**October PTA Meeting Note - 10.14.14**

**Call to Order: 6:30 pm – Lara Gates**

* Trustee introductions
* Minutes have been posted on website for 2 weeks
* Approval of minutes – Motion to Approve: Steve, Second: Ginger – motion passes

**Administrative updates: 6:35 pm**

Principal, Don Craig

* Receiving a new special ed teacher
* PE allocation increase – by 1 day
  + We will be getting one 4 day a week person
* PTA is funding a ½ of a Spanish teacher – Mr. Montes
  + Ready to get into elementary curriculum started
  + Doing sign ups for k-3 classes for blocks of Spanish
    - 2 rotations of K-3
  + 4-5th grade schedules are filled up for music – no Spanish at this time
* School construction is starting soon
  + First project – slope restoration project – in the works for a while
    - Bank on Washington St. side. Bank is unstable. Needs to be fixed
    - Heavy equipment coming in
    - We are going to go through the school garden
      * The garden is going to be moved anyways – we are going to relocate containers
      * It will save a lot of money
      * As part of the deal they will move the garden to new location – not part of original budget for Phase 1

ASB Announcements

* Thank you to PTA for donating decorations for MS Halloween dance – 10/31 2:45-4:45 pm
* Looking for chaperones for the dance – if interested please see Ms. Farson
* Would like to expand sound system outside
  + Looking for equipment – talk to Ms. Farson if you have any equipment the ASB can borrow
* Looking for food and water donations for dance
* 10/23 – first spirit day – character day or black or orange attire

Budget Updates – Alisa

* Request to donate to Imagine Campaign – big fundraiser
* Spending dollars on upcoming fundraising programs – Halloween carnival and Jog a thon
  + We have $72K in the bank
  + So far this year, purchased first in math program, teacher stipends ($200 per teacher)
  + Large expense on budget side – Spanish teacher - $45K
  + Science Program is paid for – Elena Banks
  + Music Program is being paid for
* $5K budgeted for Jog a thon
* $450 for MS dance
* We were given an opportunity for a fundraiser
  + USKA studio is doing a fundraiser
    - $10 - 1 free week of karate
    - $20 – 2 free weeks of karate
    - All money stays with Grant PTA
* Lefty’s dinner – raised $399
  + Next dinner – The Patio – breakfast, lunch or dinner – 10/21
    - 20% comes back to Grant
    - Make your reservations
    - No flyer required, just tell them it’s for Grant when you are making reservations
    - Babysitting is in the works – Ms. Farsons is working on getting it organized
      * Donations will be accepted
* Science Night – best one yet
  + $600 dollars raised in food sales for 6th grade camp – sends 2 campers to 6th grade camp

Membership Update – Lara

* We only have quarter of the school signed up as members
  + We have 100 envelopes turned in
* For next month, we are doing a PTA membership drive
  + Classes with at least 80% participation rate gets an ice cream party (top 4 classes get ice cream, the rest get Costco cookies)
  + Talk to fellow parents, get them to sign up

Skooltopia Volunteer Request – Stacey

* Last meeting, Skooltopia gave a presentation
  + People can put a store up on the site. Proceeds go back to the school. You can buy from Grant vendors or other elementary schools and the money goes to grant. Buyers designate which school money goes to
* Looking for someone to take on the project and manage the skooltopia relationship and market it to the school. Let Stacey know if you are interested.
  + Last update – we had 2 vendors signed up
  + Sam Padilla to send write up to room reps

Site Governance - Stacey

* Meet once a month at 3pm on Mondays (4th Monday of the month) – discuss allocation of money from school district, teacher placements, adds to staff, VP interviews, etc.
* Discuss safety and janitorial issues
* It’s a 2 year commitment –meeting times work around teacher schedules. Willing to do teleconferences for people that can’t be in meeting in person
* Need nominations – stuff is coming out soon. You can nominate yourself or someone else
* At least 2 new people needed, but may have 4 parents termed out
* December is when the hand off will probably happen

**Presentation items: 7:10 pm**

Jog a thon Update – Eric

* 11/13 is the date for 2014; moving to the fall this year
* Apex managed last year and we raised a lot of money
* This year, take the fundraising in house – learn from Apex
  + Need to make enough money so it makes sense not to be with Apex
* ASB is going to pick up donations and hand out prizes – Middle Schoolers are helping out
* Teachers are going to get 10% again – will get teacher’s engaged
* Going back to the party if they a raise a certain dollar amount
* Need volunteers, not for the day of, but pre event planning – contact Eric if interested
* Parent suggestion – figure out a cheer – very powerful and unifying
* Track is back to old size – it will be bigger
* Not doing pledges per lap this year – flat donation is the format

