

Margaret Beeks PTO Meeting on September 11, 2013 @ 4 pm

Attendance: Laura Oler, Yvonne Clark, Holly McFall, Faith Taylor, Dana Garner, Laura Krisch, Christa Whaley, Leslie Sullivan, Carla Slebodnick, Kristy Hudson, Inora McGrady, Megan Dickhans, Sarah Mathes, Shami Arachchige, Roman Mejia, Carmen Garcia, Melody Warnick, Michole Mardsden, Steve Swanelli, Cindy Daniels, Heather Fisher-Clarke, Coretta Francis, Meredith Keith, Tracie Harrah, Jamie Baisden, Carolina Fonceca

Welcome: Carly welcomed everyone and gave a brief introduction to PTO. She noted that we function like a PTA, but without paying dues to the national association. We are all volunteers. She also noted that we help budget the school, plan events, and run fundraisers. Our overall goal this year is technology, specifically 3 iPads in every classroom. We are also working to increase our involvement in the community and build community within the school. We plan monthly activities.

One change this year is the way that we volunteer and communicate with the parents. All parents will receive all information involving volunteer opportunities in the classroom and in the school through the class parents. We will not have a separate beginning of the year sign-up sheet.

We played a Bingo game to get to know the PTO board.

Treasury Update: Faith reviewed the budget. Some changes that were noted are that PTO dues now include a \$5 Kroger card. We also are starting a teacher's grant this year. Another large line item is iPad maintenance, which includes cases, support, and possibly more iPads. The budget was unanimously approved.

Committee Updates:

Books for Breakfast needs volunteers that can come every time. The first one will be on Sept. 19th from 8:00 – 8:50 am.

VT parking: our next parking opportunity is Nov. 19th. Mr. Mefford will also sell food.

Fund-raising: We will be doing a read-a-thon the last week in Feb / first week in Mar. Volunteers are needed. We are also using a pink mailbox at the entrance to the school to collect Box Tops and Campbell's labels. We are having a school-wide competition. If we meet our goal, we will get an ice cream party. For each set amount above that, we will get a topping for the ice cream.

New Business:

Lindsey Barron presented her proposal for STEM classes. The first class would be a Lego design class. She is also helping to apply for a grant to cover scholarships for the classes. She proposed that we could go on with the class as designed, or we could charge more and use it as a PTO fundraiser. We decided to support the class as designed but not use it as a fundraiser. The proposal was approved as stated. Lindsey will work to set a date and find space for the class.

Grants for teachers and change to membership (include Kroger card) were discussed with the treasury update.

Newcomers Outreach group. Caroline will head this group, which will give packets to new families at Beeks, including kindergarten families.

Classroom parents: Classroom parents will take on an additional responsibility of streamlining all communication from the PTO and school to the parents. They are organized under Faith, who has already met with them.

Car Magnets. Car magnets will be produced by Laura Krisch. Funding of \$250 was approved for purchasing 150 magnets. They will be given to new families and be available for a fee to others.

South Main Farmer's Market would like to do a fundraiser with Beeks by sectioning off their truck and allowing people to purchase tickets to paint sections of it. This plan was approved.

Heather Fisher-Clarke is working with the PE teacher to bring back Happy Feet.

Upcoming Activities:

Books for Breakfast on Sept. 19

Adventure World skate on Oct. 1