

Prairie Heights PTO Minutes September 25, 2017

***Attendance:** Jamie Fetters, Alicsa Mayer, Jennifer Rose, Dené Kaster, Krista Wilson, Jean Johnson, Kacie Evans, Valerie Gehrler, Lorie Underwood, Sarah Nichols

***Welcome and Reports:**

- ~ Meeting was called to order by President Jennifer Rose at 7:34pm.
- ~ Minutes were given by Secretary Sarah Nichols and were approved as read.
- ~ Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer Alicsa Mayer and were approved as read.

***Principal's Report:** Principal Valerie Gehrler gave Principal's Report stating K-6 now have Chrome Books with Google. New concrete for playground and sidewalk to playground has been completed, as well as tetherball court concrete. There should be additional concrete pads added soon which will double the size of playground area. It was mentioned by Principal Gehrler that she would like to see some fresh paint for areas like 4 square and basketball court. PTO also discussed at this time the idea of PHPTO providing funds to redo basketball court, which is in need of new goals, etc. Sand is also needed for sandbox. Principal Gehrler also stated that all of the bushes causing problems in front of the school will be removed soon and asked for replacement ideas including just grass, new bushes, and also a "Stone Project" which would consist of each student painting their own stone to be placed along school. No idea has been finalized.

***Old Business:**

- ~ Cookies were provided by PHPTO for the 2017-2018 school year Open House in August and were enjoyed by all.
- ~ Art classes/teacher provided by PHPTO that was approved during the last meeting are up and running and seem to be working out well. Valerie Gehrler agreed to send out a notification to parents and surrounding communities about the new teachers along with photos so parents/patrons could more easily identify these great additions to our school.

***New Business:**

- ~ In years past, PHPTO has provided Twister t-shirts to kindergarteners and new students, but Jennifer Rose was approached about a fantastic t-shirt deal between the Prairie Heights school and Council Grove schools which gives back to the PHPTO \$5 per shirt ordered. It was decided to try this t-shirt deal out this year to help fund PHPTO and thus, PHPTO will not be providing t-shirts to kindergarteners and new students this year, but parents and patrons are encouraged to order shirts if they would like to help fund PHPTO and the fantastic programs and benefits we provide for our school. T-shirt orders are due by 9/29/17 with pick up date tentatively on 10/10/17.
- ~ It was decided that Prairie Heights PTO would be doing Butter Braids sales again this fall. The sell dates will be October 16th through the 27th and a pickup will be on the 9th of November, with hopes that if anyone forgot to pick up the order on the 9th, they would be able to pick it up after the Veterans Day program on the 10th. This will hopefully eliminate the few people that forget/fail to pick up ordered items.

- ~ Concession Stand dates received for PHPTO fundraising are as follows:

- JH Basketball VS Osage City November 28 @ 4:30p
 - JH Basketball VS Mission Valley December 18 @ 4:30p
- Volunteers are needed for this fundraiser to be successful.

~ It was discussed about whether or not PHPTO would organize the fall / Halloween party games this year instead of room parents. It was decided this idea would be tried this year with perhaps a haunted house next year instead of/ in addition to games. Parents that have already signed up to provide class games will be contacted for support and help with this and Jennifer rose encouraged anyone with game ideas to contact her. One of the main ideas presented was a photo booth for the kids to take pictures in their costumes and be able to keep pictures for memories.

~ Teacher requests were reviewed by PHPTO and all were approved. Alisca Mayer requested that along with written teacher request she would also like to receive reimbursement request to keep her bookkeeping in order and to get teachers promptly reimbursed for their requests. Petty cash will again be available through Cheryl in the office for teacher's use & will be checked on and replenished if needed for the 2017-18 year. This cash is to be used by teachers for small teaching supplies that they need in a hurry without having to use the request forms. Valerie Gehrler also stated that she would be sending an email out to the teachers explaining the teacher request/reimbursement process. Jennifer Rose reminded all that PHPTO always provides up to \$10 per student, after students pay the minimum \$2 fee, for all educational field trips. Teacher Requests thus far are as follows, with ALL being approved to be paid by PHPTO:

- AR Parties for the school year including the end of year party which will be skating and putt putt 4 all students meeting their reading goals. The requested amount included transportation, but will not necessarily be used if the enhancement fund covers transportation amount.
- KC Wolf Presentation for 2018-2019 school year which was decided to have every 3 years.
- Thanksgiving celebration costs which includes Immigrant Day, Pioneer Day and Native American Day, along with a school wide Thanksgiving feast shared together.
- Drinks for CG Homecoming Parade day.
- 2 requests to restock prize/incentive boxes in teacher's rooms.
- Donations to Trail Days Cafe, Kaw Mission and AG Heritage Park for student field trips.
- End of year Kindergarten Photo CD keepsake
- Mother's Day tea for Kindergarten
- Kindergarten round up supplies
- ALL field trip requests

***Adjournment:**

Sarah Nichols motioned to adjourn meeting at 7:50pm. Jamie Fetters seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Next PTO meeting to be held on October 23, 2017 at 6:30pm