

Bitterroot PTA April Meeting

April 20th, 2017

In attendance: Bonnie Bear Don't Walk, Laura Lindseth, Cressida Carroll, Mary Rose Swan, Jenny Jasper, Dr. Henry, April Keippel, Ariane Taylen, Nicole Holman, Katy Vergara, Caitlin Dimock, Jennifer Pyburn, Lynette Papka

Meeting was started at 6:30pm

Meeting minutes from March were not posted yet, postponed accepting minutes until next month.

Treasurer's Report – Cressida Carroll

- General PTA Checking - \$2601.75
- General PTA Savings - \$2991.01
- Classroom Carnival Checking - \$5633.24
- Classroom Carnival Savings - \$325.05

Income for Classroom Carnival - \$849.10 – baskets split by 21 teachers, \$3458.65 brought in by booths with teachers keeping what they made. Most successful booths by dollar amount were the 4th Grade Cake Walk, the Garage Sale Walk, and the Pizza.

Classroom Carnival budget was \$700, and we were under budget by \$111.34

Misc. Category includes donations to Project Lead the Way, First Aid training, Library, Annual Report, Field Trips, and Golden Apple Awards donation.

Funds Request – 2nd Grade Teachers

2nd Grade teachers requested \$42.84 to bring in the dinosaur trunk from the Museum of the Rockies to extend their Science learning. This is something we have supported for them the last 3 years. Mary Rose Swan moved to give them their requested funds, seconded by Ariane Taylen. Everyone was in favor. Suggestion by April Keippel after vote would be to add this item into the budget next year so they would not need to request the funds.

Budget Committee

Before our next meeting – we need to form a budget committee to set the budget for next year. Committee needs to consist of at minimum, the Treasurer, the President, a parent and a teacher. Ariane Taylen volunteered to be the parent on the committee. Katy Vergara volunteered to be the teacher. Mary Rose Swan also wanted to attend the meeting. Cressida Carroll will arrange a meeting with all members of the committee before our final meeting of the year in May.

BoxTops / Labels for Education report – Bonnie Bear Don't Walk & Jenny Jasper

BoxTops were submitted in March and we will be receiving a check for \$456 before the end of the school year. Labels are coming to an end in August. We will submit our last bunch of labels and get together with Mrs. Buss to get our funds used up. We will be collecting BoxTops / Labels in classroom tomorrow and will do a final count in the middle of May.

Movie Night

No more movie nights are scheduled for the year. We have discussed letting our movie license lapse as it is a large expense. Currently there is no one willing to take over movie nights next year and we have discussed that if we do them, we will have them be free and not charge for snacks – then we would not need the license.

Question was raised about Spring Pictures – we discussed how the Lifetouch representative had come in and talked to us about how it would affect our earning potential. We discussed several options with him about sending out flyers so parents would know they could skip having their child's photo taken in the spring. Lifetouch had asked us to send reminders home to parents but Dr. Henry and Christy had decided against it because it had the possibility of confusing parents that had already paid.

Event Chairs

We need event chairs for several events or they will be going away. We had included this in the flyer we sent home but it did not get out in a timely fashion and we have not had a big response from it yet. Several people at the meeting discussed being willing to help / chair certain events:

- Saturday Live – Mary Rose Swan chair
- Pumpkin Patch Party – no chair at this time
- Holiday Stroll - April Keippel chair
- Yearbook – April Keippel, Ariane Taylen, and Bonnie Bear Don't Walk said they would help
- Classroom Carnival – Jennifer Pyburn chair

Mrs. Dimock suggested sending out a request to teachers about who would be good helpers about a month into the start of the school year. We also discussed changing what the pumpkin patch party was. There are lots of Halloween parties and maybe we want to do a Harvest party with a family chili dinner and a cake walk at the end of the night, or try something like Sandstone and their Monster Mash dance. Talk of making the event more of a family time than a game night, also discussed having an Events Committee.

Jenny Jasper also suggested contacting Lifetouch to see if they would put together a yearbook if we submitted pictures to them. Bonnie said she would contact John at Lifetouch to discuss.

Standing Rules

We will address these in May – suggested adding an Events Committee to standing committees and we need to switch the Treasurer's name.

Classroom Carnival

Had feedback from several people that this was the best carnival we have ever done. There was good feedback on the baskets. We did have an issue with ticket fraud. A parent went and bought tickets at Walmart to use at the carnival. Discussion on how to prevent issues like this next year by either not selling tickets before hand so color is unknown, or having special tickets that would not easily be copied. Also suggested that if there are people that can't afford to get tickets, they can volunteer and earn tickets.

Teacher Appreciation week

Everything is planned and on schedule – didn't want to ruin the surprise for the teachers in attendance. Dr. Henry is covering one of the 4 days and the PTA is covering the other 3.

Elections

Vice President – Mary Rose Swan

We had several people that are considering running for the other positions on the board, we will do a vote for the remaining positions next month.

Positions available are:

- Treasurer (2 years)
- Vice President Communications (2 years)
- Secretary (1 year)

Principal's Report – Dr. Henry

School Levy is on May 2nd. Teachers have been walking and putting flyers on doors. Dr. Henry volunteered to go to the BEA office and work the phone bank and was looking for volunteers to go with her. Mary Rose Swan volunteered to go.

We had agreed to do an attendance walk in August through United Way. We needed someone to attend training on how to hang flyers. Training times were Tuesday April 25th 3:30-4:30, Wednesday, April 26th 7:30-8:30am, or Thursday April 27th 1:15-2:15. Ariane Taylen volunteered to attend training. Jen Pyburn volunteered to help hang flyers in August.

Other Information

April Keippel brought to our attention the Bicycle Tune-up Clinic that will be held at Medicine Crow parking lot on May 17th. Time should be 3:00-6:00pm. They are looking for volunteers to help with repairs / check-in. Sponsored by Kids in Motion of Billings. More information can be found at kidsinmotionvolunt.wixsite.com/kimbillings/events

Meeting adjourned at 7:25pm