**Unity West PTO Meeting**

Tuesday, March 12, 2019

**Call Meeting to Order** – meeting called to order at 6:32 p.m.

Mrs. Robbins, Ms. Backhoff, Coartney Siuts, Amy Benedict, Mary Powers, Anna Lee McCormick, Cristin Gaines, Connie Langley, Annie White, Megan Cobb, Mrs. Kallembach, Denise Jayne, Mr. Fisher

**Introductions**

**Officers’ Reports**

* President: Connie Langley

Reminder to Committee chairs to document all committee responsibilities, along with timeline and submit when finished.

* President-Elect: Anna McCormick – no report
* Secretary: Denise Jayne
* Approval of minutes – Cristin Gaines made the motion to approve the PTO minutes from the February meeting; Annie White seconded the motion
* Treasurer: Coartney Siuts
* Approval of Treasurer’s report – Amy Benedict made the motion to approve the treasurer report; Mr. Fisher seconded the motion.

**Committee Reports**

* Open House : Lisa Cheely – no report
* Fundraiser : Officers need to discuss and decide on fundraiser for next year.
* Holiday Shoppe: Discontinued for 2018-19
* Trivia Night/Silent Auction: Sharon Baxley / Connie Langley & Denise Jayne – all baskets have been picked up and paid for. Additional deposit of $120 was made on 2/21/19. All Thank you notes have been sent out. Mary Powers volunteered to co-chair the silent auction in 2020 with Denise.
* Unity East & Unity West Skateland Night: Lisa Cheely – no report
* T-shirts (Feb/Mar): Melissa Reedy / Anna McCormick – Anna has done a fantastic job raising money for the shirts, $2,300 has been donated at this time.

Indecisiveness in regards to each classroom level shirt color; decisions need to be made by the 20th.

* Family Movie Night (Mar 15): Denise Jayne – ready to go on the 15th
* Scholastic Book Fair (Mar 18-23): Anna McCormick – Starts next week! Only 1 volunteer spot open
* Teacher Appreciation (May): Amy Benedict/Mary Powers – Taco dinner will be held on parent/teacher conference for the teachers. Still have a few slots open for donations for the dinner
* Talent Show (April/May): **Transferring to Music Department**
  + Event is set for May 15
  + Will need volunteers to hang art work
* Rocket 5K (April 5): Melissa Reedy/Anna McCormick
  + At this time we have 4 participants signed up for the 5K, and 4 for the 1 mile fun run.
  + The drop deadline for shirt orders is 10 days prior to the event, so I will make the order by March 20th.
  + Anyone interested in the 1 mile fun run should sign up online since the waivers are “signed” there and it helps keep numbers from year to year. There is no cost to the 1 mile fun run. The 5K is $25 for walking or running. If you are participating in the 5K as a Unity West student or employee the cost is $15 since they will already have a shirt.
  + Please share the FB 5K event
  + Decided not to hire Body n Sole for timing this year. There are so few runners and my husband has agreed to help me, we can do timing on our iphones just as well and save the $100.
  + The course will remain the same and the sheriff’s office will block the highway for us.
  + A sign up sheet for help at intersections will be posted closer to the event.
  + The Cornerstone Baptist church has reached out to me and will be providing the post race bananas/water type things. They haven’t confirmed what they will provide just that they would like to provide those type of items after the race.
* Fun Day (May 28): Dy-Ana Skibbe/Jes Robbins – drafting a wish list
* Apparel: Dy-Ana Skibbe / Cristin Gaines – no report
* Box Tops: Cristin Gaines – Box top competition for March is a pizza party for the class that brings in the most box tops. One class winner from K-2 and one class winner from 3 - 5
* Accelerated Reader: Tori Stierwalt / Stephanie Berkey/Amy Benedict
  + Renaissance myON Reader is a student-centered, personalized literacy environment that gives students access to more than 6,000 enhanced digital books. Titles are dynamically matched to each individual student’s interests, grade and Lexile reading level. Combined with a suite of close reading tools and embedded supports, myON Reader fosters student engagement and achievement. Students will have 24/7 access to a core digital library for online and offline reading using the free mobile apps. Students, educators, and families use the data available at their fingertips about reading activity and growth to celebrate success, build motivation and support differentiated instruction.
  + Amy, with the support of PTO, would like to register all students in May at $1 per person (408 students in school)
  + AR committee would come up with an incentive plan similar to AR for the summer months to encourage reading.
  + A motion was made to support the AR committee with the funds to use myON to support and encourage students to read over the summer months. Total of $408 dollars would be provided. Crisitin made the motion to approve the funds; Anna McCormick seconded the motion to approve the funds.
* Public Relations / Bulletin Board: Lisa Cheely / Anna McCormick – no report
* Restaurant (Fundraising) Night: Lisa Cheely/Annie White – Annie has the flyers for Monicals fundraiser for the 21st.

Applebees is set for March 30th. 17 students have signed up to assist with the event, still need adult volunteers

**Teacher Reports**

* K – 2 (Ms. Backhoff)
  + Kindergarten orientation will be held on April 8th. Screening will be held on April 10th and 24th.
  + K and 1st grade music concert will be on March 28th, kindergarten will be at 6:00 p.m. and 1st grade will perform at 7:00 p.m.
  + 1st grade field trip will be to Aikman Wildlife on May 14, 2019
  + 2nd grade is working on shark murals and will be going to the Children’s museum in Normal on May 8th for their field trip.
* 3 – 5 (Mrs. Kallembach)
  + 3rd grade is prepping for state testing which will be held after parent/teacher conferences
  + They are also prepping for 4th grade by learning how to use weekly planners that are required in 4th grade.
  + Also finishing up their cursive books
  + 4th grade is finishing their executive functioning unit that works on study skills
  + In social studies they are working on pioneers and the state of Illinois as part of the history strand.
  + Will study economics, as they get ready to travel to the Lincoln Museum in Springfield for their field trip on May 15, 2019.
  + The Monday before spring break will be a STEAM day full of activities and 4th grade will work on how to survive on a desert island
  + 5th grade student council raised $680 for St. Jude from the candy grams in February.
  + Wrapping up their president reports using a google slide presentation

**Principals’ Reports**

* Floyd Fisher
  + The calendar for 2019-2020 will be out soon. There will be some changes made, for example Casmir Pulaski day will no longer be observed. There are also some changes being made to the use of ½ days based on a change in the law.
  + Chromebooks are now being used in the library.
* Lanee Reichert – N/A

**Old Business**

* Committee Chair Manuals
* Darlene Schweighart – Tolono Fun Day

**New Business**

* Update/Approve By-Laws
  + Connie will email by-laws out to address what she has, also posted on PTO website, will post to FB event for April meeting
  + Public Relations is not listed among the committees in Bylaws
  + Teacher/Parent Officers
  + Bylaws currently state that Teachers cannot hold officer positions. Do we want to keep that bylaw? What if the teacher is also a parent of a Unity West student? Who is considered a teacher, any staff member, or K-5 classroom teacher?
* Nomination of officers - April Meeting
  + President Elect position – open for 2019/2020
  + Secretary position – open for 2019/2020
  + Looking for someone to shadow Trivia Night to take over in two years.
* Megan Cobb – music teacher – announced that the 2nd grade music concert was moved to April 4th. Also looking for volunteers to decorate for the K/1st grade concert, March 28th. 5th grade concert will be on May 10th and is Musical Summer Camp. The choir and the band will perform at Fun Day.

**Adjourn Meeting** Next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 9, 2019

Meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m. Amy Benedict made the motion to adjourn the meeting; Mary Powers seconded the motion.