

High Plains Elementary PTO Meeting Minutes

Date: 4/14/2017
Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: High Plains

Attendance: 8

quorum of voters/board members present

Officers' Reports

President: Tracey Robinson

- "Welcome. Let's jump right in. We've a lot of grant requests to review."

Treasurer: Tracey Robinson for Jessica Jones

- Jessica is home today with a sick kiddo, but she went over the treasurers report with me. There are no anomalies and we still have a healthy balance. With all the grant requests, we will be spending most of our time in the budget today...
- Grant Requests:
 - 4th grade (Harding/Chapman) has requested **\$177** to take their students on a field trip to the Western Museum of Mining and Industry. APPROVED as Field Trip Grant.
 - 2nd grade (Fowler/Dipola) has requested **\$162** to take their students on a field trip to the Pioneer Museum, and \$60 to give as a donation to the museum in lieu of admittance fees. \$162 APPROVED as Field Trip Grant. **\$60** APPROVED as Other Grant.
 - 1st grade (Shircliff/Ruhlen) has requested **\$156** to take their students on a field trip to the Zoo. APPROVED as Field Trip Grant.
 - On behalf of Green Team and our annual STEAM Jam, Mr. Andrew has requested \$1267.45 to complete the outdoor classroom's garden boxes (1042.45 worth of soil; balance funded through grant monies from District) and feed Green STEAM presenters (\$225) on Jam day. APPROVED with REVISIONS. PTO already allocated \$500 for STEAM Jam; requests Mr. Andrew use those funds first. Remaining **\$767.45** APPROVED as Other Grant.
 - Verbal grant request from Mr. Andrew for **\$150** to purchase additional T-shirts for the Watch DOGS program. APPROVED as Other Grant within context of Conservation&Community.
- These measures deplete the funds for Field Trips. Remaining \$600 in Teacher and Club grants reallocated to Other Grant to cover costs of Mr. Andrew's requests. Additional **\$200** allocated to Summer Student Book Giveaway. (Previously these funds were provided by our book fairs through Scholastic Dollars. Since PTO no longer manages book fair, those funds do not belong to us.) *Leaves approximately \$380 in Other Grant funds to cover end-of-year requests.*

Principal: Tom Andrew

- Last Saturday Green Team and Watch DOGS teamed up (with the help of additional teachers/staff and H.P. families) and spent the day building our garden boxes. The monies for this project was part of a D20 Green Team grant we received. Want to give a big shout-out to the Troup's, Reiter's, Ketterman's, Roth's, Brubaker's, Mr. Todd and all the other families and individuals who gave up their free time Saturday to help. We'll be filling the boxes with soil this Saturday if anyone is interested in joining us! The ribbon cutting is planned for Green STEAM day, at which time we'll also plant a tree in commemoration. Again thanks for all the help!
- Our writing curriculum has had a huge impact on the growth of our student competence in writing. We're thrilled to have the developer of the curriculum join us next week for additional training. On that vein, Book Fair was a huge success. Ms. Scarpella did a great job planning the family camping night as a jumpstarter. I believe she sold over \$1000 that night!
- Students have been participating in Pennies for Patients this last week with great response. We haven't counted to see how much they raised, but the contest we set up was a huge hit. Students could bring in pennies for positive points for their grade, or they could bring in other coins for negative points and sabotage other classes.
- May 18 is scheduled for our Summer Learning night. This family event will highlight learning opportunities and

community resources for families to take advantage of over the summer. Watch for additional information.

- We're beginning to plan for first-of-the-year events for the 2017-2018 school year. Part of our Site Plan for the next few years is to increase parent/community involvement so we're looking at these events from a different perspective. We want to not only increase community involvement but also become a better resource for our families. We're planning events like Back-to-School night and ESL/Family Learning nights with this in mind. We're also working on creating a HP Facebook page to add another avenue of communication with our families.
- Health Jam is scheduled for Thursday, September 7. Health includes so much more than physical fitness, so we'd like to connect our social/emotional pieces to the event. While the day-of events won't change much, this year we'll be extending our learning the day before and after as we tie in our RULER and HOWLS expectations and help students make the connection between these other aspects of health.

Upcoming Events

Movie Night: Rescheduled for 4/28/2017.

Teacher Appreciation: Reyna Tuliewiczzi has graciously agreed to chair this event. We'll be providing a week's worth of goodies for our teacher and staff to say thank you for giving themselves to our children this year.

Mother's Day Roses: 5/9-5/12. We sell wooden roses and chocolate for \$1 each. Students can purchase for the special women in their lives during their lunchtime. Will need volunteers.

Announcements

Next meeting: May 11, 2017, 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned at: 3:00 p.m.

Minutes Compiled by: Roxanne Troup, Secretary