Mead School PTO Zoom meeting

March 3rd, 2021 6:00pm

Attendance:

Jaimie Weiler Angela Viteri Stephanie Parker Amy Cosciello

Melissa Barrett Ashley Preneta Erin Cwanek Shelley Hydar

Nicole Ann Christina Huydic Laura Frouge Lindsey Bryce

Laura Alston Beth Laberge Matt Frouge Tracy King

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**Secretary-**

 Jaimie Weiler went over last month’s minutes for approval.

 Angela Motioned to approve the minutes with the correction that Matt Frouge was added in attendance

 Beth Laberge 2nd that motion

**Public session-**

 Shelley Hydar was welcomed to discuss the distribution of funds for her program. Her students do join their peers for lunch, recess, and sometimes special activities, but require a more structured and hands on style learning to succeed. They do a lot of cooking to help with math and sequencing, and peers are brought in to join them on occasion. She would use any funds provided to purchase supplies for cooking and hands on materials. She also would like to take the kids on a field trip separate from general education students. Her children do better in trips where they can go at their own pace and not feel like they are being left behind. Her current goal is Beardsley zoo. PTO offers 500 per grade for field trips, but Shelleys class is a mix of grades and also requires each student to have an aide. We would like to be sure she is adequately funded. In order to do this, the PTO has requested she put together an estimated budget for us to review.

Public session closed at 6:25

**Principal Updates-**

 Koala shirt sales have been extended to the staff in the building. We are awaiting profit numbers from that.

 February was black history month. We celebrated many different ways including guest speakers in the older grades.

 Paint night was a hit and we would love to do something like that again.

 This week is spirit week. They are asking teachers for a video of them reading so they can create a virtual library, since they cannot visit individual classrooms.

 Aprils Meads got talent is in the works.

 People were hopeful that with vaccinations now being offered, guidelines may ease up. As of right now and likely through the remainder of the year they will remain the same.

 In March, Koko the Koala will be handing out gold coins to in person students, and sending a letter to remote students for St. Patrick’s day.

 Amy would to create a school wide bullying program to help kids understand what bullying is, encourage them to report it and help them feel safe in school. She would also like to begin an attendance program called “We care you are here”, and is looking into making a small picnic area for teachers to take kids outside for lunch and snacks. She is looking for suggestions on how to get picnic tables for the area.

 She would like to get a new sign for the front of the school, as well as work on gardening.

Treasurer report-

 Report was presented. We have 192.43 in scholastic dollars, Laura Frouge, Erin Cwanek, and Angela Viteri have been added as signers on the bank account. A debit card was ordered for Erin.

 Stephanie Parker motioned to approve the report

 All approved

President report-

 We did well on the breads fund raiser making a $2648.00 profit

 Tuesday, the 23rd is the breads delivery date. Ashley Preneta will be there with the Charger Club. They can accept and separate the orders for pickups.

 Last night Prendergast invited our PTO to attend their meeting. Laura and Angela attended.

 Motion to approve President report made by Erin Cwanek

 Jaimie Weiler 2nd that motion

**Old business –**

 Zois fund raiser made a profit of 230 dollars. Italian Pavillion was on our list of places to ask next, and they will do any Monday or Tuesday night.

Our PTO link is now on the BOE page.

The book fair made $455.00 in sales earning us $124.60 In scholastic dollars. Scholastic has extended an offer to do an in person, outdoor book fair again this year, but due to Covid, we do not feel comfortable with it at this time.

**New business-**

Autism shirts. Laura Alston reports around 25 orders from the school already, and orders continue to come in through the facebook page. She estimates a profit of around 250 dollars.

Originally we had scheduled to have everyone wear their Autism shirts on the 2nd, but the kids wont be in school then, so it was changed to the 1st. they are hoping to have the shirts distributed by the Monday before.

Tax I.D. Laura Frouge spoke with the IRS. We do have an active EIN number, however our non profit status was revoked 8 or 9 years ago. We will have to pay a penalty ranging from around 275.00 up to 600.00.

 Stephanie Parker motioned to spend up to 600.00 to reinstate our non profit status.

 Melissa Barrett 2nd that motion

 Stephanie Parker motioned to get online sign in information for the PTO bank account to Angela Viteri.

 Tracy King 2nd that motion

Read across America- the PTO had 411 books in our closet that were given to Heather King to distribute to each child. We came up between 20-30 short on books for the 6th grade level.

 Stephanie Parker motioned to spend the Scholastic dollars we earned from the book fair, to purchase additional books at the 6th grade reading level for Heather King.

 Erin Cwanek 2nd that motion

Bylaws-

 Beth Laberge reports that the subcommittee has met twice and used the PTO today template, adjusted to apply to us. It got to a point they felt was beyond their expertise, and have looked into assistance to be sure everything is done correctly and is legal.

We discussed a budget committee consisting of 5 people. An admin, either Bob or Amy, a president, a treasurer, and 2 additional people to assist to help plan events and budget them.

A QR code to link the PTO page has been created. Ideas were to create a decal to post on the door to the school so parents can scan the code, and also having a sign made to display in the pickup line.

Oriental trading sells cute stuffed Koalas that match our new mascot.

 Beth Laberge motioned to spend approximately 460 dollars on Koalas. 150 to be distributed to incoming kindergartners at orientation, and the remainder to be sold in school store.

 Motion was 2nd

Matt Frouge motioned to use the money minder app for accounting purposes.

Angela Viteri 2nd that motion

Laura Frouge motioned to purchase an Easter bunny costume from Amazon and have Jaimie Weiler make adjustments to it.

We discussed the Easter bunny providing the kids with an Easter egg or other small item.

Matt Frouge Motioned to spend up to 700 dollars on easter Supplies for this

Angela Viteri 2nd

We are looking for a Covid friendly way to celebrate mothers day. Possibly have the kids bring in money to buy a single carnation or small prepackaged candy instead of a plant sale.

Matt Frouge motioned to donate 500.00 to Amy Cosciello to help get the student activities fund started.

Stephanie Parker 2nd

Mead and Prendergast schools would like to organize a 5K sometime in the future. Laura Frouge and Angela Viteri volunteered as reps to begin looking into what is involved. Lindsey Bryce was asked to assist.

The fund raising committee was asked to put together a calendar of fund raisers so that everything is laid out.

Laura motioned to purchase yearbooks for the 6th grade graduating class as we did last year.

Matthew Frouge opposed and suggested funding tshirts instead

We discussed getting the shirts in white to Tie dye in art class. The discussion will resume at the next meeting once we have pricing.

Matthew Frouge motioned to provide 250 dollars this school year to assist ABA/lifeskills with their expenses. Next year we can reevaluate and build additional funds into our budget.

 Angela 2nd that motion

Matthew Frouge motions to adjourn

Angela Viteri 2nds

Meeting adjourned at 8:21