

Trojans Unite PTO Meeting

September 6, 2018 6:30PM

Attendees: Carrie Steele, Katie Boatright, Ashley Bowers, Sarah Stiemsma, Annie Messer, Ravikishore Velamuri, Ramya Bharathi Velamuri, Maggie Pauls, Kristin Miller, Hiedi Lane, Jessica Porter, Samantha Adam, Mrs. Jones and Mr. Eeling

Agenda

Katie brought the meeting to order at 6:36pm and we started the meeting with introductions.

❖ Approval of August Minutes

- August minutes were read and approved

❖ Treasurer Report/Approval of budget

- Sarah reported the PTO currently has \$20,316.68 in the account.
- “Say Yes to Recess” account balance is \$7,862.78, which does not reflect the purchase of Washington swings.
- Sarah presented the proposed budget for this year and it was approved

❖ Brain Pop Jr /Learning A-Z

- It was discussed that teachers at both schools find both programs beneficial. When we purchase a license it can be used between both schools and we would not have to buy one license for each school. It was approved to purchase both Brain Pop Jr and Learning A-Z for the Elementary Schools.

❖ Bathroom Signs

- Ashley reported she and Sara Sheetz are working on the vinyl and will attempt to install them Sunday at Pence. They will send out a note if they need help with a time.

❖ Fall Fundraiser

- Washington’s Fall Fundraiser will be held September 25th-October 10th
 - Carrie Steele reported they will be selling cookie dough/cheesecakes through Iowa Fundraising. This company allows for 50% profit from the sales.
 - Jessica asked if people are allowed to give monetary donations again this year. Carrie reported that yes, monetary donations are always welcome. Families are not required to participate and patrons are always welcome to donate money if they are not interested in selling or buying the product.

❖ Open House re-cap

- It was reported that both schools had a lot of congestion in the entryways. This made it difficult to get in and out of the schools. It was thought that some of the congestion revolved around the information booths set up at the doorways. Ashley asked if it would be possible to move the information booths to the gym. The group thought this would be a great idea and would allow us to provide snacks during the Open House.
- Mrs. Jones reported they were having issues with the computer system which made it more difficult to guide kids to their rooms.

❖ **Color Run September 15, 2018 3:00 at Jefferson County Health Center**

- Ashley reported that we had about 100 people signed up
- Agri-Plastics will donate sunglasses
- Katie reported Farm Bureau was not able to donate bandanas, but they will be sponsored by Edward Jones.
- Pilot Grove Bank will be sponsoring a bouncy house for the event and Sara has lined this up.
- Ashley checked with the hospital and the train is not available for the event.
- Ashley reported that Everybody's will donate bananas
- Katie will line up a golf cart to use, and will get stop signs and cones from Pence
- Katie has contacted retired Fairfield employees and current staff to toss the chalk at the run.
- Sarah requested approval to purchase folding tables for the PTO for this event and to have on hand for other events. This was approved and Kristin will be going to Des Moines next week and can purchase them.

❖ **Spirit Wear**

- Ashley did not have an update at this time, but will talk to Sara and provide update at the next meeting.

❖ **Confirm dates and times for meetings:**

- Meetings will be held the 1st Monday of each month 6:30-8:00pm at the ACT building.

❖ **Miscellaneous:**

- Fairfield Kiwanis Kids' Day
 - The parent teacher group agreed to run games on the square from 10:30-1:00. This is in partnership with the Color Run. Katie will send out a sign up requesting volunteers.

❖ **Committee's updates**

- Playground
 - Rotary Money- Ashley Manning sent an email and it reports that we will receive another \$6,100.00 from the Rotary Club in addition to the \$3,000.00 we have already received. We will also be receiving \$2,500.00 from the matching grant bringing the total donation amount from the Rotary Club to \$11,600.
 - Ashley also wanted to pass along the there is also a Greater Jefferson County Foundation Grant that is due by June 1st. This will be passed along to the Grants Committee.
- Teacher Appreciation
 - Kristin reported they provided meals to the teachers before school started. In addition they bought several gift cards and Mrs. Jones will find a fun way for teachers to win them.
 - Kristin said the Committee is considering doing something with the teacher's lounges for Teacher Appreciation Week. She will report more once they gather details and a budget for this type of project.
- Box Tops
 - Sarah stated she spoke to Sabrina and the 1st challenge of the year will be sent out soon.
- Classroom Parents
 - Katie has classroom parents set up for each class.
- Carnival- Saturday March 2, 2019 1:00-4:00pm at the Middle School
 - Nothing to report at this time

- Fun Nights
 - Ashley will get ahold of the people that signed up for this committee and let them know they can begin planning.
- Fundraiser
 - Carrie reported that the fundraising committee decided that they will not be having an “opt out” fundraising option this year. The committee felt there are a lot of other monetary donations being asked for in the district right now. In addition, further discussion needs to be had on how to keep track of “opt out” participants so fundraising activities are not sent home to families that chose to “opt out”.
 - The committee is still working on the final plans for Pence Fundraiser
 - Kristin reported on the Chili Cook-off
 - Saturday November 3 @ 6:00pm at the Cider House 1949 Pleasant Plain Road.
 - \$100 entry fee per team
 - There will be a live auction
 - Cost of \$10.00 per person to attend
- Grants- No update at this time
- Holiday Shoppe
 - PTO has spent about \$800.00 on items for this year’s holiday shop.
 - The committee will meet to determine the next steps with this event and will have an update for us at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00pm

Next Meeting: Monday, October 1 at 6:30 @ ACT Building