

## PTO meeting 9-1-16

All officers with exception of Monica VonHoff Present

- Introductions of Officers and other members
- Stephanie summarizes what we will be focusing on in meeting, including Bond issue.
- Jen had no issues
- Susan – Fund raiser this year is a check – a-thon. Choice to do check-a-thon based on survey of parents. Goal is \$100 per student. One issue was regarding prize for kids, but not doing that due to other events coming up. May do STEM T-shirts for each child that makes the goal. Cost to be looked at before a decision is made. If we do well will be no other fundraisers. Flier coming out this week focusing on fundraiser and bond. Noted that bond money cannot be used for PTO items so fund raising continues to be essential function of PTO.
- Events chair: Events for the year. Will be outlined in packet to be sent out as soon as possible:
  - First event is fun run: Not a fund raiser. Gonci tying curriculum into it. Students will be timed and will be learning about health. Kids will have numbers and each one will get prize, banana and snack. Parents welcome to come watch. September 29
  - Trunk or Treat October 28. Will be in gym as it has been determined that it is safer than doing it in the parking lot. Will be a couple of decorated cars at entrance for people who really wish to do a trunk..
  - Carnival: TBD. Will see how the events go.
  - Listed dated of PTO Thursday PTO Meetings.
  - September 15: STEM community meeting regarding Bond initiative. Steph: PTO sponsored dinner. Please share with everyone. Andrea: time is to be from 6-8. Steph: Stem meeting only. Community event will be later and district has offered to coordinate. Meeting will address what bond will mean for STEM kids.
  - Teacher appreciation week will be May 1 through May 5.
- Secretary: Steph for Monica: PTO is now on Twitter, new Website and Facebook. A lot of information and events are shared on the Facebook page so be sure to be on the right one. Old website will be shut down on Sep. 15. Will add a PayPal donation feature. Teri Crump informed us that the website is updated on STEM website as of today. Stemplabpto.org.
- **Leadership commity reports**
- Andrea: High school students helping out because with PTO meetings and bond meeting because they get credit for volunteering. Andrea is in contact with them, but will need some students on 15<sup>th</sup> due to events at local high schools happening on the same night. One parent says will ask her honor student if they can help that night. Hoping to have movies to keep things fairly calm. Volunteers are welcome to eat that night as well. They are kids nominated by school to come help, not just any high school students, so is considered fairly safe to use them. Parent asked: if there is an age requirement saying maybe seventh graders at child's school can help.
- Susan: Box Top, labels and milk caps: Still collecting Box tops and caps, but labels have been stopped. Can drop box tops off in office or go to BoxTop store on third Wed. of every month.
- Anita: King Soopers cards. Two sale events per year. One this week, one for end of school year. Andrea: Some people buying cards for other family members so suggest that to people. Buy for students heading off to school for groceries etc. Can use for gas as well. Parent: She says that her child's school mails a \$5 card for every household at school t beginning of the

year and was a big success. Made over \$10,000. May do next year. Steph: last year only 40 used per month on average. Can buy them any time, so please find PTO member. Also selling at Boxtop Store. Have made \$660 since July. Have only ten cards left from last purchase.

- Skip Teacher appreciation details for a later meeting.
- Principal Report: Glad to see everyone and asked all non-PTO members to introduce themselves. Teachers first, then parents. Tracy gives her background at Stem and District. Describes growth of Stem program with Northglenn, Launch and Lab in last seven years.
  - We are getting great results from recent testing of 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, math, English and Science testing. Today is first day that can share with the community. Do not have individual results, just grade-level and overall.
  - Mr. Shields – to read results of testing of 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>. Remember that k-2<sup>nd</sup> include a lot of prep work and that our school does no pre-qualifying of students. Vast majority of scores are above, or significantly above state average, with only GT magnet Schools scoring better than STEM Lab. **Testing results to be attached.**
- **New business:** Treasurer: School year July 1 to June 30. Main account balance was \$6600 after giving money to tech 20 and \_\_\_\_\_. Income for King Soopers cards; milk caps; Firehouse dine out. Expenses: PTO website: Monica has saved a lot of money here. Buy KS cards. Teacher welcome breakfast, notebooks for Kindergarteners (Teri Crump thanked board for the notebooks). Bought a few things for fun run. Fun 20 savings account balance is: \$16,200. Will put 20% of earnings at end of year into this account.
- Andrea for Monica: Please give feedback on new website.
- Stephanie: Bond. District meeting last Wednesday where agreed to put bond on ballot. STEM will have major reconstruction. Very important to come to meeting on 15<sup>th</sup>:
  - Linda: Bond has not passed since 2004. Have gotten less money from state due to economic downturn combined with effects of TABOR. Getting less from state every year. The district has done well managing money and has paid down debt. Think of as line of credit. Does not affect taxes. Very important to get this across. Will affect all schools. New school up north and major capital repairs at others. Will ask for help on certain days walking neighborhoods, calling, etc.
- Stephanie: Bond is a huge deal. PTO is putting a lot of effort in helping.
  - Tracy: District says do not have to worry about neighborhood meeting. District will host meeting and reach out to neighbors by notices in addition to website info, etc.. May do another meeting in early October. May have more info on specific reconstruction at STEM at that time to help make our case.
- Parent asked about carnival as it sounded like we may not do it from prior meeting comments. Stephanie says will happen. Need a date. Built the games that were built last year will last many years saving money by not renting them each year.
- Teacher (5<sup>th</sup> grade science or math?) thanks PTO for 3d printers. They are available for all students. Printers are in intermediate lab but all students can use. Different classes and grades doing different activities such as making butterflies, sound waves, will build new light structures to propose to city to get rid of light pollution. Using for math as a fund raiser. Also have done breakout boxes in several grades. Kids love them. Boxes are \$200 -\$300. Steph son loves them as well. Have to solve puzzles to get into box. Steph says we have money to help get these types of things and encourages teachers to ask PTO when there is a need.

Meeting adjourns at 7:35.

Attachments: List of attendees, Treasurer Financial Report, STEM Lab 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> testing results.

