

Bitterroot PTA Meeting

January 19th 2017

6:30-7:30pm

In attendance: Bonnie Bear Don't Walk, Cressida Carroll, Laura Lindseth, Jenny Jasper, Mary Rose Swan, Ariane Taylen, Dr. Henry, Monica Anderson, Tiffany Frenk, Jennifer Pyburn, Lynette Papka, Theresa Nalewaja

Meeting called to order at 6:28pm.

Principal Report by Dr. Henry:

- Holiday Meal was fun and turned out well. 5th grade volunteers were used to help serve and hand out rolls.
- Music Program at Medicine Crow – flow was good but suggested maybe doing 2 different age groups (two different shows). Parking was very congested at the middle school. Someone suggested that we do a dress rehearsal for the kids to see that they can head back to school once they are finished with their portion of the show.
- Dr. Henry was very pleased with how holiday family night turned out – it was very nice.
- We have gained 15 new students since the beginning of 2017 and loss 3, our current total is 377 students.
- Testing season is almost over for the time being.
- Report cards are coming home tomorrow. If students are getting award at the ceremony on Friday the 29th, they will get a note home in the report card.
- Heights Task Force meeting on January 24th at 7:00pm. Discussing the Barrett Road situation.
- Science Night is on Friday, January 20th.
- Math Club started with 36 kids earlier in the year and still continuing with 15 participants. They are getting extra credit in their math grades. They are learning algebra (middle school level). The group includes all ranges of kids, it is a good mix.

Minutes are posted on the PTA website – moved by Jenny Jasper to approve, seconded by Cressida Carroll, approved unanimously.

Treasurer Report – Cressida Carroll

PTA Checking - \$7,954.38

PTA Savings - \$2,990.79

Classroom Carnival Checking - \$2,734.31

Classroom Carnival Savings - \$250.03

Discussion led to talking about Read-A-Thon. Dr. Henry mentioned a program that she would like to do in April / May. Program is funded by the Masonic Temple. They will donate 5 Kindles as prizes to our students. Students earn tickets by reading specific amounts of time and answering questions about their reading. There will be 1 Kindle for K-1, 1 for 2-3, 1 for 4-5, and 2 at large drawn from the entire student body's tickets. Discussion of adding a PTA sponsored classroom competition as well.

Panda Express nights have earned us \$1332.09 so far.

Library Fundraiser – Monica Anderson spoke as to the programs she uses funds for in the library.

- Pebble Go is used for K-3rd graders. It costs \$1000 / year (payable at the end of the year). This covers 4 topics and keyword topics. Kids love the program and it is well implemented into the classrooms as teachers use it as a research source for kids. She use to get funding for this program from the Education Foundation but can no longer seek funds from that source anymore because they do not pay for subscription services.
- MakerSpace provides materials to support school wide activities during Makerspaces that build and develop skills that will be used in conjunction with Project Lead the Way. Some popular topics are stop motion,

electronics, coding. Some new things she would like to start investigating are Robotics (ties in with 5th grade PLTW), wind machines, water wheel. Materials are disposable / consumables and need to be replaced yearly).

- Books that support your children's curriculum and interests. We need to keep up to date and replace over loved books, for example she just recently had to retire several I Spy Books that were worn out.
- Download EBooks & audiobooks – e-books give children access to our library 24/7, 365 days a year. This is a free service to all kids in the district. We are one of the schools that has been able to donate to this financially to make this possible. There were 380 users of this service in the last 2 months.

Mrs. Anderson requested \$3000 to fully fund our requests. It was moved by Ariane Taylen to fully fund this, seconded by Jenny Jasper. Cressida Carroll let us know we had funds to accomplish this as a PTA – voted and approved unanimously.

Movie Nights – asked what movies we should show – suggested Storks or Finding Dory – this was accepted and approved by people present. March movie will be Storks and April will be Finding Dory.

BoxTops and Labels for Education – We did not do a count in December. Discussing prize options, decided on a popcorn party for the two winning classes.

Classroom Carnival – asking members for a volunteer to take over the planning portion. Jennifer Pyburn and Lynette Papka volunteered to take over the committee. Cressida Carroll and Bonnie Bear Don't Walk agreed to participate on the committee.

Discussed changing the method of baskets again. Will have one theme per class and bigger baskets (1 or 2 per grade level based on the amount of items donated).

Dr. Henry asked to be sent a list of games available from the PTA. She will create a sign up for the teachers to see who will be participating. To receive funds, teachers need to be members of the PTA and participate (or find a replacement) to help with the carnival.

Spring pictures will be February 23rd. We will need volunteers to help. Dr. Henry mentioned that it is possible to not have pictures sent home automatically and run pictures like they do in the fall. She will contact LifeTouch to make that change. Class pictures will be taken in addition to individual pictures. 5th graders will be receiving a free copy of their class picture.

Teacher Appreciation Week. Asked for a volunteer to handle this. Ariane Taylen agreed to do this again this year. Dr. Henry asked for one day that she could have to appreciate the staff so the PTA will cover 3 of the 4 days on that short week.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33pm.