



FREDSTROM ELEMENTARY PTO

5700 NW 10TH STREET LINCOLN, NE 68521

MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 8, 2018 7:00 PM
FREDSTROM ELEMENTARY MEDIA CENTER

President: Erin Rourke
Secretary: Cristi Stewart
Principal: Cheryl Richter

Vice President: Kelly Bielenberg
Treasurer: Lisa Siegel

Members Present: Gwen Bowers, Emily Trotter, Karla Bandemer, 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 explained the deposits and payments since our September meeting. Lisa said she has only made the cash/ check deposit for the Walk-a-thon but will be making the deposit from Pledgestar donations soon. We also spent money from Staff Appreciation on meat for Parent/ Teacher conferences dinner for teachers and Mrs Sleight requested money for new books for the media center. Kelly Bielenberg moved to approve the report. Cheryl Richter seconded.

Secretary's Report: The Minutes from the September meeting were read and Cristi explained that the minutes are also shared on the PTO website if you want to review them between meetings. Lisa Siegel motioned to approve the Minutes. Karla Bandemer seconded.

New Business:

Communication Flow Chart: Kelly Bielenberg spoke about a communication flow chart that she is working on It breaks down who committee chairs should contact as needed for the Falcon Flyer, Wednesday Folders, Publicity, etc. She hopes to finalize and share the chart with committee chairs before the November PTO meeting. The goal is have a more outlined process and to streamline our information sharing, to prevent over-emailing and to help both the new board members and new committee chairs have a guide for the work we do together.

Grant Introduction: Kelly Bielenberg shared a powerpoint presentation explaining a proposal the PTO Executive board came up with to offer staff grants using PTO funds. The proposal she shared was:

The PTO will offer \$2000 in grant funding for Fredstrom staff during the fall of the 2018-2019 school year from the Arts are Basic budget line.

- Any staff member at Fredstrom is eligible to apply for grant funding.
- Total dollars requested may range from \$1- \$1000 per grant.
- Grants may be submitted by a single applicant or by a group.

The Arts are Basic funding that is currently built into the PTO budget is to fund an all school field trip for a Lied Center performance but it is only used once every 3 years. In the years we do not have that field trip and we meet our fall fundraising goal, we could offer grant funding opportunities to the Fredstrom staff. There was some discussion about whether the grant funding could be used for staff professional development or if it is only intended for requests that are directly impacting the students at Fredstrom. A committee will be formed to



review and decide which grants will be funded. Karla Bandemer moved to approve the grant proposal and Emily Trotter seconded.

Principal's Report:

Cheryl Richter started by talking about the Walk-a-thon and that she received lots of thank you's from the students. She also said she liked how we passed the prizes out at Parent-Teacher conferences. Mrs. Richter also said that she recruited 10 teachers to help at the Pumpkin Walk this Thursday so all students should see a teacher they know at the event. She then shared that the blockades set up around the parking lot have helped a lot to improve traffic flow and increase general safety in the drop-off/ pick-up routines. Lastly she talked about how the school has been having issues with vandalism on the playground equipment. They have filed a few police reports as directed by LPSDO security director and the police are also doing more patrols in the area. It is really unfortunate that this has been happening, but the kids do report it to the teachers right away if they see something and the custodial staff has been doing a great job getting it cleaned up immediately. Thank you to the custodial staff for your attention and timeliness in helping with this issue.

Staff Report:

Adam Vinter said the teachers really appreciate the conference dinner that PTO provides, it is nice to have a break to eat and regroup between conferences. The teachers say they are always thankful for the meal provided. He also talked about how this is the end of the 1st quarter of school and with the upcoming plan day this Friday teachers have an opportunity to get caught up on report cards and other end of quarter reports.

Committee Reports:

Walk- a- Thon: Karla Bandemer and Emily Trotter said the limo party is scheduled for this Thursday right after school with the limo ride costing \$100 and \$40 for Kona Ice treats. After school the kids will meet up in the media center, before going outside to get their Kona Ice treat and then break into groups for the limo ride through the neighborhood. They have 4 parent volunteers lined up and when kids are not riding in the limo they can work on thank- you notes for the limo and Kona Ice. A note was sent home for students who earned the limo party with an attached permission slip for parents to sign and return to school.

T-Shirts: Pam Kenaston was unable to attend the meeting, but sent a message to Erin Rourke reporting 70 clothing items sold with a profit of \$516; our goal was a profit of \$150. There was also some discussion about whether we wanted to order a few extra shirts to have on hand as possible prizes for future events. The consensus was that since this sale was more successful than we predicted in the budget, we would go ahead and order \$150 worth of shirts in kids sizes. Mrs Richter added that the table at conferences worked well since many parents stopped to look at the shirts.

Membership: Kelly Bielenberg spoke about Membership; she said we have 82 members as of this meeting. She will be working on the all school directory and hopes to have it completed late October or the first week of November. She added that all families have the opportunity to opt out of having their information shared in this directory. For those not wanting their information shared in the directory, they should contact Kelly at VP@fredstrompto.org. Lastly she shared that we will be talking more in the spring about ideas to drum up more PTO members for next year.

Pumpkin Walk: Becky Sallinger was unable to attend the meeting, but contacted Cristi Stewart about a few short announcements. Everything is ready to go for the pumpkin walk but we could use some help at 4:45 to



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unload the pumpkins and water and take them around to the back of the school. Mrs. Richter said the 10 teachers coming to pumpkin walk can help Becky out.

Dine- Out Nights: Lisa Siegel said we just received the payment for our first dine-out night at Raising Cane's. Our next dine-out night is this Thursday 11th, at Carlos O'Kellys from 5-8, dine in or carry-out.

POGO: Erin Rourke spoke about the POGO card presale. There will be a flyer going out in Wednesday Folders on October 24 offering the POGO presale. The PTO will need to sell a minimum of 20 cards, as that is the bundle size available for us to order. If we do not get enough orders than we will not buy any POGO cards. It is offered as a first come first serve sale and Lisa added from past years experience, it could take a couple weeks to get 20 presale orders. Additionally, the PTO will offer the app version of the POGO card; no minimums sales apply to the app version. Mrs Richter said in past years some people order them as stocking stuffer gifts as well.

Meeting was adjourned by Erin Rourke at 8:05 pm.

Approved this 12th day of November, 2018, by:

Erin Rourke, President

Kelly Bielenberg, Vice President

Cristi Stewart, Secretary