

Pebble Creek Elementary PTO Board Meeting
January 10, 2013

Board Members Present: Dawn Ament, Laura Arthur, Kelli Backstrom, Annette Browne, Sherry Caverlee, Jenny Dalsing, Erin Frank, Lisa Garner, Mary Harrell, Sarah Hendler, Kara Holmgreen, Jill Homeyer, Ginger Howard, Tasha Johnson, Beverly Kuhn, Wendy Letendre, Holly McBerty, Rebecca Melder, Melissa Nugent, Amy Parent, Patty Pulnik, Kim Russell, Doug Sawyer, Christen Sharp, Amanda Vaughan, Kelley Waguespack, Jodi Warner.

Guests, Teachers and/or Staff Present: Annette Roraback, Connie Wood

Kara Holmgreen called the meeting to order at 12:06 pm.

Approval of Minutes: The approval of the November, 2012 minutes has been tabled until February's PTO meeting due to a malfunction in the website where the minutes are housed.

Principal's Report: Annette Roraback

- Safety Planning Meeting - to be held last Wednesday but was postponed due to weather. The meeting was planned to discuss the Connecticut tragedy and our preparedness for similar circumstances. Annette spoke with Clark Nealy from CSISD regarding the safety of our entrance at Pebble Creek. Currently, this issue is going to be addressed in the next bond election and Mr. Nealy anticipates all elementary school entrances in CSISD to be updated for safety within the next 18 months. More updates to follow in the coming months.
- Amerein Family - a \$500 donation has been made to Pebble Creek Elementary School by the family of Isabelle Amerein in her honor. Annette

will obtain the specifics of how the family would like to have these funds spent.

- Calendar Change - 2nd grade musical has moved from the beginning of February to Thursday, March 21st to allow for more preparation.
- Innovative Fitness - the students at Greens Prairie Elementary and Pebble Creek Elementary, in conjunction with CSISD and Innovative Fitness will participate in fitness activities during morning assemble each Wednesday morning in February. In addition, Innovative Fitness is offering afternoon classes for faculty members and PTO members. This program is designed to focus on fitness.

Academic Coordinator's Report: Connie Wood

- Safe and Civil Schools Team (district-wide): The BLT (Behavioral Leadership Team - Pebble Creek's name for this team)
 1. New Cafeteria procedures:
 - The BLT has implemented new cafeteria procedures at Pebble Creek. These new procedures are loosely based on the Pasadena School District procedures. The procedures were implemented 2 weeks prior to school getting out in December but were formally put in place this week. All kids viewed a video outlining the procedures. In short, the children are now required to spend the first ten minutes at lunch not talking but eating or sitting quietly. The intended results are for the children to focus on their food and, thus, reducing waste and encouraging better nutrition. Further, it will result in a safer eating environment for our children.

- Note: Current concerns voiced by PTO members include the increase in micro managing the children to the extent of preventing them from learning certain social skills on their own.

2. S.M.A.R.T.:

- New guiding principle for the school

3. Behavior Panther Style program:

- Bus referrals are reduced by 20 referrals due to this program. Huge success.

Treasurer's Report: Kelly Waguespack

- Beginning Balance: \$ 20,401.79
- Ending Balance: \$ 28,224.10
- Deposits: \$ 10,630.67
- Disbursements: \$ 2,808.36
- MMA balance: \$ 18,928.44
- Total Funds Available: \$ 47,152.54

Committee Reports

Candy Cane Fun Run: Holly McBerty

- event was a success!
 - 1,352 lbs. of food donated to the Brazos Valley Food Bank
 - 3rd grade was winning grade w/424 lbs. of food donated
 - still waiting to plan party
 - approx. 95 shirts sold for a profit of \$250
 - expenses totaled \$250.48
 - Taxes HAVE NOT been paid on the t-shirts yet so an update will be made on the actual profit of T-shirt sales
 - spring city-wide food drive coming later this semester

Carnival: Sarah Hendler

- We will have 2 meetings in January. The first one is next Thursday the 17th and the next is the 31st. The meeting place will be announced next week.
- Committee chair reports are requested by Friday.

