

Southern Bluff's PTO Meeting
April 19, 2021
Meeting Started at 6:30pm

Attendees: Heather Harpenau, Walt Smanski, Kristin Damstra, Kathy Hasburgh, Lisa Schreiner, Michael Wagner, Stephanie Umberger, Alex Powell

Approval of February Minutes: The March minutes were emailed to those present at the meeting and are posted to the website.

Motion to approve Secretary's minutes: 1st Walt Smanski - 2nd Stephanie Umberger

Treasurer's Report: There were no transactions this month and balances are the same. Our total balance is \$8675.48 with an available balance of \$5450.29. We received an email from Amy that asked about field trip money from years past. If the PTO does not use the funds allocated for field trips within that year, the funds get reallocated back to the general fund. Amy was asking for \$200 per grade and Walt will send a follow-up email after he discusses it with her. The school used a lot of the money we set aside for snacks during the WI forward testing. The school would like to reallocate the money that is in the class accounts. We need to give an okay for book keeping purposes. The email and reallocation refers to the 2021-2022 school year. The PTO usually gives a certain dollar amount per child. The school then makes it grade level specific. Walt will send an email and recommendation to the officers to get the approval.

Motion to approve Treasurer's report: 1st-Kathy Hasburgh, 2nd-Kristin Damstra

Principal's Report: We started state testing today with the WI Forward exam. The 3rd and 5th grade will be done this week. The 4th grade testing goes 2 weeks. The kids get a snack and a piece of gum after their exam. The testing will be done on the I-pads in their classrooms this year. May 7th is the next early release day. We have connected with LifeTouch and signed a contract for pictures next year assuming everything will be back to how it was. We are looking at an August 25th open house with picture day from 1pm-7pm, Oct 6th will be retakes and January 12th will be class picture day. The district has a contract with Lifetouch through the next school year and then after that we can explore other companies. The choice charter and intra-district transfers are occurring right now. You have until April 30th to make changes. With the attendance policy, a student can miss up to 10 days for sickness, appointments, and vacation. Parents/Care givers need to call if the student is going to be absent. If you have a doctor's note, it does not go against those 10 days. If you take a vacation, there is a pre-excused form that should be filled out prior. The school meets every other week and reaches out if a child has missed more than 5 days and 8 days (phone call meeting with Mrs. Schreiner, Lueck , etc.). This keeps communication flowing if certain needs need to be met. Technically after 10 days, it is not excusable and the school will send a letter. Don't be surprised if you get a letter if your child has been on vacation. That is just the process that we follow and we follow it with everybody.

Old Business:

Casey's cookbook request: Is there any update? She is charging ahead and creating it. She is doing the project. Her grant was submitted to the Public Education Foundation. She does not know what the Plan B or C is if she does not get the funding.

Fundraising Letter: Heather sent out the one she has used in the past and did not receive any more input. She will send it out again tonight. If it is going to go home with students, we don't have much time to do that. Lets keep moving on it. Walt is there any update on the Venmo? He reached out to the Logan vice principal. Venmo does not allow non-profits. Walt is still working on it. The costs for a business would be similar to credit card costs. Walt is researching it. We would want to know what the costs are up front to know what we are getting into.

New Business:

Teacher Appreciation Week: In the past, we have done something nice for the teachers: treats, desserts, meals, chair massages , etc. Because of this year, we can't have anyone come in the school. Mrs. Umberger, as a teacher, what are some things you would like to see? Mrs. Powell do you have any ideas as well? Typically, we would take one day and the PTO and Mrs. Schreiner would take coffee and donuts around to all the classes. It is a chance for the kids to see the teachers' being appreciated. Would you be open to that without PTO assistance? Could you pass out individually wrapped muffins, bananas, cuties, and juice cups? Mrs. Schreiner is open to doing it herself. We discussed last year's teacher appreciation week. We might have given the teachers a Kwik Trip gift card and a piece of candy. Mr. D's donuts are sold at Moka and are the best donuts. For the bus driver's we could do a cocoa pack, and candy. We generally start the school year with \$4000 so currently, we have \$1400 to work with. We could do specialized masks? The gift cards are always nice no matter where you pick. We discussed unique gifts such as something with the teacher's name on it. The appreciation does not need to cost money. Signs in the school yard or parent's waving or something by the highway. If there was a group of parents standing by the parking lot when our teacher's arrive at 7:20am - 7:30am, it would be appreciated. The public recognition is great. Aquinas had big block letters with people waving. It would be neat before or after school. Heather will look into getting a sign for the highway. May 3rd would be the beginning of that week. We just need to make some decisions.

Kathy will need a replacement for Vice President, because her son is going to middle school. If someone is looking for a volunteer opportunity the Vice President job is open.

Next Meeting May 17th, 2021 at 6:30pm

Motion to adjourn at 7:08pm

1st Walt Smanski , 2nd Kathy Hasburgh