

Exploris PTO Meeting

January 13, 2015

Meeting called to order at 11:30 am by PTO President Khristi Tomlinson.

Attendance Per Sign-In Sheet

Khristi Tomlinson, Shea Cleveland, Sandi Mayo, Laura Corder, Donna Orlovski, Cheryl Rodgers, Coleen Getzen, Becky Brown, Pamela Lietz, Sonja McKay, Devon Rose, Brooke Somers, Holly Berry, James Gerdts, Rachel Pohlman, Susan Bostian, Dana Deaton, Carrie Gray, Candice Robinson, Summer Clayton

Budget Report

Budget report was reviewed by Khristi. Recorded expenditures as of January 13, 2015 were \$30,224.00, with a recorded balance of \$21,676.00.

Soap Sales

Soap Sales were reviewed. A gross sale of \$12,815.00 was reported with a net sale of \$7,137.50.

Teachers' Appreciation

Teachers' appreciation week is February 9-13. There was a call for volunteers to sign up to cook dinner for all teachers during this week.

Teachers' Stash was also reviewed. Drinks and snacks are purchased for the teachers 3 times a year. It was recommended that these items be purchased 4 times a year to ensure continuous supply.

Social Committee Report

Monthly Socials:

The committee recommended 2 social events per month be scheduled as well as one large social for the year which would include a silent auction. The tentative schedule is as follows:

January 25, 2015 – Game Day at the Exploris Elementary site

January 31, 2015 – Biking

February – Indoor Rock Climbing and Hiking (Dates to be determined)

March – Rope Course and Biking (Dates to be determined)

March – The Large Social which is targeted as a fund raiser would be a Family Day with a silent auction at CAM in downtown Raleigh. There was much discussion about this social, including replacing it with a school carnival or other activities. Due to the limited planning time, the carnival idea was delayed until next year, and the group voted to have the Family Day. (Date to be determined)

April – Field day with a Potluck and Museum of Art Tour and Lunch (Dates to be determined)

May – Camping Weekend and Bingo (Dates to be determined)

There was much discussion surrounding this topic. The final decision was to schedule no cost events and allow families to sign up for what interested them.

Exploris PTO Meeting January 13, 2015

February Dance:

The dance is scheduled for February 20, 2015 at the Junior League of Raleigh from 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm. (This dance will replace the yearly Frolic)

Noise Policy:

Due to the volume of the music played at the dance, a recommendation has been made to introduce a noise policy at Exploris. It was recommended that parents visit the following site to learn more information about how the volume of noise can result in hearing loss:

<http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/staticresources/health/hearing/NIDCD-Noise-Induced-Hearing-Looss.pdf>

It was also recommended that if the noise policy is implemented it could be enforced through the use of noise meters which can be purchased at Amazon for a cost of \$50.00 to \$80.00. There was much discussion about the potential noise policy, which was tabled until Kristie and Summer could meet to discuss it further.

Teacher Mini-Grant Fund

A request for \$100.66 to pay for materials for vermicomposting at the elementary campus was submitted by the Green Team which is a collaborative team consisting of teachers and parents. A motion to purchase the vermicomposting materials at \$100.66 was made by Cheryl Rodgers, and seconded by Pamela Lietz. The group unanimously voted yes in favor of the motion.

Cultural Arts Grant Fund

Two proposals were submitted for the use of the Cultural Arts Grant fund which was budgeted for \$3000.00 but currently has a balance of \$2600.00.

The first proposal is to support a stem project involving the use of a BetaBox for 4 days at the Exploris elementary site. The BetaBox is a mobile station that allows students to create and print 3D designs. The objective of the project is to strengthen students 'creative thinking, problem solving and collaboration skills. The project is scheduled for March 16th - March 20th. Other grants have been applied for and are currently pending for this project. Total cost is \$3500. Proposal request is \$2600.00.

The second proposal is to support an Artist in Residency project. The artist is Greg Whitt with DrumsForChange. The objective is to infuse in the students cultural enrichment, communication, collaboration, creativity, and community through a variety of group musical instructions. The project is scheduled for March 16th - March 19th.

The group voted to fund the BetaBox project. The group agreed to fund the Artist in Residency project under two conditions:

1. If the major cost of the BetaBox project was supported by other funding.
2. If another week was selected for the Artist in Residency due to the BetaBox being scheduled during the week of March 16th. Total cost is \$2500.00. Proposal request is \$2500.00.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm with the next meeting scheduled for February 10th. The location of the meeting will be announced later.