

PTO Minutes 11/1/17

In attendance

Tricia Brzostowicz, Dani Bondurant, Eric Peltier, Kellen Hatch, Tammy Morgan, Shawna Martin, Leon Leroy, Courtney Danner, Robyn Hamasaki, Tricia Dunham, Mark Call

President Tricia Brzostowicz opened the meeting. Those in attendance introduced themselves, and Tricia gave an update from her recent meeting with administration. PTO had originally talked about splitting the Fun Run money between 30 Chromebooks and the cafeteria sound system. However, there has been a request for an additional 30 Chromebooks at the elementary level. Robyn is able to give \$2000, but the total for the set is \$5280. PTO will look at their budget and see if we can supply the rest.

She summarized band and music department needs. The music department is really in need of money for instrument tuning and repairs. Several fundraising ideas were discussed, including a spaghetti dinner, a musical showcase, a dinner after a concert, and a "tip jar" at all music events. The team is open to suggestions for a quick, easy fundraiser for music. Pete is also willing to charge for Jazz Ensemble.

Heather Walker is taking a follow-up class for the Orton Gillingham literacy training and is asking for PTO support. Participants were partially sponsored for round 1 of training and were very grateful.

Our December spirit night has transformed into a community night at Sport Stable. Tickets will be \$10, of which PTO will receive \$2. Singing Eagles and the orchestra will be performing, and those participating students will get free tickets. Any teachers participating in the on-ice events will also get free tickets. Brunelleschi's will be giving 20% back to Eldorado. Mark and Robyn will be discussing the best way to communicate that parents will be responsible for their own children.

Spirit Night for November 14 has been changed to Freddy's, due to the closing of CB Potts. We will also have a new location for March, due to the closing of Buffalo Wild Wings. Ali is working hard to get everything updated. The November event also happens to be on the same night as the 1st grade music performance, so we can make a point of telling parents to pop over to Freddy's after the show and grab dinner or

celebrate their performers with a treat. Dani will put this info on FB and will also notify first grade families.

Incoming 6th grade night has been changed to Dec. 5. Dani will put this information in the newsletter and on FB. Tricia Carpenter will be contacted to see if we can get P360 there to answer questions.

Kindergarten Roundup is December 14, 6-8PM.

Preschool Parent Night is December 19, 6:30-8PM.

Kellen Hatch & Eric Peltier, co-treasurers, gave updates on the budget. There is a change to the Box Tops line item, as some money was taken out to fund prizes for last year's large spring contest. The coupon book line item was also updated.

Dani Bondurant, corresponding secretary, gave an update on the MySchoolAnywhere directory system. She took 2 hours of training with the company and has learned about a lot of useful features of the system. The decision was made to add all staff/faculty to the outgoing PTO newsletter list. Dani will get this info from Patty's replacement person after Thanksgiving. We need to continue to find ways to get parents to enroll in the directory, as it has the potential to be a great communication hub for us! We also discussed the idea of a room parent for each class, as we can grant access to that person to be able to email only the parents from their classroom regarding important information. The PTO teacher reps will take this back to their staff and get input to bring back to PTO.

Robyn Hamasaki gave a quick update that the PTO teacher commitment is only 6:30-7:30PM. Teachers are free to leave at 7:30 without any hard feelings. We will make an attempt to get any teacher-related business taken care of at the beginning of each meeting.

Patty Brewer is retiring and her last day will be Friday, Nov. 17. We will celebrate on Thursday the 16th with a party after school, which Dani will advertise on FB and in the newsletter.

Eldorado Preschool will be starting for the 2018-2019 school year. Classrooms are expected to be finished inside by spring break of this year. There will be 2 preschool classrooms and one all-day kindergarten classroom (which will not necessarily be starting in the fall). There will be 16 students per preschool class, with one certified teacher and one para (ratio 8:1). The preschool enrollment will be divided into thirds, with one third being tuition based (\$400), one third students on IEPs, and one third free/reduced lunch. Preschool will run 4 days per week (Tuesday-Friday) and will be similar to kindergarten hours, but staggered slightly to avoid traffic congestion. There are information packets in the front office. Preschool will be open-enrollment unless the child is part of the IEP group. On the BVSD website, parents should click and register through open enrollment. Children MUST be 3 or 4 by September 30, 2018. It is a lottery/application system, not first come, first served.

The new bike rack area in the former kindergarten parking lot should be completed by Thanksgiving.

In an upcoming newsletter, we will put out Hug & Go Etiquette information. Shawna and Dani will write it and Robyn will approve it.

Robyn recently attended the Lucy Calkins training in NYC. The staff is adopting the Lucy Calkins Readers' Workshop curriculum and is starting the rollout at the elementary level. It's a fantastic model for teaching reading, focusing on the process of teaching skills and strategies, practicing and modeling in whole group, releasing students to try the skills and strategies in texts at their own levels while independently reading, pulling small groups to reinforce and extend, giving feedback, and holding individual reading conferences. Robyn says the conference/training was very powerful! Kids are loving reading and writing and are doing it naturally! Our awesome teachers are working very hard to implement the new curriculum, and it shows!

We are urgently in need of a volunteer to run the Read-a-Thon in January. Mary Kemp has done it in the past and has all of the info the person will need. She also has prizes already purchased. This is a critical fundraiser for us, as it typically raises \$5000-\$6000 per year!

We are also in need of a PTO vice president to work closely with Tricia and be ready to take over when her term is complete.

We need a volunteer to run the ink jet donation program.

Kellen Hatch gave feedback that the band donations are successful, but we are only at about 50% (\$2000) of what is needed.

Tammy Morgan, District Parent representative, mentioned that the school board candidates are listed on the BVSD website. The current board has started a nationwide search for a new superintendent, and that should be finalized by July.

The “All Good Mornings” event, sponsored by PEN, was a success! About 22 people attended, including several teachers. The presenter will offer a class to those participants who were interested in diving deeper and completing some hands-on activities based on her research.

Spirit wear is in and should be coming home Friday. (Update from Nicole Rosener via email - it will be coming home Monday, 11/6)

Spring event planning is underway. It will be held at Sport Stable, but we are waiting on a bid to cover the turf so that we can eat on the turf. Ali Cortez is doing an amazing job of organizing the donation piece and will be putting out letters to over 500 businesses very soon.

Minutes recorded by Dani Bondurant

Present Board Members:

Tricia Brzostowicz- President

Kellen Hatch- Co-Treasurer

Eric Peltier Co-Treasurer

Dani Bondurant- Corresponding Secretary

*Absence noted: Mary Beth Griffith- Recording Secretary

