

Sierra Elementary PTC Minutes

October 7, 2015 - 6:00 PM

I. Call to order

Meeting called to order at 6:02

II. Roll Call/Introductions

Betsey Welsh, Co-Vice President

Susan Willson, Co-Vice President (Acting President)

Katie Leman, Co-Treasurer

Kali Hetrick, Secretary

Jenn Alexander Shauna Frieseu Gina Farinacci Amy Domingo

Gigi Baltazar Nell Hilldebrand Diane Sorenson Lisa Zeng

Trista Martin Tara Huntington Petra Collamer

III. Approval of minutes – September 2, 2015

Katie Leman motioned to approve the minutes for the PTC General Meeting held on September 2, 2015. Susan Willson seconded the motion. Minutes approved.

IV. Treasurers Report

Katie Leman, co-treasurer, reviewed the treasurer's report for the PTC. The teacher's accounts were given the first portion of their supply allowance provided by the PTC.

escrip

Katie Leman explained escrip and the changes being made to the program. In previous years parents could attach their card to Sierra's account and a portion of all their purchases would come to the PTC several times a year. Safeway will no longer offers this program. However, Safeway will be giving us \$2,800.00 dollars over the next year as a result of this change. PTC also participates in escrip through a gift card program. The gift card program allows the PTC to buy gift cards at a reduced price and sell them at face value. We have done well with this in the past, but need someone to spearhead and manage the processes.

V. Event Updates

A. FUNd Run (October 2)

Susan Willson, Co-Vice President (Acting President), addressed the concerns that the focus of the FUNd Run was not on FUN, but money. This and the auction are the biggest fundraisers of the year, and the donations are key to providing Spanish education, technology, our staff and students.

Betsy Welsh and Lisa Zeng reported on the success of the fund run. At last count the FUNd Run raised \$24,556.00. There were a few hiccups the day of the event, but nothing that wasn't easily resolved. There was a great parent turn out. They thanked all the parents and teachers for their support. Betsy and Lisa will be stepping down at co-chairs of the FUNd Run. As a result the PTC is looking for some new chairs. Betsy and Lisa are open to supporting the new chairs and answering questions, but are encouraging the new chairs to make the event their own. The PTC does not currently have anyone that has expressed interest, but will be reaching out to our school community shortly.

The PTC received a lot of positive feedback about the use of water bottles vs cups. It resulted in a lot less waste, and easier clean up.

B. Fall Carnival (October 30)

Susan Willson introduced the new chair for the Fall Carnival Jenn Alexander.

Susan emphasized that this is event is not a fundraiser, but a fun Sierra community event. Jenn presented the plan for this year's carnival. The teachers were excited

about their booths, and were on board with "Cream the teacher." This year there will be some new booths including Whitney High and the Child ID Booth.

VI. Communications Coordinator Election

The PTC would like to add a new board member - Communication Coordinator. The Communication Coordinator will serve as the liaison between the event chairs, the PTC, the Principal and office staff. The PTC board believes adding this position will help to streamline how the PTC communicates about events resulting in less emails. This position also requires attendance at monthly PTC meetings, and board meetings. The Communication Coordinator will also control the push notices on the app. This position will not manage the FaceBook page as that is a school account, and not specific to the PTC. Betsy Welsh, asked about a PTC Facebook page, and the PTC members in attendance agreed that it was not a good idea to "split our audience", but to potentially create events within the school's Facebook page.

Trista expressed interest in the position, and Susan asked if anyone at the meeting was also interested. There was no interest from anyone at the meeting, and the PTC did not have any response from the email request sent out last week.

Susan Willson, nominated Trista Martin through a vote of confidence. Trista was voted in unanimously by the members of the PTC in attendance.

VII. Teacher Requests VIII. Principal's Message

Teacher Requests:

Diane Duncan, the acting interim Principal, requested a \$103.00 reimbursement for Mrs. Durbin for Math Night. Lisa Zeng motioned to reimburse Mrs. Durbin \$103.00 from the PTC General fund. Betsy Welsh seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Principal's Message:

Diane Duncan held her first staff meeting as acting principal. The teacher's shared that the new math program is involved, but has had incredible results so far. This Monday is a professional development day. The teachers will be learning about the new report card program, and collaborating on the new math program.

Diane Sorenson reported on the student council's food drive. The student council's food drive starts Monday October 13th, and will go through November 13th. It is a great event for the students. Each class will send out flyers and have collection boxes in their classroom. Last year the school donated 1400 cans!

IX. New Business/Open Forum

Amy Domingo co-chair, with Nicole Smith, updated us on the progress of the monthly restaurant night. The first restaurant night will be October 21, 2015 at CPK (California Pizza Kitchen). They are also working out the details for November, December, and January.

Lisa Zeng questioned funding decisions approved in September's general meeting. Susan encouraged parents who were concerned to come to the meetings, but if a parent could not attend the meeting that they should reach out to the PTC and the Principal. Funds are often not spent immediately, so in some cases these decisions could be changed. The PTC encouraged those in attendance to talk about and promote attending PTC meetings to have your voices and desires heard.

It is the belief of some parents that some items that were funded could have or would have been provided by parent donations. As a result of this we discussed having a school wide wishlist created by the teachers and parents. Everything from \$50,000 to \$100,000 shade structure to P.E. equipment. This list would give parents specific ideas about how they could help.

Nell Hildebrand (teacher representative), brought to the PTC's attention that despite the new laptops that were provided by the school district to the teachers this year, the teachers are still in need of desktop computers. The laptops do not have CD drives which are necessary to access portions of the new math curriculum. Along with the distribution of laptops to the teachers the school district came into all the schools, and removed computers, so that they could be redistributed around the district. Mrs. Hildebrand and Mrs. Sorenson will be communicating with the other teachers about the technology issues that have resulted from this. The PTC and the Principal are committed to helping the teachers obtaining the right commitment. For the