

Branch PTO Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2016

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m. in the cafeteria.

Members:

Tiffany Gordon – President
Telissa Matos – Secretary
Michelle Wooddell – Treasurer
Melinda Marchlewicz – Fundraising Chair
Renee Hennagir – Public Relations Chair
Angela Hall – Programs Chair
Abbie Finlayson – Teacher Appreciation
Stacey Ramirez – Art Express
Kim Cantrell – Teacher Liasion

Guests:

Katie Wood
Amy Florence
Cathy Loya
Sara Chown
Kelly Howard
Yin Wai
George Rief – School Site Council
Dennison Winchell – Principal

Absent Members:

Box Tops – Jamie Nichols

Minutes: (Approved and/or Corrected)

The November 13th minutes have been tabled for approval until the next meeting.

Treasurer's Report: 100% of the profit received from the 2015 PTO Winter Book Fair was donated to the teachers. Each teacher was given \$100.00 in Scholastic Dollars credit to purchase reading materials for the classroom. The Spirit wear order is here. Regarding the \$10,000 that was put back in the budget, the school has already ordered radios. The PTO is still waiting for a dollar quote for the Chrome Cart. The school has one Chrome Cart but is looking at getting one more. Although the school board is responsible to provide equipment, the Chrome Cart the PTO would purchase will be used additional laptops for benchmark and AR testing. From the fall fundraiser (Mixed Bags), the two classes to win the pizza party for the highest percentage sold was Ms. Shanks and Mrs. Gragowski.

New Business:

PTO Volunteers/Board Members: Tina Negrete is the new school secretary and so resigned as PTO secretary. Rebecca Dudley the Programs Chair resigned due to conflicts with her active duty schedule. In November, Angela Hall was voted in as PTO secretary. However, she stepped down, and the Executive Board appointed her as Programs Chair. Telissa Matos is the now the PTO secretary.

Labels for Education/Box Tops: The POC is Jamie Nichols (branchboxtops@yahoo.com). The deadline for Box Tops to be turned in by the teachers is February 19, 2016. The school received a total of \$1,195; it was distributed to the teachers. Mrs. Piper's class won with \$140. For the teachers who left over the winter break, the checks went to the classroom.

Spring Fundraising: For the Spring Fun Run, the company can provide all of the marketing materials and the work, including seven days of a Spirit Squad to give out prizes. The overhead

cost is \$2000 with 55% profits. OR the PTO can pay \$1000 and do all the work for 75% profit. However, there might not be enough volunteers to run the project. Due to the amount of work involved, it was suggested that the Fun Run be put on hold until next year. It could possibly be the big fall fundraiser instead of selling items. The teachers should be on board with the Fun Run and could get volunteers from the classroom parents. A decision was tabled until Tiffany can go a collaboration meeting and present to the teachers. The days are still reserved for the third week in April. A full plan of action will be presented at the February PTO meeting.

Instead of the Fun Run, it was proposed that the PTO sell Y-ties (little shoe laces that twist around). The company ships all the supplies. The PTO would only need a few volunteers to work around the school schedule. The Y-ties were approved.

Smencils will be sold before spring break because there are some Easter ones.

Art Express: Mrs. Cantrell's class will donate watercolors for the Art room. More money is needed for the Art Express budget for next year. Supplies need to stay in the Art classroom or be signed out because before Christmas break paintbrushes and glue bottles and scissors disappeared. Remember to wash the paintbrushes. It was requested that signs be posted on how to care for the brushes.

Teacher Appreciation: Abbie thanked attendees for the baked goods donations received for the end of the second quarter teacher appreciation. She will coordinate baked goods again for the end of the third quarter. The first week of May is National Teacher Appreciation Week. On Tuesday, May 3, there will be a "Souper-Hero" lunch with crockpots of soup along with salads and "hero" sandwiches.

2016 Activities:

The ASB dance will be January 29 for 4th-6th graders. Other dances were cancelled. ASB is in need of chaperones and beverage and snack donations.

The Readathon will be for K-6th. Winners will get to give Mr. Winchell a pie in the face. The assemblies will be the second week of April with 3-4 grades per day over 2-3 days. The Readathon will be over the month of March. Reading logs will be due the first of April, no exceptions. The reading logs and instructions will go out February 29. Read Across America is March 2. Amy Florence is coordinating the Readathon and Telissa Matos Read Across America.

There will be some type of Science Carnival/Fair in the spring. Angela Hall is coordinating. She was welcomed to her new position as Programs Chair.

Principal's Report: Mr. Winchell announced the new positions and teachers. Mrs. Martinez is the Learning Director at Branch. Mrs. Grooms is the Learning Director at West Boron. Valene Harris is the new first grade teacher. Josh Briggs is in third grade. Chad Cieslik is in fourth. Mrs. Desormeaux is the NHS teacher.

The canned food drive went well. 2200 pounds of food was donated. The winning class with a pizza party was Mrs. Desormeaux.

Mr. Winchell is working with NASA on a challenge of some sort with an autonomous drone for next October. Mr. Cieslik sent out a sports flyer and will be running classes after school beginning mid-January.

Mr. Winchell is also working on getting tickets for JetHawks baseball again this year.

Phones are working again. Bells are working again. Awards assemblies have been scheduled for the rest of the year. Third grade is part of the Honor Roll now. The donation budget from the school will be used for the Honor Roll assembly (movie and pizza).

Teacher mailboxes have been moved to the teacher's lounge. Copiers have been moved to the workroom.

School Site Report: The School Site Council will meet next Tuesday from 2:15-3:00 in the Intermediate Library. There are no more district funds for Moby Max tablets and the license has expired.

Meeting Schedule:

Next meeting scheduled for February 19 in the cafeteria at 8:00 a.m.

Adjournment: 9:20 a.m.

Submitted by
Telissa Matos, Secretary