

**PTA Meeting**  
**Thursday, September 21, 2017**

Meeting was called to order by Mary Rose Swan.

In attendance: Laura Lindseth, Dr. Shanna Henry, Mary Rose Swan, Jennifer Pyburn, Jennifer White, Jeanne O'Donnell, Tiffany Frenk, Lynnette Papka, Nicole Holman, Monica Smith, Cara Auch, Marika Waldo, Jen Gordon, Kristin Grant, Bonnie Bear Don't Walk, Ariane Wittman, Jessica Doyle, Stacey Barbeau, Jennifer Jones, Cressida Carroll, Stephanie Maroncelli, and April Keippel

The minutes from the May meeting were reviewed and approved.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Jennifer Pyburn reviewed the budget for 2017-2018. Total approved budget was \$11,658.00. Total amount in checking and savings: \$5,765.33 as of May 2017.

There were a few changes to the approved budget from past years. The amount approved for Pumpkin Patch was zeroed out. Instead there will be a Family Fall Festival Fun Night on November 10<sup>th</sup> with games and a chili cook-off. There is no budget for movie nights or NOVA theater since those events will not take place this year. Instead, funds will be used for the Audubon Naturalist in the Schools program for fourth grade. Additional funds came in from Panda Express nights and Life Touch spring photos. The totals will be updated in October.

**Standing Committees:**

Box Tops/Labels for Education: Bonnie Bear Don't Walk has agreed to serve as the coordinator. Mrs. Frenk said the teachers liked the bucket for label collection in their classrooms. Bonnie Bear Don't Walk suggested it was easier to have the labels on sheets for mailing purposes, as long as they weren't stapled to the sheets. Counting of box tops will be done from someone's home after school hours this year to better accommodate schedules.

**Old Business:**

Standing Rules were made available for member review.

Board member proposed changes: Mary Rose Swan will serve as Acting President; Bonnie Bear Don't Walk will serve as Acting Vice President; April Keippel will serve as Acting Secretary. There were no objections.

Coupon Book Fundraiser: Stephanie Maroncelli provided an update on the coupon book fundraiser. The amount for the books were decreased this year from \$25 to \$20 but there was some confusion because of labeling on the envelopes. Because of this error, we brought in \$275 extra which is being accounted for separately. The books ordered for out of town codes will be sent after all reconciliation is done; we

will pay half of the shipping and the vendor will pay half. There are still a few books which haven't been returned and a few orders missing, but as of today there was \$9,565 brought in. The PTA will earn half that amount as profit, \$4,782.50.

Stephanie suggested we may want to consider purchasing a few extra books to have on hand for orders that may come in after the deadline. There was discussion as to why we didn't earn as much profit as in prior years. It was suggested that it may have been because others were also selling the same books and started a bit earlier, also some of the other vendors had competing products.

### **New Business:**

Event Chairpersons: Volunteers are needed to Chair upcoming events such as Fall Festival, which Cressida Carroll and Stacey Barbeau agreed to chair, Holiday Stroll, Classroom Carnival, Teacher Appreciation Week, and the Fundraising Committee, which Stephanie Maroncelli agreed to chair. There will be support and assistance for anyone wanting to chair or co-chair an event.

Red Ribbon Week: Mrs. Neese suggested moving the funds budgeted for Red Ribbon week to support PAWS (Positive Actions in School). Because of the developmental stages of our students, it can be uncomfortable to talk about drugs, alcohol and cigarettes that week. These topics are covered under the umbrella topic of healthy lifestyles. Bonnie Bear Don't Walk moved to use the allocated funds to support PAWS instead of Red Ribbon Week; Nicole Holman seconded.

Saturday Live: The fifth grade class will be bagging candy for the event. Volunteers are still needed to work in the booth at the event, especially counting tickets. Because of inclement weather, there were no pre-ticket sales at school. Those in attendance were provided an opportunity to purchase pre-sale tickets at the meeting.

Reader Board Proposal: There was a suggestion to raise funds to replace the current reader board. An electronic board would be estimated to cost \$9,871 for the sign and \$550 for the computer to run it. Dr. Henry will get information from the School District for the established guidelines for an electronic reader board.

Goal for fundraising: The reader board discussion sparked conversation about potential fundraising goals. There was agreement that it would be easier to fundraise with a specific goal in mind. There were several possibilities mentioned in discussion including reader board, tetherball, and playground equipment. Members are asked to bring fundraising goal suggestions to the October meeting.

There was a brief discussion about safety and dogs on the property. No dogs are allowed on school property, except for official service dogs.

Panda Express Fundraiser: A flyer will be sent home for the Panda Express fundraiser on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. A portion of the proceeds from sales that night will benefit Bitterroot PTA. Bring the paper flyer to the store, or let the cashier know you're there for Bitterroot PTA.

Domino's Fundraising Nights: Jessica Doyle from Domino's provided information on fundraising nights with Domino's. They have Family Nights with a family party for dine-in with kids making their own pizza.

A portion of proceeds from that night would benefit the Bitterroot PTA. There was also information on classroom packages. The flyer must be brought into Domino's to receive a portion of proceeds from the purchases. Jessica also brought samples to share with those in attendance.

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Party: Mrs. Frenk requested funding to support the 5<sup>th</sup> grade party. Each grade level is allocated funding in the PTA budget for a field trip bus. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade uses the bus funds for Fish Wildlife and Parks at Lake Elmo. The bus is needed for safety in crossing busy roads, physical needs of some students, and rain. Last year the event was moved to the Sports Plex instead of Lake Elmo. The 5<sup>th</sup> graders work with Fish, Wildlife and Parks year-long with a presentation each month at the school. This programming cumulates with the Lake Elmo fishing event.

The 5<sup>th</sup> graders would like to have a bus to take the students bowling for their 5<sup>th</sup> grade party. The kids are asked to bring money for shoes and bowling, which is offered at a discounted rate by Town & Country. After bowling, the students come back for BBQ outdoors and a reception which includes a formal ceremony with cake. Parents put on the lunch. The request for \$200 would cover transportation needs for the event. In exchange, the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students might help with a family night at Domino's.

Mrs. Grant moved to add \$200 to the existing PTA budget for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Celebration. April Keippel seconded.

Dr. Henry mentioned there would be a bike repair opportunity at Medicine Crow Middle School on Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> from 3-5pm. The event is open for students from Bitterroot, Beartooth, and Medicine Crow.

Tickets were drawn for the door prize basket. Bonnie Bear Don't Walk won the basket.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.