

Attendees – 24 members

Jennifer Young, Kelly Kmieske, Tom Leone, Christine Gilbert, Kim Kratzer, Wendy Brademeyer, David Middlin

Tammy Butler, Anita Bycraft-Walker, Chris Cavanaugh, Lisa Egmon, Hugo Gayosso, Michael Harrell, Tahra Harrell, Lisa Hennemann, Beth Jodon, Melissa Marowell, Keri Middaugh, Gail Morad, Catherine Tabor, Wendy Thibeault, Stephanie Ward, Sarah Wilson, Elizabeth Wynn

Review of Minutes

A request for questions & comments on last month's minutes – none.

Treasurers Report – Tom Leone

PTO earnings, expenditures, budget

New Voting Procedure

We are now going to use a private voting procedure when placing votes during the PTO meetings. This will be done on funding requests and other items.

Dave Middlin set up the new anonymous voting. A means yes and B means no. We did a test run. We voted to see if people would buy popcorn next Friday, or if they knew what it was. We had 10 Yes and 11 No.

Funding Requests – *all will be voted on during the meeting*

1. Beth Jodon is requesting \$1,150 to pre-purchase some gift cards through Scrip and then sell during conferences. These cards would be cash and carry; the PTO would front the money, and then earn it back upon selling the gift cards. For each gift card sold, the PTO earns a percentage of the gift card amount. – **APPROVED (21 yes, 1 no)**

Beth said that most people would do Target for \$25 & \$10. Other ones that were brought up on the survey were Buffalo Wild Wings, Applebee's, etc.

During conferences, we will accept cash or check. The PTO is looking to buy some to "front". If they don't sell, then they do not expire and we can keep them to sell through the year, or PTO members can buy them and use them.

2. Anita Walker is requesting \$500-1,000 to buy decorations, refreshments, prizes, etc. for the Daddy / Daughter Dance which she would like to put on. There would be a charge to get into the dance, so most money would probably be replaced. – **APPROVED (20 yes, 2 no)**

DISCUSSION: Anita said that the cost would be \$35 per couple because we need to get a better photographer (2 years ago, it was \$30 per couple). She decided to only request \$500. The cost should basically be replaced with the cost of tickets. The \$500 is to pay for decorations, a DJ, a photographer and food. The dance will be in the spring – maybe March. This is not a fundraiser event, just a fun time for daughters and their dads. However, she is hoping to recoup the costs with the admission fee.

Updates & New Items

1. Fundraising Team Leader - Stephanie Ward

A popcorn sale is going to be started. The first one is November 16th. The popcorn will be .50/bag; ordered in the morning and distributed in the afternoon at pick up.

DISCUSSION: Is popcorn allowed on the daycare busses? It was mentioned that some kids would not be able to keep themselves from opening the popcorn if it was not allowed. If that is the case, then parents could opt to not buy the popcorn for their kids. Wendy Brademeyer will send out an email to the teachers to explain the popcorn fundraiser and get them in the loop.

2. Scrip Team Leader – Beth Jodon

She will run another opportunity for an order during December.

3. Parent Representative – Kim Kratzer

a. Spirit wear – on it's way

They are in the process of building our website. We are launching it as a "Black Friday" sale. It will go thru the week of conferences; and sales will go thru Christmas. She also suggested that we have a "gift" button so that the item does not get sent to the student if it is a secret. We will be offering t-shirts, polos, sweat pants, sweatshirts (hooded), higher-grade sweatshirts, long-sleeved shirts, fleeces, etc. (Some items will be dress code, others will not.) Other spirit items can be added later, but we are starting with these items.

Wendy B. mentioned that people want long-sleeved house color shirts. Also mentioned...commuter coffee mugs, cinch sacks, water bottles – metal or plastic? Wendy B. prefers plastic due to sound and lids. Plastic wins.

b. Teacher's "favorites" - update.

They have been updated online. This is a list of favorite items, colors, restaurants, etc. filled out by the teachers. Great gift ideas! These can be found at SouthArborPTO.com – MISC – Teachers' Favorites.

4. Green Team – Keri Middaugh

Mrs. Morad gave the update to get the Michigan Green Certificate. The student council was trained, and then, the student council introduced it to the middle school. We are officially doing Terra-Cycling now during lunch. Also, we are doing bottle cap recycling – the halls are going to create murals. There is a contest for them. The Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts are building bat houses for the back area. Girl Scouts are going to put in boxed vegetable gardens.

Visit their blog; there is a link thru the PTO website. SouthArborPTO.com – Teams – Green.

Anyone can join the Green Team. It meets Thursdays after school; and they do many lunch meetings.

Middle schoolers have now gone into the primary hall and taught them how to recycle. The kindergarteners have adopted a dolphin. They did a collection in the primary hall.

Ms. Settle (7th/8 grade science teacher) is going to do a solar cook out.

According the State of Michigan, you have to do 10 things to get the Green status. We have 8 things; we need 2 more. If you have 15 items, you get emerald status. With 20 items, you become an evergreen school and you get honored in Lansing.

Keri spoke:

With the holidays coming up, Keri mentioned that maybe we can bring in reusable cups for class parties instead of paper or juice boxes.

5. Laser Tag Fundraiser – Kelly Kmieske & Kim Kratzer

Students will be partially separated by grade so that kindergarteners will not be in doing laser tag, etc. with the older kids. Date: January 17th. Time: 5:30 – 8:30. Pre-sales will get entered into a raffle for 100 tokens.

Concessions will be there too. We are looking into doing a free water bottle for the students.

Because of all of the fundraisers right now, do we wait to promote it later in the year? We are thinking it would be good to promote throughout the year. People could buy tickets for Christmas gifts.

Lyz Winn asked if there would be a refund if there was a snow day, etc. Kim Kratzer will look into this.

6. Christmas shopping flyer. Scrip cards, spirit items from website; these will be ready for early December conferences.

7. We need interested volunteers to head up a nominating committee for next year's PTO board.

We would like to have a nominating committee for the Board positions.

Open Floor

Liz Wynn asked about the likes of the teachers asking the PTO for things – such as the Scholastic newsletters; instead of asking the parents, the PTO could pay.

Closing

Adjourned at 7:15pm.

Next Meeting

Thursday, December 13, 2012 at 6:00pm