing the previous one and may be used to add shrubs to Sand Creek's Memory Garden.
- Currently using a 30-day free trial of portable sound systems. Each classroom will have opportunity to try it. Paul showed informational video on these.
- 4th Grade Immigration Day is 12/1
- 5th Grade Creativity Festival is 12/1 . This is a program for Tier III Talent Development Opportunities.
- 3rd Grade Holiday Concert is 12/8
- Coon Rapids HS Band, Orchestra, and Choir will visit Sand Creek and perform. They hope to generate interest in the musical arts.

VOLUNTEER SERVICES COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

- Barb Novinska is asking for volunteers for the upcoming Santa's Secret Shop event being held on 12/17. She needs a Friday evening decorating committee and has two shifts available on Saturday, the 17th, from 7-10:30 and 10:30 to 1 PM.
- Free Money program has added two vendors. We are now collecting Capri Sun pouches (get \$.02 each) and Coca Cola product caps (get items for school from a catalog). A contest is going on now through January 15. Turn in Box Tops, Kemps milk caps, Land-o-lakes milk caps, Campbell's Labels for Education labels, Tyson's Project A+ labels, Capri Sun pouches, and Coca Cola product caps. The previous contest 1st place winner was Mrs. McCumber's class. They received a popcorn and juice box party. The 2nd place winner was Mrs. Curtiss' class. They received an ice cream party. The net amount received from the first contest was \$2,253!
- Sand Creek volunteers have logged over 1900 hours already this year!
- Order forms for AHEF gift cards were handed out. A kit will be available the week of 12/13. Cards will be available to purchase at Santa's Secret Shop on 12/17.
- Volunteers are needed for Math Plus and Challenge Reading programs. Training for Challenge Reading is on 11/17. Training for Math Plus is on 11/29. Volunteers may do every other work if desired. If interested in doing either, contact Barb directly.
- Barb's hours are Monday thru Thursday, 8 AM-3 PM.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Over \$14,000 was raised from the Chip Shoppe fundraiser. Distribution Tuesday, 11/29 from 3:30 – 6:00PM in gym
- Santa's Secret Shop is Saturday, 12/17, 9:00 – Noon. Committee is looking for volunteers.
- Movie Night is February 10, more info to come.

After all reports were given, no New Business or Old Business items were discussed.

Announcements: Next month's meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 13.

Sand Creek PTO email address: sandcreekpto@hotmail.com Like Sand Creek PTO on Facebook – look for the Star.

Meeting adjourned at 8:13 PM