

Staton Elementary PTO Board Meeting Minutes

PTO Monthly Meeting – September 12, 2014 (Classroom 51)

Meeting called to order at 8:08 am by Cristina Tharin

Members and attendees present:

Cristina Tharin, President
Lisa Kurtz, Vice President / Fall Festival
Heidi Pope, Treasurer
Caryn Adelhoch, Secretary
Carolyn Waters, Parliamentarian / Garage Sale
Joan Lombard, Principal
Trey Layton, Assistant Principal
Jen Jost, Pioneer Nights
Amanda Vaughn, Pioneer Nights
Laurie Saposhnik, Pledge Drive
Jolene DiMaria, Hospitality
Kim Bender, Barnes N Noble Night
Blanca Murphy, Box Tops/Fall Festival
Kristina Havill, BooHoo/Yahoo Breakfast
Piper Sexton, Spring Event
Rikki Holpuch, Muffins for Moms
Fawn Dowd, Donuts for Dads
Colleen Hartung, Picnic in the Park
Caryne Shea, Yearbook / HOPE
Erica Reynolds, HOPE
Tina Ferrario, Be Kind Program
Shannan Ohlson, Educational Programs
Mary Sue Peterson, Teacher
Melanie Facer, Parent
Kimberly Longley, Parent
Lisa Cheplak, Parent
Kellie Edwards, Parent
Yari Kartzmark, Parent

Business

- **Vote to approve Meeting Minutes from August 15, 2014 PTO planning**
Caryn Adelhoch motioned to approve the minutes, second by Shannan Ohlson, all members present approved the motion, motion carried.
- **PTO Membership** is off to a great start, but we are currently below membership forecast by 55 families. The PTO will continue to promote membership through Fall Festival and offer raffle prizes as incentive.

- The **BooHoo / Yahoo Breakfast** was a huge success as well as the **Welcome Back Teacher Lunch** provided by the PTO.
- The **PTO Bylaws** have been amended to make several needed changes to reflect how the PTO is currently operating. Changes were passed around the room, and a vote was held to approve the changes. Carolyn Waters motioned to approve the changes, second by Caryn Adelhoch, all members present approved the motion, motion carried.
 - The revised bylaws will be released to all PTO members via e-mail next week, and a vote for final approval will take place during the next meeting.
- **Heidi Pope - Treasurer's discussion-**
 - Membership is underbudget.
 - One donation has already been received for Pledge for Pioneers.
 - BooHoo/Yahoo Breakfast expense was under budget.
 - Welcome Back Lunch expense was also under budget.
 - eScrip deposits have begun. Continue to promote Vons Club Card usage.
 - 100 Thanks check requests are coming in from teachers & specialists.
 - \$8,600 Cash balance in PTO account as of 9/11/14.
 - A few changes were made to the proposed budget for the 2014-2015 school year. Carolyn Waters motioned to approve the budget changes, second by Tina Ferrario, all members present approved the motion, motion carried.
 - Minimum cash reserve needs to increase to \$8,000 to meet minimum balance requirements of Wells Fargo and to cover beginning of year expenses. Cristina Tharin motioned to approve the increase in the PTO cash reserve, second by Lisa Kurtz, all members present approved the motion, motion carried.
- **Picnic in the Park** will be held next Friday from 5 - 8pm at TreeTop Park. Volunteers are needed. Signup sheet was passed. Candy and water will be sold for cash only. BeKind t-shirts will be sold, and PTO membership forms will be accepted with payment.
- **Fall Festival** planning is underway. There will be a carnival theme. Volunteers are needed. ROTC has offered 30 kids, and Palo Verde has offered 25 kids to help during the event.
- **Fundraising** - Box Tops will be collected twice during the year with a class party for the most Box Tops collected.
- **Pioneer Nights** - Mac Shack Night had a great turnout. Total donation amount to be released soon. Next month's Pioneer Night will be Papa John's.
- **Raffle** will be held during Fall Festival with prizes of \$500, \$1,000, and \$5,000 for third, second and first place winners, respectively. Ticket sales to begin soon.
- **The Be Kind Program** will not be handled as a PTO fundraiser, rather as program to support the school and its students. Shirts have been ordered and will be available for purchase at Picnic in the Park. The toiletry drive on Open House Night was a huge success. A donation of 150 lbs of toiletries came from SLS. Tina requested that SLS be "liked" and recognized on the PTO Facebook page as a show of thanks and support.

In addition, Tina discussed a charity that she learned about called Project 150, a non-profit group that helps homeless high school students in Clark County by providing food, clothing, school supplies and other support. Tina would like to consider this charity to be incorporated into the Be Kind Program at Staton.

The Be Kind Program will also be sponsoring a coat drive at the Fall Festival.

Kindness week will be held on the week on October 6th.

- **Educational Programs** - Shannan Ohlson discussed the Parent Tutoring Program and would like to determine whether or not this is a program that the teachers would like to continue. The program was not successful last year due to a lack of communication. Dr. Lombard agreed to discuss these issues with the teachers to determine what can be done by the PTO to better support a tutoring program.
- All new school and PTO volunteers need take the Staton Volunteer Orientation.
- Caryne Shea and Erica Reynolds presented the new non-profit organization called H.O.P.E. (Honoring Our Public Education) that began as a result of the zoning issues during the last school year. HOPE is a parent advocacy group formed by parents within the Clark County School District to better the quality of education in Clark County and the State of Nevada. An informational meeting will be held at 12pm on 9/18/14 at the Switch building. Details provided on the website.

Meeting adjourned at 8:51am