

AEPTO Meeting Minutes

July 17, 2014

In Attendance (16):

Executive Officers: Jeff Turk, Debbie Thomas, Laura Ash

Committee Chairs: Teresa Parks, Errin Thompson, Mandy Sanders, Jessica Ackerman

Parents: Samantha Mitchell, Jennifer Wilson, Jennifer DeLeon, Brandi Sanders, Christin Cabrera, Stephany Slaughter, Stephanie Hernandez, Amber Bloss, Stephanie Leppien

Call To Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm.

Introductions were made around the table, since we had many new parents attending the PTO meeting.

PTO President, Jeff Turk, reminded the group of the purpose of the PTO. It is raise money to fund field trips for the schools, because there is no longer funding from other sources, and to recruit volunteers to help out with various projects needed for the schools. Overall, the PTO is responsible for approximately \$60,000 between the three schools.

Jeff introduced all of the officers of the board and the committee chairpersons.

The Book Fair chairperson will now be Jessica Ackerman with Stephanie Leppien as her assistant. The Book Fair will need volunteers during the events. Hillcrest is scheduled during Oct-Nov. The other schools are scheduled in Feb-March.

The Art Reach/Carnival committee will continue to be headed up by Errin Thompson with her assistant, Kim Turk. New additional assistant this year will be Laura Karr.

Non-Sales Fundraising will continue to be headed up by Mandy Sanders with her assistant Jennifer DeLeon. New this year will be a parent volunteer for each school. Luce Rd. Volunteer: Amber Bloss/Stephanie Hernandez, Hillcrest Volunteer: Christin Cabrera, Pine Ave. Volunteer: Samantha Mitchell. It is terrific that six people will now be dedicated to this effort! Each box top is worth 10 cents and \$5,000 was raised through labels for Education over the past school year.

Fundraising will continue to be led by Teresa Parks. Currently, there is no assistant to help Teresa. Any volunteers? We work with Frankenmuth and Clubs Choice fundraising and 50% of the total sales go back to the school. Last year, this brought in \$25,000 in sales. The first fundraiser will be Sept. 12 at Hillcrest.

New Fundraiser this year: Fun Run at the schools, particularly Hillcrest and Luce Rd. There will be incentives for the students to get pledges for the run. Jeff Turk will be the chairperson for this effort. It is expected to bring in \$10,000-\$12,000.

Next, attention turned to the AEPTO 2013-2014 Budget. Jeff explained that the Budget Summary on the left side is income to expenses for each school. If there is money left over in Library/Media or Building/Playground, then it carries over into the next year. If money is not spent in these areas, then carries into the next year. There is \$500 in each category with a total of \$16,500 collected over the years.

Agenda items:

Carnival Budget one line item—The Carnival Budget is about \$1,000 for the year. Jeff Turk brought a motion to the floor to put the carnival budget together into one line item, rather than a separate line item for each school. 15 in favor...motion passed.

PTO/Discretionary Fund—Currently, there is \$500 in this fund, mostly for printing costs. The proposal was to increase it to \$1,000... Discussion followed. Several ideas emerged to increase the presence and awareness of the PTO. We could do a quarterly newsletter (4x/yr), increase presence at school events, have PTO bulletin board at the schools that students can decorate after their field trip to thank PTO, increase Facebook Community.

Erin Thompson made a motion to increase PTO line item from \$500 to \$750 for the next school year to cover costs associated with publicity awareness. 10 votes in favor, 2 against, 1 abstention. Motion passed.

Unused funds in general—The issue of using money left over from one line item to cover expenses in another line item was discussed. Spending money from an unrelated line item because it was not used has the effect of not telling us what line item is insufficient. In the past, it was taken on a case by case basis if there was not funding available.

Motion was made that money can't be used for another unrelated line item. If a teacher/administrator wants to use money from another unrelated line item or expense (not including teacher funds), he/she should present to PTO at a meeting prior to spending, if at all possible. 13 votes in favor, 1 abstention...motion passed.

Other items to consider in the future...should we support RESD @ Luce? They participate in fundraising, but don't receive any funds. The suggestion was made to check with the teachers involved, as often this classroom is funded differently than Alma Public schools.

Should we support Title/PE/Music Teachers? Special Ed access? Hillcrest is asking...what about other schools?

Another question to consider: How much should reserves grow?

In Jan. 2011, a decision was made that teachers need to submit their receipts by April 15. Then, all unused teacher funds go into common pool and distributed on a first come, first serve basis. Currently, our reserves are dwindling. We need to consider this matter at a future meeting.

Minutes from the June 16 meeting were reviewed. The motion to approve the minutes was made by Jennifer DeLeon, seconded by Amber Bloss. The motion was unanimously approved.

The next PTO meeting will be on Monday, August 18 at 6:30 p.m. This will be a closed meeting with the PTO board and teachers to approve budget requests for the 2014-2015 school year.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.