Halloween Carnival Update – Jen

* 12 days to carnival – 10/25 – 12 pm – 5 pm
* Website has been developed. Can go online and buy your wrist band package and then pick up the week before the carnival
* $35 – unlimited rides, 10 tickets, food and drink tickets and 1 ticket to haunted house or silly string zone. Pre buy – additional 10 tickets and the trick o treat bag
* If you pledge $500 via imagine campaign – you get 2 wrist bands
* Cake Contest – rules and guidelines went home to your kids
  + Goes down Friday morning, 10/24 – separate in categories, awards winners by category and age group
  + Cakes are used at cake walk during the carnival
  + Goal is 100 cakes
  + Donated cakes are accepted
* Need help with haunted house construction – starts on Thursday at 3:30 pm
  + Need tallish, male types
* Friday set up – get all the Halloween booths up
* Tear down – need help after carnival
* Looking for pop ups to be donated
* Teacher suggestion – ask the fire company to come help move hay bales
* There will be pie in the face – teacher’s will be getting pied

Imagine Campaign– Jill

* Current donations - $36,500
* 14% of families have been donated
* The bike will be raffled off at the Halloween carnival
* Quieting down efforts after October
* More messaging will be in the Spring – class competition
* Asking that $100 be given per child – if everyone did that we would get $71K – take us over the goal
* Appreciate the support and generosity

Recycling Program at Grant – Lara

* Edco dropped off 10 recycling containers
* Working with cafeteria and janitorial staff to get support
* Presenting in next staff faculty meeting
* Need parent involvement – ASB reps will help take recycling out of classes once a week
* School district has moved to compostable plates – whack and stack program
* New milk cartons are recyclable
* A large prize to the school that donates the most – Lara to look into the details
* Champagne Lu will be spending 5 hours a week at Grant on this program – her job is allotting this time for her
* Ms Farson will do video with Digital media class to create training video – Lara to email Champagne to see if she can help with video
* The handbook will be posted on line. Hard copy available to look at if needed
* It’s all recyclables – not just paper
* Parent suggestion: Reach out to brownies, girl and boy scouts for help – they would be interested
* We currently do a compost program – Elena picks it up once a week
* Silver bucket by lunch arbor – recycling bucket – haul it back and forth for the worms
* Younger kids are already trained
* Textile recycling – Denise
  + Resell, reuse or use them to remake things
  + Ripple textile recycling – will pay .10 cents per pound
    - They can be ripped, torn, etc. They can’t be mildew
    - They will take toys in good condition - .03 cents per pound
    - Will pick up if you have enough poundage
    - Will have an informal q&A gathering next Monday at their site
      * Will look at getting them to present at next PTA meeting

**Action Items: 7:30 pm**

* Approve Insurance (approximately $80) for Jog-a-thon and expenditures ($5K)
  + Motion: Alisa – to release the funds for jog-a-thon and other expenditures not to exceed budget amount
  + Second: Stacey
* Mega Phone was purchased for $138.24
  + Votes passes, approved
* A/C Unit was purchased for Spanish teacher for $417.99
  + Votes passes, approved
* PTA envelope purchase expenditure - $100
  + Vote passes, approved
* Motion – to release funds for MS dance and various council expenditures not to exceed budget amounts – Alisa. Second: Stacey – motion approved
* Motion – ratify 3670-3709 as well as those individual expenses – Alisa. Second: Stacey – motion approved
* Approve annual audit – Vicki – all 3 accounts have been audited and found to be correct
  + Motion: Lara, Second: Stacey – motion approved.

**Round table: 7:35 pm**

* We have a skooltopia rep – Lindsay Fjelstad
* Wine tasting event – Maurice - contact with Cohen Group. Charging a fee to attend - $40 per person (goes straight to Grant). Bottle purchases – negotiating percentage back to school for bottle sales
  + Bringing 5 wine makers from Napa valley. All are Mexican-American wine makers. All started as farm workers.
  + Hosting at private residence
  + Food will be provided
  + Event date: November 2nd (Sunday afternoon). Time: TBD
  + Details will follow – flyer will come soon
* Thank you to Ms. Farson – ASB kids are doing babysitting for PTA members. Donation to kids accepted. Some money will go to the kids; the balance will go to the ASB fund.
* Parent teacher support autism meeting tomorrow – new special Ed support group at Grant. Tomorrow night is specialized academic room – 6pm – 7pm
* Homework help is available – local library site (put in child’s library card info) can find homework help by grade
  + Request a live tutor – info on school website
* Check school website regularly – a lot of great info
* Lunch staff is now CPR/ first aid/epi pen, etc trained. Thank you to Principal and VP
* Share awesome – chance to win $2500 scholarship or technology for school
  + Lindsay will look into it

**Adjourned: 7:42 pm**