Peeples Elementary PTO

Thursday, January 19, 2017 - 9:30AM

In Attendance: Natalie Kaiser, Sarah Harmond, Jennifer Vannier, Diana Schmidt, Cindy Webb, Ashley Lynch(President), Rhonda Mangin (Vice President), Monica Thomas (Teacher Representative), Vanessa Wright (Corresponding Secretary), Buffy Blodgett (Principal), Wanda Godwin (School Secretary), Julianne Moore (Recording Secretary)

Call to Order: meeting was called to order by Ashley Lynch at 9:34AM. Quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes: Copies of the November 17, 2016 meeting were distributed. Attendees were provided time to review. Motion to approve November minutes by Rhonda Mangin, 2nd by Vanessa Wright. All were in favor.

Officer Reports:

Treasurer- report was given by Ashley Lynch. Copies of the current budget were available to all attendees. The direct drive and pumpkin run were wildly successful this year. Square Art was also very successful. Since we did not sell ads in the directory the numbers are down for that column on the budget.

President- Thank you notes were received from numerous teachers for lunches and gift cards that were given over the holidays. Ashley asked all attendees to consider what committee they would like to work on – especially whom might be willing to be the treasurer and/or co-treasurer with another volunteer. Ashley has been asked by several Peeples volunteers if it might be possible to change teacher appreciation week due to the high number of activities that parents have on their plates in the spring. Unfortunately this cannot be changed due to the fact this is a national holiday.

VP, Corresponding Secretary & Recording Secretary – nothing to report

Principal's Report:

Buffy thanked the following volunteers

- Vanessa Wright and Kindness Committee for preparing for our awesome Kindness Week
- Parent volunteers with the Holiday Feast lunches
- Hospitality Committee for supporting all the Appreciation Days and hosting the soup and salad lunch in December
- Lina Martin for applying and winning the Vibrant Community Grant for CAW again this year! (\$5000)

Upcoming/Current Events-

- Kindergarten registration is open. Register at the welcome center.
- Week of Jan 23rd is Kindness Week. That Wednesday is Rockstar Day, Friday students will wear Kindness t-shirts and enter school through the kindness tunnel. We will be doing a food drive to support the Real Life Center.
- January 26th School Council meeting at 7:15
- January 30th 5th grade math bowl at 2:30

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- January 31st 4th grade math bowl at 2:30
- February 7th Chick-fil-A night for grades 3-5
- Feb 8-10th, 13th and 14th K-Kids selling Candy Grams
- February 9th Valentine Luncheon for grades 1st and 4th (needs volunteers!)
- February 14th Valentine Exchange for all grade levels
- Week of February 20th Presidents Day/Winter break (student holidays)

School/Staff Updates

- Peeples had 3 county winners for the county recitation festival. The following students will recite at the district RESA level: K- Victoria Gomez, 1st grade- Eli Hancock, 5th grade – Katie Rausch
- Peeples recently won both awards from the Governor's Office of Student Achievement: Greatest Gains (Gold Award) meaning Peeples academic growth has been in the top 3% of the schools in the state, Highest Performing (Silver Award) meaning that Peeples overall achievement over the last 3 years has been in the top 5% of the schools in the state
- HR is currently working on allotments, contracts will be coming in March. Peeples is now the largest elementary school in Fayette County with 719 students.
- Connected Classroom Bundles Round 1 is coming soon! This is interactive with a projective screen (80 inch) that will roll out 1/3 of school in spring, 1/3 summer and 1/3 in the fall.
- Blackboard is now active for K-3rd grades. 4th and 5th will be live by end of January. As of August 2017 Blackboard will be the only way for teachers to communicate. I.e. no more individual websites, etc. will be used.

Committee Reports

Art- March 16th is the date for the 2017 Art show. Saville Studios will assist again this year. Cost of the individual pieces will go up \$5, but if parents purchase more than one price will stay in increments of \$15. For example, one piece will be \$35. If purchasing two pieces the price will be \$50 and so on. Natalie asked for 6 volunteers to manage this even on the 16th.

Kindness Week- the school canned drive will take place during Kindness Week. All donations will go to the Real Life Center. Each classroom will keep up with the number of canned items, turned into the office and tracked on a piece of artwork to show the overall number of "kind acts" during the week. Pavers have been distributed to all the classrooms. These will be painted by each individual classroom by spring break. After the break, the decorated Kindness Week pavers will be distributed across the school. The schedule for Kindness Week includes Magic Debbie, volunteer from Southern Ground & officer Smiley will discuss internet safety. Wednesday students can dress up as a rock star in correlation to this year's theme – Kindness Rocks. T-shirts for the week will be distributed through each classroom. Students should wear theirs on Friday. Vanessa asked for volunteers to come Friday morning to help welcome all children with the Kindness Tunnel as a way to close out the week's festivities.

Hospitality – Sarah reported the 1st semester to be busy! Next up is counselor, nurse and teacher appreciation weeks.

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Script- Ashley reported that participation continues to be a minimal number of families. Wesley has asked that if anyone has any ideas on ways to increase interest, please let her know. The program is barely hanging on.

PE- field day t-shirts will be managed by the committee this year instead of faculty. April will oversee the selling of the shirts. Profits will go back to the PE program.

Old Business – none

New Business- Ashley reminded attendees the school has been investigating character building programs. In response, administration completed a survey and the teachers have agreed they would like to purchase A Leader In Me. The school staff will be doing a booster-a-thon on April 24th – May 3rd for a Glow Run. Funds from the event will be used to purchase the Leader in Me program. Ashley stated that the PTO will supplement any funds needed to purchase the program. The staff lead for the booster-a-thon is Cindy Webb. Cindy reminded attendees Leader in Me will help with social and emotional development. The cost of the program will provide high quality specialized training for the staff. The principals from Sara Harp and Braelinn have agreed to come and present at an upcoming PTO meeting on their successes with the program.

Motion to conclude the meeting by Buffy Blodgett. 2nd by Rhonda Mangin. Meeting was adjourned at 11:07AM.