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Meeting Minutes
May 14, 2014

Meeting was called to order at 7:06pm in the East Media Center.

Members present included: Gina Trimble, Betty Giddings, Janet Kuper, Patrick Abildtrup, Kirby Holtzman, Helen Lukes, Christi Imsland, Kelsie Wittrock, Lisa Wood, Donalyn Pogue, Julie Flickenger, Kim Hansen, Heather Meador, Julie Davidson, Susan A Johnson, Nikki Sidles, Gina Homan, and Amanda Johnson.

Welcome

Nikki Sidles Co-Chair greeted members for the final meeting of the 2013-2014 school year.

Treasurer's Report (Gina Trimble)

PTO Funds:

Beginning Balance 04/10/2014	\$ 27,667.46
Total Income	\$ 2,221.00
Total Expenses	\$ 2,459.71
Ending Balance 05/14/2014	\$ 27,428.75

East Funds:

Beginning Balance 04/10/2014	\$ 6,192.17
Income	\$ 1,325.66
Expenses	\$ 0.00
Ending Balance 05/14/2014	\$ 7,517.83

Total Checkbook Balance 05/14/2014 \$ 34,946.58

Gina Trimble re-announced her resignation as Treasurer of the PTO effective July 2014. Two individuals showed interest in the position. A motion was made to accept Julie Davidson's as the Treasurer effective June 1, 2014 for a one year term. Janet Kuper will shadow Julie Davidson during this term.

Secretary Report (Amanda Johnson)

The PTO board members are looking for ideas to increase membership next year. Any ideas should be given to a member of the board and they will be discussed at the first PTO meeting in September of 2014.

There is a "Quick Link" for Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) on the Independence Community Schools website. Monthly meeting minutes are posted on the PTO webpage.

Old Business

Staff Appreciation Week was a success. The week of May 5th through the 9th the PTO provided donuts and water to the bus drivers. The following items were provided for the remaining staff as follows: Monday - chocolates; Wednesday – cake balls and desserts; and Friday – fruit and veggies.

The PTO meetings will be moved to the second Monday night for the first four months (September – December). The remaining five months (January – May) will be on the second Wednesday night. The meeting time will remain at 7:00pm for both nights. The change in evening is to hopefully increase membership and meeting attendance.

New Business

The 5th grade field trip to Living History Farms and the 6th grade field trip to EWALU are being planned for the 2014-2015 school year. The PTO discussed possible fundraising options to assist with the cost. Potential options include a Pizza Ranch fundraising night and a can drive through Nickelback.

Thank You notes from the carnival will be completed and mailed out. These will be on a standard template due to the large amount of donors. Thank you to everyone that volunteered to help with this.

Orientation is August 14th. The PTO members discussed holding a “Buck Bowl” and having a PTO sign up table at this event.

Heather Meador provided an update on the playground project. The total cost for the new equipment and resurfacing of both East and West Elementary’s playgrounds is \$273,000. The concrete cost is not included in this figure. The Playground Committee is looking for donors to donate the concrete for the project. Heather indicated the school board approved \$200,000 to be directed towards the playground (\$60,000 in year 1, \$70,000 in year 2, and \$70,000 in year 3). The committee would like to complete the resurfacing at West in the summer of 2014, which will be a 70’x70’ area. This summer the Eagles Nest and “Curly Q” slide will be removed due to safety issues. The Playground Committee is asking for a commitment from the PTO which can be an upfront donation or a donation spread out over three years. The PTO board provided four options for members to choose from. A written ballot was completed and a donation of \$15,000 over three years was approved via a majority vote.

Fund Requests:

Kathy Meyer presented a fund request for the purchase of a Kindergarten Kitchen Set for the incoming teacher due to the existing set being owned by the retiring teacher. The cost of the kitchen set is \$756.20. After much discussion it was decided that there could possibly be other kitchen sets of similar quality out there for a lower price. The request was tabled due to it being over \$500. Due to the urgency of the request and needing the kitchen set prior to the beginning of school, an online survey will be emailed to everyone after the one month waiting period.

Christi Imsland presented a fund request for the purchase of two sets of Benchmark Education Books, levels A-E. The books would provide age appropriate books for the older children that are reading at a lower level. The total amount requested is \$1,030. Christi indicated she might be able to obtain a discount if the books are purchased prior to July 31st. The request was tabled due to it being over \$500. Due to the urgency of the request and needing to purchase the sets prior to the next PTO meeting in order to obtain the large discount, an online survey will be emailed to everyone after the one month waiting period.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Submitted by Amanda Johnson/PTO Secretary

PTO Board/Officers:

Gina Homan Co-Chair
Nikki Sidels Co-Chair
Gina Trimble Treasurer
Amanda Johnson Secretary