

Bitterroot PTA Minutes
Tuesday, January 12, 2016
6-7pm in the Bitterroot Library

“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.” - Elizabeth Andrew

Welcome and Introductions—Meeting called to order at 6:02 pm by April Keippel

Laura Lindseth, Cressida Carroll, April Keippel, Mary Rose Swan, Kristen Voigt, Kim Pohle, Tari Erfle

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Minutes are posted electronically to the Bitterroot PTA website—Mary Rose Swan made motion to accept the posted minutes and Cressida Carroll second the motion and the motion was passed.

Treasurer’s Report—Given by Cressida Carroll

Total General PTA Checking Account \$15,152.33
Total General PTA Checking Savings \$7,989.39
Total Classroom Carnival Checking \$2,602.34
Total Classroom Carnival Savings \$75.01

It was suggested to send an electronic reminder sent to the teachers mid-year on how much they have in their account. Cressida Carrol will send out the reminder.

Box Tops/Labels for Education Committee—Given by April Keippel

The winning classes for this contest will get a Donut Party.
The top three classes for Labels for Education currently are Pohle, Crofutt, and Bumgarner.
The top three classes for Box Tops/Tyson currently are Hankins, Pohle, and Barrera.

Principals Report/Updates—Not given at this time, the principal was not in attendance

April Keippel mentioned that Wednesday, January 13th there is a meeting at Castle Rock Middle School in the library to discuss the new Middle School format. There was discussion that some people were not able to make the meeting on Wednesday night. There are a lot of changes coming with the new format. Kristen Voigt will email Brenda with the school district to see if we can get access to the Power Point presentation that is covered during the meeting.

Old Business:

Holiday Family Night (Friday, December 11, 2015)

What worked well?

The table for people to sit went over well. Bingo went over well, but we did run out of prizes. The fruit went over well, thank you to Lucie Cole for providing the fruit platters.

How can we improve?

Bingo was not monitored by an adult; we may want to consider having an adult at all stations. The tables for bingo may need to be adjusted. We may want to limit to an hour for the event (i.e. 6 pm – 7 pm). There was confusion on the start time. The individual servings of hot chocolate and cider needed to be handled by an adult; we may want to consider a crock pot with these pre-mixed. If we continue to use the individual

servings we may want to consider using larger cups. We did have a lot of left over cookies. We may want to consider cutting back on the amount of cookies.

Science Night (January 15)

Mary Rose Swan gave update. The plan is to keep it simple. There will be information on the tables with the demonstrations. She is considering a tent with the stars in the hallway. There will be a glow germ station in the hallway, a hydraulic arm, a robotics demonstration, and squishy circuits. We are still in need of volunteers for the event. It is on the Sign Up Genius. The Student Council may have student volunteers. There will be a lot of door prizes.

NOVA Theater (January 25 – February 5): Vacation on Mars - The Solar System for Young Explorers

The try out for NOVA will be held after school on January 25th at 3:20 pm. There will be practice every day Monday-Friday from 3:20 pm – 5:20 pm from January 25th – February 5th. This event is for the 4th-6th graders. Laura Lindseth and Kristine Gaskill are the adult volunteers for the event. There will be a donation bucket at the door for all the performances to help off-set the cost of the event. There will be a Pizza Party after the performance that will be supplied by the PTA. The performances for Nova will be Friday, February 5th at 9:30 am, 1:30 pm, and 5:30 pm.

New Business:

Funding Requests

Miss Kelly → Requested an air mover for each entrance to the school to help keep the floors dry. The cost of each air mover is \$46 plus shipping. This will be tabled until February pending further discussion with Mr. English.

Ms. Bettise (Art Instructor) → Requested funds to supply refreshments at the Billings Public Schools public art show for the 4th – 6th graders art work. Laura Lindseth made motion to approve the funds. Mary Rose Swan second the motion. The motion was passed.

Read-A-Thon: “Wander Into a Good Book” with the Reading Gypsy: February 24 – March 4th

Kristine Gaskill is Chair of the event. She plans on keeping the event similar to last year. The grade level groups will be K-2nd, 3rd-4th, and 5th-6th for prizes. The budget is \$1,700 with \$1,000 designated at this time for the library. There was discussion on how much of the amount raised should go to the library. There was discussion as to maybe 50-75% of proceeds should go to the library. It is estimated that there will be \$2,300 income for the fundraiser. April Keippel suggested that this topic be covered and decided at February’s meeting. Kristine was considering tablets as the top prizes for the winners. We had discussed not having tablets as prizes for previous events. It was suggested that we consider gift cards for Barnes and Noble. Kristine was hoping for a donation of a cookie platter for the winning class rooms. She is also considering having a “Magic Envelope” for the winning classrooms. The reason behind this is because she would like the teacher of the classroom to have input in the idea for the prize for the class. This topic was tabled until February’s meeting. We will need volunteer to count minutes read from 9am to Noon weekdays starting Feb. 25th.

Spring Carnival (April 29th): (Fundraiser for teachers and staff)

Stephanie Maroncelli and Jenny Jasper are the Co-Chairs of the event. The PTA will provide the supplies and prizes needed for the event. There were questions from the teachers as to what they need to do for the event in order to qualify for their portion of the proceeds. The teachers must be paid members of the PTA. They need to be present at the event or have a designated person that they have recruited to stand in for them at the event. The teachers also brought up the topic of how the event and raffles take place. It was suggested to “up the stakes” for the teachers by putting more responsibility on them for choosing their “game” and raffle baskets. Last year the teachers did not get to choose their raffle basket idea. The requests for donations also went out later than past years. It was hard to get donations and the raffle baskets were smaller and fewer than the past year. It was suggested that we put a survey to the teachers to see what they would like to see for the Carnival. Ideas that were suggested were to have the carnival like last year (one price ticket gets the students in the door and access to all games and the proceeds from the raffle divided evenly among all participating teachers). Another idea was to have the teachers keep all the proceeds from their own raffle basket where they can decide on the topic for the basket and keep the one entry fee for the games. Another idea was to have the teachers keep all the proceeds from their own raffle basket where they can decide on the topic for the basket and there be individual tickets sold for the games and they keep all the proceeds from the game that they run. The teachers would also like to have a signup sheet on Sign-Up Genius to sign up for their games that they will have at the carnival as well as the idea for their individual class basket. It was also discussed that food is an option for the teachers to have as the fundraiser for their class. There have been requests to have food again at the event. Tari Erfle will cover these ideas with Jenny Jasper for the Committee to consider.

New officer elections: April 2016 (Topic Not Discussed During this Meeting)

Please look at position descriptions and consider serving on the board

Other New Business?

Mr. Crofutt had a parent make a suggestion for a fundraiser. Herberger’s Department store will allow the sales of Community Event coupon books. The cost is \$5 each. There was discussion on the topic. Herberger’s coupons have a lot of restrictions. There was an informal decision at this time to not participate in this fundraiser.

The Holiday Music Show was discussed. Parents would like to have other option for times of the performances. There seemed to be a lot of congestion and confusion at the shows. Tara McKenzie, the music teacher, will need to be contacted.

Door Prize Drawing

Kim Pohle won

Meeting Adjourned by April Keippel 7:10 pm

Next Meeting February 9th, Tuesday at 6 pm