Garden: Sherry Caverlee

- Total sales for the pansy sale totaled \$3080.
- Preorders accounted for \$1890 of the sales.
- The profit for the garden fund is \$1091.25.
- Approximately 10 flats were planted in the gardens and another 10 flats were distributed to the teachers, with each teacher and staff member present receiving a 6 pack prior to the Thanksgiving holiday.
- Special thanks to the cub scouts and girl scouts for helping to clean up the gardens and plant the pansies.
- This spring we will have upcoming projects to have the pond professionally cleaned and to remove the dead trees at the front of the school. New trees will be planted in their place, and in anticipation of losing the remaining trees in the front.

PHP: Kim Russell

- Christmas Giving Tree -
 - We helped out approximately 25 families, totaling around 70 kids.
 - There were about 27 groups or families that chose to participate and they were all extremely generous!!
 - Every child received at least one toy and one outfit. Many received multiple outfits, new shoes, and games.
 - Every family was given large amounts of necessities.
- Everything seemed to me to run smoothly but I definitely hope to hear feedback to see how it can improve next year!
- Huge thanks to Jeff Paradowski for donating bikes to quite a few of our

kids. I am hoping to hear more how the bike pick-up went from Mackenzie.

- Also, special thanks to the Girl Scout troupe for spending time wrapping presents!

Promotions: Mary Harrell

- Box Tops
 - We received \$689.30 for our Fall collections.
 - The next deadline to turn in Box Tops is February 18
- Spirit Nights / Book Fair. We received the following amounts for recent Spirit Nights and the B&N book fair:
 - November Chick-fil-A ~ \$140.74
 - Bookfair ~ \$157.30
 - We're waiting to hear from Double Dave's re. the total for the December Spirit Night.
- Upcoming Spirit Nights
 - Tonight ~ Chick-fil-A
 - Feb. 21 ~ McDonald's McTeacher night. The teachers and staff participate at McDonald's. This has been a big hit at other schools and we're hoping it will be for us, too!
 - Mar. 21 ~ Chick-fil-A
 - April ~ date TBA ~ Outback
- Note: the Barnes and Noble Book fair was very successful and easy to conduct on short notice. Given more time to plan, more options for this event are available and will allow for more profits.

Yearbook: Rebecca Melder

- First 32 pages are due this month
- Pictures, Pictures, Pictures...we need pictures
- 348 yearbooks purchased to date

- Pictures needed:
 - Candid photos from the following classrooms:
 - Averritt, Weir, Chamberlain, Guest, Bohne and Kellen
 - Photos from musicals and Spirit Days
 - CAMP photos

President's Notes: Kara Holmgreen

1. School Betterment:

- School Betterment Requests/Available Funds:
 - \$28,224.10 cash in checking account
 - \$18,928.44 cash in money market account
 - \$47,152.54 total cash available for school betterment

 - \$24,235.51 total outstanding expenses
 - \$22,917.03 funds remaining for future needs
- Current School Betterment Request:

\$4,170 for a set of 10 iPads for the classrooms. This will complete the need for every classroom to have iPads.
- Vote:

Laura Arthur made a motion to approve spending \$ 4,170 of the current \$22,917.03 balance needed to purchase 10 new iPads. Lisa Garner seconded this motion. All were in favor and none were opposed. The motion to approve the use of these funds passed leaving approximately \$18,000 left for future needs.

2. 50 Men Who Can Cook Event

This event benefits the Education Foundation and will take place 2/1/13. See Brenda in the Office for tickets.

3. Grants

- All Fall Grant dollars have been distributed.
- Spring requests are being accepted and are due by 2/15/13.
- All future requests must be submitted electronically.
- If anyone is aware of teachers who have innovative ideas and need funds for them, please encourage them to submit a request for a grant.
- \$5,000 was allotted for this program. \$2,500 was used in the fall. \$2,500 is left for spring grants.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:09 pm.

Next Meeting will be in the Library at noon on Thursday, February 7, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Frank, PTO Secretary

