

# **PTO MEETING MINUTES**

## **Monday, November 5, 2018**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The November 2018 meeting was called to order by M. Shaver at 6:33p.m.

### **Attendance:**

Janelle Hurt, Jessica Yisa, Nicole Kingsbury, Laura Hill, Chris Droste, Julee Dillon, Misty Shaver, Stephen Sevener, Maria Markey, Katie Hintz, Ashley Nowak, Amanda VanTol, Nicole Green, Chelsie Maxwell, and Matt Kingsbury.

### **Secretary's Report:**

- Reviewed the Monday, September 17<sup>th</sup> PTO meeting. K. Hintz motioned to approve the minutes and A. Nowak seconded.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- We bought 15 Chromebooks for the Kindergarten Chromecart. Monies will be set aside during future fundraisers for additional Chromebook purchases to complete the Chromecart for Kindergarten.
- \$3,000.00 has been set aside for the benches that are going to be placed in the outdoor classroom space.
- J. Dillon approved the secretary's report, M. Markey seconded.

### **Principal's Report:**

- A new approach will be taken during the Spring parent-teacher conferences. Face to face conferences will not be necessary in all situations with an emphasis being placed on meetings with parents of students that are struggling academically or social-emotionally. Minimally, a parent might receive a phone call from their child's classroom teacher to confirm a face to face conference is necessary or answer questions regarding their child's progress.
- We have STEAM right now, so we will not have a seasonal music program in December. A STEAM / Music transition will happen in January. A music program will be planned for the Spring.
- Holiday parties are scheduled for Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. Friday, December 21<sup>st</sup> is the last day of school before break and classroom teachers will have instructional activities planned.
- Winter break is a lot shorter this year; beginning Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup> through Wednesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Rokooj.com is a new fundraiser we are trying. It is brand new fundraiser of its type. All of the BCPS elementary schools are participating. The products are not yet available in brick and mortar stores. It is a kind of field test for entrepreneurs to try out their products before they are available in retail. We receive 10% back on the sales. You simply go online, enter in the code (AE10) at checkout. Your order is sent to your house, and Auburn Elementary receives a monthly check for sales. There is a shipping fee.

- A realignment of Special Areas took place this year. Our Specials schedule has more flexibility and we were able to work in time for Special Area staff to do some extra things with students before the start of school Monday through Friday. Brandy Gatza, our Physical Education Teacher, is running a yoga program. Mrs. Simon is implementing student council and technology related topics, like robotics with Mrs. Booms. All three special teachers are contributing this.
- Student council voted in students who were interested in participating based on the essays they wrote. Interested students wrote about how they plan to contribute to the school. Fifth graders are the only participating class this year, and are currently planning some community service activities soon.

### **Coordinators' Report:**

- The Fall fundraiser is still being wrapped up. We are still working to see how our revenue funds the teacher's classroom accounts. Early estimates show there isn't enough money to fully fund the teacher accounts at \$500.00 each teacher. If we don't find another funding source for (accelerated reader) AR, this might be the last year that we run AR. It's anticipated that AR costs will increase to \$2,500.00 for the 19-20 school year based on yearly increases over the past three years. The big increase for AR came when district initiatives, like NWEA, were prioritized and expenses, like AR, were pushed back onto buildings interested in participating in AR. Schools became responsible for covering the host fee. We are one of the last few schools that still currently provides the program in the district and one of about five schools in the area still participating. We are operating with the minimum number of students required; which covers 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Some events that are coming up:
  - Craft vendors fundraiser "Holiday Shopping" Friday, 12/7/18.
  - Family bowling will be from 6:00-8:00p.m. on Friday, January 25<sup>th</sup>. There will be 15 lanes available, pizza and soda.
  - The pool party is scheduled for Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at the Midland Community Center. We are being charged a \$200.00 rental fee this year.
  - A cookie and popcorn fundraiser is currently planned for March; just before Spring Break with Easter being our target for the fundraiser. Savory Sweets is the vendor. Everything is made fresh and delivered to order.
  - The date of the Color Run will be Saturday, 4/27/19. We will discuss participation with Mackensen and McAlear-Sawden Elementary schools. Amanda and Ashley are meeting with the PTO board on November 12<sup>th</sup> to discuss the details of the Color Run.
  - We are looking at doing a Family Movie Night at State Theater on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Ashley pointed out that the theatre let us bring in "Elf" the last time we had an event there. We will check to see if we can bring in our own DVD again.

### **Old Business:**

- The cement has been poured for the outdoor classroom. Sometime in February/March we will purchase the benches. They will be installed by the District Maintenance Department.
- We discussed inspiration rocks being placed around the perimeter of the pergola cement area with 5<sup>th</sup> grade students leaving an inspirational /message for future classes on their own personal rocks.
- Artisan's Landscaping will be placing trees along the walkway to the playground to provide a buffer between the walkway and the Outdoor Classroom space. We need to brainstorm ways to separate the outdoor classroom from the playground area (swings). We discussed some sort of natural landscaping or mesh to insert in the chain-link to obstruct the view.

**New Business:**

- Future fundraising will be directed toward finishing off the Kindergarten Chromebook cart and a set of five Chromebooks per classroom. Our next focus will be another play structure on the playground. Mr. Sevener pointed out that we need to incorporate a maintenance plan into any future purchases made; the current Chromebooks, outdoor classroom, play structures, etc. as the district will no longer maintain or repair building level initiatives. We spent about \$2,500 last year on repairing Chromebooks. Safely, we should set aside \$3,000 annually to repair or replace building level technology.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made to adjourn by K. Hintz and seconded by A. Nowak at 7:10 p.m.