PTO-General Meeting

May 19, 2015

Meeting called to order at 6:05pm

**In Attendance**: Carmel Barnhart, Celena Hoerauf, Jessica Nevin, Paula Coleman, Diana Michna, Ginger Fullerton, Amber Bell and Bryanna Jones.

• The minutes from the previous general meeting on April 21st, 2015 were reviewed and approved with one edit. The school district ground-breaking ceremony was actually on April 28th (not May 28th). Paula Coleman made a motion to approve the minutes and Dianna Michna made a 2nd motion.

• Board elections

• Voting was completed by paper ballot. The incumbent positions of President, Vice President and Secretary (those seeking re-election) were filled with Carmel Barnhart, Jessica Nevin and Jennifer Paugh, respectively.

• Incoming elected officials are Leah Emmett as Treasurer and Stefani Myers as Volunteer Coordinator.

• Kudos to outgoing members for their service!

• Jog-a-thon Update

• The photographer would like to take a picture of all the students in the stands so he can piece the picture together and get them all in at once. Discussion on the subject suggested that might be difficult with time constraints and may not align with Sarah’s vision for the picture. Jessica will talk with Sarah and coordinate.

• Field Day – June 11th

• Bryanna Jones is chair of the Field Day event. She noted that an e-mail will go out to volunteers letting them know that teachers will read the instructions for the games and keep the kids in check. Parents and volunteers will only be expected to run the games and not have to keep the kids in line.

• Otter pops and passports will be given out to Field Day participants. There are purchases for the Gnome Walk and the Otter Pops that may need to accounted for with PTO.

• A special box of Otter pops will be supplied for one of the classrooms – Celena will purchase the special box.

• No strapping tape this time in the gym. Please use masking tape or painters tape.

• Review Big Ticket item

• The “Big Ticket” item this year was basically the sound system equipment for Mrs. Woodford. PTO voted to allow for $1150 in a past meeting. With other grants – Mrs. Woodford was able to purchase the equipment and still have $250.00 left over.

• Diana Michna made a motion and Paula Coleman made a second motion to approve an additional $650.00 (for a total of $900 to be contributed) to purchase new speakers. It was noted that the equipment wasn’t perfect during the Yolanda Idol; however, the dress rehearsal went very well and did not have any issues. There may have been an issue with kids grabbing the bottom of the wireless microphone.

• Budget Items

• There are still several items that have not been turned in for this year’s budget. Mostly field trips. That will not affect approving the budget for next year.

• Last year the budget showed 435 total projected students. We initially wanted to change that to reflect a more likely scenario of 400 (which still might be high). After discussions we agreed to leave it at 435 because Diana noted that was the maximum amount of children possible and excess money will go back into savings. That might be easier than scrambling to figure out how much money you might have left over at the end of each budget cycle.

• “Wow’s” and school supplies are currently separate as a budget line item. We decided to combine them since it’s sometimes difficult to decipher the receipts.

• Next year there will be a separate form for field trips and “other” money.

• No more E-scrip. The previous bank was not helpful in telling us where the money was coming from and now that we have a new bank account the money will not automatically be deposited.

• Keeping family movie night budgeted even though we did not have one this year. Discussed Jennifer Paugh and Jenny Williams co-chairing the event next year. Jessica said the Willamalane blow-up screen may be available and we talked about having the movie under the shelter as an option. Will discuss more next year.

• Art Cart will now be a donation to the school’s ASB (Associated Student Body) account. The amount of $650.00 was discussed and Diana remembers that there was a time where the budget amount was previously discussed and $650.00 was on point. We all agreed to continue the $650.00 but also noted that it does not appear that she requested any money in the 2012/2013 year. Art Cart is now provided every other week.

• $600.00 assembly budget will be kept. Bryanna noted that she would check with the Cultural Team to discuss monthly assemblies and that some of the money could also be used for the Read Across America assembly that happens every year.

• The Harvest Carnival budget will be raised to $1000.00 and then reassessed next year to determine if that was enough or too much. Prizes need to be upgraded and we will add a “maintenance and repair” budget item of $100.00 to update or purchase new games. The last Harvest Carnival we overspent $205.00 and perhaps we could offset some of the costs with a photo booth or some other way. The bouncy house has been a huge success and it was donated the first year but now is being charged to us.

• The Sunshine Committee is used to purchase gifts for celebrations, congratulations or sympathy items. It was noted that $25.00 is the maximum that can be used for such purchases.

• Mrs. Reynes recently had a baby boy and Amber volunteered to get a gift for her.

• Larry, who recently retired was just diagnosed with lung cancer and Jessica volunteered to get a Buffalo Wild Wings card for him.

• We separated the popcorn from the printing supplies/office supplies budget line. It was noted that we spent approximately $250.00 total on printing costs this year.

• Box Tops and Labels for education will not be done through the school next year. We discussed whether or not we wanted to take that on as a PTO function. Jessica Nevin will check into that and assured us it will continue.

• Yearbooks will now go through the school budget and not PTO budget. It was too complicated with the checks this year. As a side note – the current yearbooks were flawed and sent back to the printer. Lifetouch said it was not their fault and agreed to provide stickers to cover the extra pictures that are in there. Some students are also not with their classes this year. We found out the cause of the mix-up and next year will discuss either using someone other than Lifetouch or creating our own yearbooks. Amber is going to explore all options. Mr. Butler said he would also be looking into other options for next year.

• 5th Grade party money was discussed. PTO budgeted $250.00 for the 5th grade celebration and it turned out that there was $250.00 in an ASB account also. This year Mr. Butler is providing transportation and admission for the 5th grade class to go to Splash. There is an additional $250.00 in the PTO budget. We will need to coordinate with Mr. Butler for future discussion but we all liked the idea of the 5th grade class having more of a routine tradition each year so some classes don’t have extra donations. Not all parents can support the 5th grade party and we don’t want one class to look favored over another each year. We also liked the idea of a “per student” amount so it was easier to budget and kept things more even.

• Insurance went up this year and that is now reflected in the budget.

• Dianna made a motion to approve the budget as discussed in the meeting and Paula made a second motion.

• Goals Wrap-up

• Our goals for the year were better communication and passing the bond measure. The bond measure passed and we did provide better communication through our new Yolanda PTO e-mail, Facebook and an updated Yolanda Elementary website. Will improve on communication next year.

Meeting officially adjourned at 7:20pm