



FREDSTROM ELEMENTARY PTO

5700 NW 10TH STREET LINCOLN, NE 68521

MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 14, 2019 7:00 PM
FREDSTROM ELEMENTARY MEDIA CENTER

President: Erin Rourke
Secretary: Cristi Stewart

Vice President: Kelly Bielenberg
Treasurer: Lisa Siegel

Members Present: Danielle Laughlin, Travis Laughlin, Becky Sallinger, Gwen Bowers, Emily Trotter, Pam Kenaston, Erin Rourke, Kelly Bielenberg, Lisa Siegel, Cristi Stewart

Staff Present: Cheryl Richter, Adam Vinter

Erin Rourke called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

Old Business:

Treasurer's Report: Lisa spoke about the cash receipts and PTO payments since our last meeting in November. She also explained that the Holiday gift shop did sell well, but the reason it had a lower profit was due to the fact that we had to purchase a lot of items this year; next year we will have a larger stock to start off so we will have less to purchase and more profit. Kelly Bielenberg moved to approve the report and Cheryl Richter seconded the motion.

Secretary's Report: The November Minutes were reviewed, Lisa Siegel moved to approve the Minutes and Erin Rourke seconded.

Grant Update: Kelly spoke about which grants have been approved for PTO funding. There was a committee who helped rank the 8 grants submitted and then the Executive board reviewed and approved the committee recommendations. One grant was withdrawn as it was funded thru district technology funds instead and another grant was withdrawn when the PTO requested more information and a more specific cost estimate. Some grants were approved in part instead of funding the full amount requested as was recommended by the grant committee in order to utilize the full 2000 offered without exceeding that total.

5th Grade Book Room- (to purchase 30 new books) - Ms. Amen

K-2 Book Room- (to replenish the supply of books)- Ms. Christensen & Ms. Allemang

Makerspace Technology Coding Activities- Mrs. Sleight

Osmo Explorer Technology Kit- Mrs. Sleight and Mrs. Spaulding

Conversation Q-Ball- (throwable wireless microphone) - Ms. Nabben, Ms. Kotopka, and Ms. Enbree

Golden Sower Book Club- (offered during lunch to some 4th & 5th graders) - Mrs. Sleight

Congratulations to the grant winners!

New Business:

Fun Fair:

Erin started off the conversation by thanking the 2 volunteers who stepped up to fill in as co-chairs to coordinate this year's fun fair event. The group discussed what food vendors we have used in the past, some of the game ideas from previous years, as well as a budget for the event. We also discussed seeking volunteers from local groups to help put-on the event, last year we had the North Star Cheerleaders come run some of the activities and we gave \$100 to their cheerleading team for their help. Also, it would be important to have adults/ parents running the bounce houses to insure every child gets to participate safely. Other activities from past years



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include a photo booth (by Becky Sallinger), a dunk tank (with teachers getting dunked), a silent auction (of baskets possibly put together by each of the grade teams), face painting, a hair dye station, cake walk, egg game (hard boiled or not). A new idea of having a parent, business or team sponsor a game- coming up with a new idea, creating it and supplying the game for the event, then taking it home and storing it to potentially be brought again to future Fun Fairs. The Fun Fair has been scheduled for May 3, with more details to be discussed at the March PTO meeting.

Spring Fundraiser Ideas:

Emily Trotter started off by telling the group she is planning to attend a LPS PTO vendor fair coming up later this month. Erin added that the PTO executive board is comfortable with repeating the spring fundraiser from last year, Believe Kids, which was a successful fundraiser. Important guidelines for future fundraisers: nothing that needs to be refrigerated or frozen as we do not have that kind of storage available and something with the option of "write a check" if they do not want to purchase anything being sold. We also discussed fundraising options like a sports ticket sale, Usborne Cards for a Cause, revamp the Read-a-thon fundraiser, or even doubling up and combining 2 fundraising ideas. The fundraising chairs are tasked with researching some options, clearing the preferred idea with the Executive Board and sharing it with the group at the February meeting. The timing of the fundraiser will be determined at a later date, likely being March or early April.

Book Order for Reading in our schools:

Lisa Siegel spoke about how Scholastic has made some changes as to how this program works now. This is where teachers pick out books and give one to each student, in past years there were many more titles to choose from than there will be this year.

Open Positions:

We now know of 2 open positions on the PTO Executive board for next school year. Lisa, our current Treasurer, has taken a position with LPS and according to our by-laws she cannot hold an Executive position, this position is available now, as a co-chair to be trained and take over next school year. Cristi, our current secretary will be moving out of Fredstrom district, so we will be needing a new Secretary. Please share these openings with other parents so we can help get them filled!

Principal's Report:

Cheryl Richter reported that the teachers are very excited about the grants. She added that testing season has arrived and though it can be somewhat stressful they try to keep it low key. The staff are excited to see the results and growth of the students and to utilize the results to help plan to meet the needs of students going forward.

Staff Report:

Adam Vinter said on behalf the staff thank you for the grant opportunity that the PTO was able to offer this year. He also said that the grants approved would be able to affect the learning of all the students and they will have a big impact on our school. The students and staff are getting back into the swing of things for 2nd semester after spending a few days reviewing expectations after the long winter break. Lastly he said thanks as always for the PLC treats the PTO provides.

Committee Reports:

Staff Appreciation:



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Jasmine asked for Becky and Kelly to pass along some information for her, as she was unable to attend the meeting. PTO will be providing K-cups and fancy cupcakes on the teacher workday in February, in the past we have paid for a Coffee Cart, but that service is no longer available. Also, Parent- Teacher conferences are coming up and we are needing some more volunteers to provide food for the teacher's meal. A link to the sign-up genius will be in the Falcon Flyer. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a4fa9ae29a2f85-spring1>

T-shirts:

Pam Kenaston reminded the group that we had talked about doing another T-shirt sale in the spring. She said she has some new fun tye-dye color t-shirt choices that will be added to the choices that were offered in the fall. She also shared that she planned to set-up a display table with samples on it at the upcoming Parent- Teacher Conferences as well as possibly setting up the display table again for the Science Fair. The timing of this spring T-shirt sale has not been set yet, but possibly beginning in Mid-February.

Meeting was adjourned by Erin Rourke at 7:58 pm.

Approved this 11th day of February, 2019, by:

Erin Rourke, President

Kelly Bielenberg, Vice President

Cristi Stewart, Secretary