Southern Bluffs PTO Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2018

**Meeting called to order** by Heather Harpenau at 6:33 p.m.

**Attendees:** Heather Harpenau, Lisa Schreiner, Kristin Damstra, Walt Smanski, Kathy Hasburgh, Stephanie Umberger, Kari Ellison, Tracey Smale, Jill Wurm,

**Secretary’s Report –**The September minutes had been e-mailed to those present at that meeting. Kristin will follow up with Stacey Blegen to have the PTO minutes posted on the website. Read and approved. 1st Walt Smanski=. 2nd Jill Wurm. Motion carried unanimously.

**Welcome and Introductions:** Heather Harpenau

**Treasurer’s Report** **– Walt Smanski:** The beginning balance was $3359.96, Monthly expenses were stamps, Cool Cat’s pizza night supplies, Sign Pro and DigiCopy. The current balance is $1847.57. Last year we allocated $13 per student for field trips. We ended up paying out of pocket last year. To prevent this, we will allocate $14 per student for 332 students, a total of $4648. IRS 990 Form will be filed prior to November. Walt will check into the state filing of the WDFI report. Holiday fair is the PTO’s biggest fundraiser. We netted approximately $9700 last year. Last year’s biggest expenses were donuts, coffee, and Santa. Walt will take care of maintaining the raffle license for the Holiday Fair. In the past, PTO funds have paid for teacher requests, the track, specialized chairs, materials etc. Read and Approved. Motion 1st Kathy Hasburgh 2nd Kari Ellison. Motion carried unanimously

**Principal’s Report – Lisa Schreiner:** Wednesday is International Walk to School Day, prepare for weather. 5th graders will take Gallup survey this month. It covers student engagement, well-being, and how connected they feel. First Early Release Day is next month. Cool Cats kick off is tomorrow. Roger Weeks is taking over Cool Cats. Valentine’s Dance Date: Friday February 15th Lisa is out of the district that day but will be back for the dance. Lisa would like to further discuss the parent teacher reps so she can discuss this with teaching staff.

**Old business**

**Volunteer Needs:** Sign-up Genius updates: October 15th’s soup and salad meal is almost full. Oct. 18th’s taco meal needs additional help. Book Fair needs help for set-up, someone during the day. Picture Retake volunteers are full for Wednesday. Vision Screening November 2nd needs multiple volunteers. Dental Sealants on November 15 & 16th needs volunteers.

**Current Fundraising:** Skate Night at High Rollers. Heather is working on dates (possibly Nov. 2nd & Mar. 22), 4-8pm. Next Dairy Queen Night is October 18th. Give out a flyer at conferences and post at school. Hours are 5-8pm. Box Tops are needed, a flyer went home with students.

**Additional Fundraising Opportunities Discussed**: Topper’s Pizza Night: 25% return. Wednesdays 4-8pm, Topper’s Flyer needs to be taken in when ordering. Thrift Store Root and Crown: Portion of co-signment proceeds go to Southern Bluffs. One-time $75 fee for non-profit to be available for proceeds. Investigate the cost vs. return possibilities. Kwik Trip runs a program similar to Pizza Hut’s Book-it Program. If the student meets their reading goal, they receive a free piece of pizza. Kwik Trip Scrip: Payment options are to be billed in 30 days or pre-order. Per Kari Ellison, if you order before November, there is a higher percentage return.

**Holiday Fair**- First wave of Holiday Fair letters went out: Idea to make a spreadsheet available on Google Docs so people can update and add additional contacts. Holiday ornaments for Ms. Scheuerell – paper mache was the favorite last year. Stephanie will connect with Ms. Scheuerell to ask what type and how many ornaments she prefers. Lisa is sometimes provided with a purse for the principal’s purse, or she will use her Santa purse.

**Parent Classroom Representatives:** Lisa took the idea to her business leadership team, and there wasn’t interest at that level. She is willing to take it to the teachers at the next staff meeting. Jill Wurm: Asking teachers first if they would be interested in having a parent rep for each grade. It would be a resource and a way to communicate with other parents and alleviate the teacher’s load. Parent representative’s roll was discussed. Using a rep as a resource for parents within the classroom. Parent rep is a person that can help support parents with parenting questions and connect families with like interests. They can be a resource for families that might not have a good support system.

**Family Fun Night:** Further discussion of what Family Fun NIght or Movie Night might look like. All grades together. Connecting families with like interests. There was discussion of bringing in the Parenting Place, who could present on different parenting topics. Lisa wanted to clarify what the intended goal was of Family Fun Night, either building community or providing a parenting resource. She encouraged the PTO to purposefully plan. It was decided to move forward to planning a Family Fun Night to help build community and connect families. October is a good month because the younger kids are now acquainted with each other. Keep it simple, offer ice cream, parental discussion, fun activities. Maintain structure. Discussed having identifying stickers for the parents to easily identify classmates’ parents, interests, PTO members etc. Jill Wurm to organize. Will give PTO 2 weeks notice. She will see what is available for the gymnasium. Put up PTO information for Family Night. Use Script to buy Kwik Trip Ice Cream. Rootbeer Floats.

**New Business**

La Crosse Central HS has a 4-year program called AVID. AVID students need community service hours. Maybe they can provide childcare during PTO meetings. Other opportunities for them include: gift wrapping and personal shoppers for Holiday Fair.

Thank you letters from Lisa and the teachers for the t-shirts.

Facebook Page – Need to appoint Lisa or Stacey Blegen as an Administrator and give her the password.

**Meeting Adjourned** at 7:47p.m.

Next meeting is November 19th at 6:30pm Respectfully Submitted By: Kristin Damstra