

Bitterroot PTA Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 8, 2016

Bitterroot Library

“Never believe that a few caring people can’t change the world. For, indeed, that’s all who ever have.” ~ Margaret Mead

Welcome and Introductions: John English, Jenny Jasper, April Keippel, Laura Lindseth, Cressida Carroll, Tari Erfle, Kristine Gaskill, Monica Anderson, Wendy Martin, Catlin Dimock, Katy Vergara, Mary Hankins, Tiffany Frenk, Jennifer Jones, Bonnie Bear Don’t Walk, Priscilla Barrera

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- Minutes are posted electronically to the Bitterroot PTA website→Jenny Jasper made a motion to approve the minutes as posted. Kristine Gaskill made a second to the motion. The motion passed.

Treasurer’s Report

- General PTA Checking \$12,974.54
- General PTA Savings \$7,989.78
- Classroom Carnival Checking \$2,577.34
- Classroom Carnival Savings \$100.02
- Movie Night Expense \$28.37/Movie Night Income \$25/Total to date \$133.10
- Print Shop Expense \$33.25/Print Shop Income \$0/Total to date -\$512.97
- Read-A-Thon Expense -\$1,119.79/Read-A-Thon Income (Donation) \$500/Total to date -\$619.79
- Box Top & Label Expense \$18.76/Box Top & Label Income \$0/Total to date -\$115.94

Box Top/Labels for Education Committee

- Second Contest Winners→ Mrs. Hankins & Mrs. Pohle→Donut Party with oranges and water
- Third Contest Possible Party Ideas→popsicles, ice cream, frozen yogurt
- End of the Year Party Idea→Pizza party

Principal’s Report

- Saturday, April 9th is Community Day at Medicine Crow Middle School from 10 am – 12 pm
 - Good time to walk your Middle Schooler through the new school.
- Construction updates:
 - Bench Boulevard section from Barrett to Mattson will be started the day school gets out. (This is referred to as Section C.)
 - The state has said no to extend the pull through.
 - The school will lose 15 feet of sidewalk and yard.
 - The school will lose 10 parking spaces and ideas are being considered to add parking.

- The flooring in all the “outside” rooms except the library & learning center (which will be converted back in to the library) will be re-done this summer in tiling. Mrs. Martin’s and Mrs. Garcia’s rooms will be re-done too.
- The hallways, the library and the “inside” rooms will be re-done the following summer.
- There will be pavement put in from the line-up area to the big toy and toys will be put up for the K-2 to have a play area.
- Redistricting Updates
 - There are decisions being made at the next school board meeting on the “grandfathering” of students regarding which students will go where.
 - Letters will be mailed to all students’ families and every family will need to respond.
 - The area from the round-a-bout south will now be going to Alkali Creek and can go out of area as space allows.
- Project Lead the Way
 - The teachers have been chosen for training on PLTW.
 - Mrs. Anderson
 - Mrs. Vergara
 - Mrs. Barrera
 - The school will have to replace all lab materials every year (estimate of \$2,000 for next year).
 - The school will have to replace any iPad that gets damaged.

Interim Budget Committee Recommendations/Updates

- Original discussion was to fund \$10,000 for Project Lead the Way (PLTW).
- Interim Budget Committee reviewed budget; they estimate \$15,000 can be used for funding PLTW→Leaving \$2,000 to fund.
 - Read-A-Thon estimate income of \$4,000 total→Current income is \$3,869.25 as of today→Kristine Gaskill says there are usually donations that come in for about a week after event.
 - Request was made to know exact numbers of income & expenses for Read-A-Thon & any other expenses that need to be covered through year end and start of school next year and time frame of each expense.
 - Looking at having \$2,000 “cushion” left in the general PTA fund→suggestion to look at upcoming expenses as \$6,000 seems like it would cover the expenses.
- Kristine Gaskill made motion for PTA to fund the entire \$17,000 needed for PLTW with the possibility of using some of the funds from the Read-A-Thon (amount to be determined at the next PTA meeting when all expenses and income have been reviewed). Laura Lindseth made a second to the motion. The motion was passed.
- The Technology Levy request goes out in July; a commitment on the budget must be made at that time.

Read-A-Thon (February 24- March 4)

- Kristine Gaskill, chair of the event, would like feedback from the teachers.
 - The students loved it.
 - The students read a lot of books that they might not normally read.
 - Next year, might consider different grade groupings. K and 1st. 2nd and 3rd and 4th and 5th.
- Donation total at this point→\$3,869.25.
- Two students from each grade group will be selected for the grand prizes. The first name selected will get to choose the e-reader or a Barnes and Noble Gift Card.
- The winning classes will receive their “secret envelope” prize.
 - One class will get to bring their stuffed animals to school for the day.
 - One class will get computer time/gym time/recess time.
 - One class will get time outside to use sidewalk chalk.
- Mrs. Anderson gave a flyer out that explains what the funds she receives from PTA go to fund.
 - PebbleGo→PebbleGo is a search app that is expertly leveled for early researchers.
 - Books that support your children’s curriculum and interests.
 - D2 Download eBooks & audio books→Ebooks that give your child access to our library 24/7, 365 days a year.
 - Materials to support school wide activities during Makerspaces that build and develop skills that will be used in conjunction with Project Lead the Way.

March Movie Night

- Star Wars→About 12 students were in attendance.
- Next month possibly to show “The Peanuts Movie” or “The Good Dinosaur.”

Game Night (Friday March 18th)

- 6 pm – 7 pm→Families can bring a board game to play.

Spring Carnival (April 29th)/Fundraiser for Teachers & Staff

- Stephanie Maroncelli and Jenny Jasper are the chairs for the event.
 - Categories for the raffle baskets have been set→There are 2 themes per grade level.
 - The first 3 weeks of April they will be asking for donations.
 - The 2nd grade teachers have their booth idea set.
 - There were 2 ideas for entrance fees and tickets proposed. In both scenarios, the proceeds would be split evenly among the staff.
 - One flat fee and separate raffle tickets for the baskets,
 - One flat fee with a designated amount of tickets and then the opportunity to purchase additional tickets at the carnival and separate raffle tickets for baskets.
 - The teachers would decide how many tickets to charge for their booths.
 - Kristine Gaskill made a motion to go with the option of one flat fee with a designated amount of tickets with the opportunity to purchase additional tickets. John English made a second to the motion. The motion was passed.

T-shirt Design for 2016/2017 update

- The art teachers are currently working with the 4th grade classes on designs.
- Some designs are coming in.
- Voting will occur at the next PTA meeting for a design for next year's shirt.

Student Yearbook Update

- Flyers were just sent home with students for ordering.

5th & 6th Grade Celebration Information Session on March 10th at 6 pm in the library

- Need parent volunteers to chair the event → Tari Erfle has volunteered, Trina Adams may be interested.

Teacher Appreciation Week (May 2nd-5th)

Other New Business

- The 2nd grade teachers have requested to have \$49.98 to rent a trunk from the Museum of the Rockies .
 - Cressida Carroll made a motion to cover the fee, Jenny Jasper made a second to the motion and the motion was passed.
- The Golden Apple Award Committee requested \$100 sponsorship. Bonnie Bear Don't Walk made a motion to pay the fee; Kristine Gaskill made a second to the motion, the motion was passed.
 - Mrs. Hargrove thanks Bitterroot PTA for the support.
- The Student Store requested an initial start up cash box to start the sales for the store. They will give back the funds.
 - Motion was passed.

Door Prize Drawing

- Wendy Martin and Catlin Dimock won door prizes.