

PTO Minutes

3/28/16

Purpose - to promote open communication and understanding between the parents and the staff of Castlewood Elementary School. Working together will enhance and maximize the education of every child while aiding them in reaching their highest potential.

In attendance: Carrie Boyd, Heidi Schooley, Julie Bartels, Angie Larson, Kim Boswell, Brandy Tesch, Julie Kirwan, Becky Goens, Rochelle Rudebusch, Heather Eide

Minutes taken by: Brandy Tesch

Agenda -

1. Finances and office
 - a. Balance of existing account - \$4,017.22
2. Updates since last meeting –
 - a. School Improvement Committee – The work is mostly done. We will meet one more time on April 26th at 5:00.
 1. Maximizing the number of people who attend math night – 100 signed up this year – pizza - \$250 paid by Thrivent – roughly \$200 left to pay – Parent involvement Title \$ funds the rest
 2. Test result info to parents – Back to School Open House
 3. Encouraging Summer Reading – Ideas
 - a. An idea to get kids reading during the summer: If you read so many minutes during the summer you get a pizza party
 - b. Barnes & Noble Free book – grades 1 – 6
 - c. Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge – teachers can set up classes and track students – May 9th – September 9th
 - d. SDSU has an online summer reading program – Heather did some checking on the cost of this. The 4 year old program is \$209, K – 5th grade is \$229. The program runs for 6 to 8 weeks.
 - e. Book Clubs - Heather will talk with Deb and the teachers about the possibility of hosting a book club during the summer
 - b. Parent Involvement Policy – We have drafted all updates to the plan and compact. We will meet on Monday, April 18th at 4:30 to approve the final documents.
 - c. Family Math Night
 - i. Thursday, March 31st starting at 6:00
 1. Pizza will be served
 2. Parents have volunteered to bring bars...
 - a. Becky Goens

- b. Rochelle Rudebusch
 - c. Julie Kirwan
 - d. David Wernke
 - e. Brandy Tesch
 - f. Heidi Schooley
 - g. Angie Larson
 - h. Carrie Boyd
 - i. We will also get left over bars from the 1st & 2nd grade Fairytale Ball
 - 3. PTO is providing water, plates, and napkins
 - 4. Will have 8 stations and we have 8 staff volunteers. 1 NHS student has volunteered. It would be nice to have 2 people at each station. I will try to find more paras or high school helpers.
- d. Oral Interp –
 - i. Scheduled for Friday, April 29th beginning at 8:20 am
 - ii. Parents are invited to attend – I will put a tentative schedule in the April newsletter
 - iii. Winners will be announced at the awards ceremony which is yet to be scheduled
- 3. New Discussion topics –
 - a. End of the year family event
 - i. Thursday, May 19th
 - ii. End of Year Ice Cream Social & Sidewalk Chalk Festival
 - iii. PTO as a whole preferred this idea
 - iv. Ice cream preferred over bars due to the need to keep them chilled
 - v. 6:30 start time preferred so event will be 6:30 – 7:30
 - vi. Each family will get sidewalk chalk and decorate a square around the building.
 - vii. We also discussed having different types of games up at the track...large Twister game, Ladder ball, bean bag, whiffle ball, etc.
- 4. Idea brought up by a PTO parent –
 - 1. PTO organize gifting for teachers
 - a. Another school's PTO sends a letter to the parents to collect money to buy a VISA card gift for the teacher for Christmas
 - b. Other schools have collected \$5.00 at the beginning of the year from each parent for the same thing like Christmas, Teacher Appreciation Week, etc.
 - a. This would be voluntary.
 - c. Preference is for parents to discuss and decide how they would like to handle this
 - 2. Heather will send out a survey monkey to gather input from parents and bring to the next meeting

3. Traci was going to try to get a copy of the letter the other school sends out to their families

Next meeting will be held Monday, April 18th at 5:30 pm