

Harelson PTO
PTO minutes
April 1, 2019. 6:30pm
Location: Harelson Staff Lounge

Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by PTO President, Mandy Quelland.

Attendees: Mandy Quelland, Molly DeCastro, Megan George, Krista McEuen, Lizabeth Loehr, Leah Noreng, Nina Hipps, Kelly Payne, Megan Cook

Staff: Jason Weaver, Pam Lettera

Introductions

Members of the board, staff and all attendees introduced themselves and staff and parents also introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes: Secretary, Lizabeth Loehr, presented minutes from the January 28, 2019 meeting. PTO meeting. Krista McEuen made the motion to approve minutes. Mandy Quelland seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report:

The treasurer's report was presented by Krista McEuen. We are almost at 20,000 in Direct Giving. We made \$500 more than expected on the Boys event. We are still ahead on the girls event, still awaiting a check to go through, and was successful. Movie night we lost some. During Science night, we came in \$20 under. \$300 up on the shirts sale. We are not doing as well on some rewards. \$1,000 was allocated to teacher requests. Teacher appreciation is under budget. Due to the Chrome Book purchases, we are done with technology purchases. We will not be able to approve any more teacher requests until after FunFest. Quick Books is up to date.

Old Business:

Science Fair/Night: The turn out was better this year than last. We ran out of Pizza though. We had ordered less as we did not want to take away from Brother John's. Teachers had requested \$200 for Science night in the future. This will be discussed at the next budget meeting. It went really well and everyone had a great time. The passport worked really well to make sure the kids got involved in more areas.

Girls Event: Red and White Dance: Megan Cook reported that everything went really smoothly. Check-ins went well and there were good numbers for the raffles. The photo booth individual had been rude and unprofessional. Next year, we will go with another person. Decorations were amazing. Angelina Price and Megan Cook did a great job.

New Business:

Silent Auction planning: The teacher basket items are due this Friday, April 5th. We still need baskets to put everything in. We often need two baskets to fit everything for each class. We can ask for donations of baskets. Raffle and auction items are coming in. There are a lot of certificates coming in this year from businesses rather than items. This works out well as we have more classroom baskets. We will start wrapping the baskets on April 15th in the extra Kindergarten room. We still need to inventory and price

the baskets to know where to start them at. Megan George is in charge of the wrapping. We will be making lots of purchases. Be sure to take pictures of the receipts and send the picture to Krista. Keep the originals to turn in later.

FunFest: Sponsors are still slowly coming in. The goal is \$4,000. We have \$800, and there are reports of more, we are just waiting for the confirmations. We will get the marquee sponsor's name up by April 8th. We are still working on the banners. We are not putting the year on them this time so that we will not need to make new banners every year. Each class will be supporting a different booth. Kids can help at the booths, such as taking tickets. We are hoping to get from support high school students. The Northwest Bible Church has donated 40 pounds of candy. Tickets will begin going on sale April 18th.

PTO Board nominations:

Co-Presidents: Mandy Quelland and Megan George

Vice President: Molly DeCastro may possibly stay

Treasurer: (Krista McEuen can do the books, but not other responsibilities)

Secretary: Leah Noreng

We will have voting for our nominations on our next meeting of May 6th, at 3:00pm. Discussion took place in regards in what it means to be on the board for the various members. We need to have teachers to ask parents from their classes, to have at least one parent come to each meeting. If we can just get parents to start attending meetings, they will be more likely to become more involved. Palm Lettera suggested that this could be something presented at parent night in which parents would need to sign up to attend one of the meetings. Leah Noreng suggested that the jobs be broken down into smaller chunks to make it easier for people to commit. Next year, we already have all the chairs for events that we need other than the Silent Auction.

Staff Requests: There are no staff requests.

Principal's Message: Mr. Weaver thanks the PTO on behalf of the teachers for fulfilling the need of getting technology into our school. The technology Committee has been started. We were nominated by the Girl Scout troop 122 for the Comcast Day of caring called Comcast Cares Day of Caring. It is scheduled for May 4th and they will be bringing a lot of volunteers. They will be doing cleaning up and painting tasks around the school. They will repaint the hopscotch and the games. Patios will be repainted. They are still looking into seeing if they can do epoxy. The more volunteers will have, there will be a per person funding that will come back to the school. We want to push for Harelson families to come in to volunteer for this day.

Today was the first day of AzMerit tests for third and fourth graders in the area of writing. We want our kids to do their absolute best, but this is just a snapshot. This is the last year that the state has contracted with AzMerit. We may be using our NWEA MAP assessments. They would still have to make some changes to their test to be used in this capacity. Over the next month the kids will be assessed at different times. Every year fourth grade take the AIMS Science test. Next year will still be fourth grade, but the following year will be fifth grade.

The next generation science standards are being adopted and will be implemented next year. Concepts may be switched to different levels. The emphasis will be on the inquiry, engineering and design into the learning process.

There will be three Kindergartens next year. There will be three classes at each grade level except in sixth grade, they will still be at two classes. First and second grades are still pretty close on numbers.

People took notice of the advertising we have done and more people began enrolling. Our numbers are up, but there is still more work to do. Interviewing for the new positions will begin this week. Dr. Lopez met with the site council to discuss the challenges and the funding and numbers for our district and Harelson. It includes the history of the school funding in our state. There are inequities between public and charter schools and also with Special Education. There is an Amphi support group called Core that will meet with the site council that will lead a group of parents to fight for the funding and needs of our students and schools. Mr. Weaver recommends having this group come to a PTO meeting. We need parents to be more involved with advocating for our kids to the state government. We are hoping to have them speak at the May 6th meeting.

Call to Audience:

Meeting adjourned at 7:42pm.

Respectfully submitted: Lizabeth Loehr, Harelson PTO Secretary