PESI General Meeting
October 27, 2021
American Eat Co.

Attendance: See separate list

The meeting was called to order at 4:45 p.m. We began with introductions, including Mary Zeller, a third grade teacher from Miller Elementary School. She attended because she is looking for people to judge her class' science fair on May 24th. Araceli Gonzalez, formerly at the Science Resource Center and now at the University of Arizona Shuttle Transportation Department, also attended. Brooke Meyer, from SARSEF, attended virtually, as did Sonya Marya. Brooke informed us that the SARSEF is Feb 26 or 28 to March 5, 2022.

Treasurer's report: See attached. Peggy Herron was not in attendance. Barbara Casanova moved to accept the report. Caryl Crowell seconded. Motion carried.

Minutes approval: Ginny Beale moved to accept the minutes of our last meeting. Becky Cavazos seconded. The motion carried. The minutes have been posted to Google Drive and also can be posted on the website.

Committee Reports:
Professional Development:

- The Warren PD was completed. Most teachers stayed after for an hour of consultation time with PESI volunteers. We will reach out to Warren to find out if they are interested in more PD sessions and support for science notebooks.
- On Thursday, October 28, PESI offered 3, two-hour PD sessions, delivered by Meg Gebert, Lissa Bouwens, and Debbie Black. Meg will present on Trees and Weather and Ron's Ramps at the kinder level; Debbie will present on Grade 1 Balance and Motion; Debbie will present on Grade 3 Human Body.
- On November 3, 2021, PESI volunteers are meeting with K-2 Carrillo teachers on the topic of science notebooks. Another session on November 17, will be with 3 -5 teachers. We will offer an extended hour for more kit specific support or any other topics that teachers want to discuss.
- Marleen Lyon, Becky Cavazos, and Barbara Casanova met with Judy Cooper Wagoner, UA lecturer in science who is taking over the ICATS program, regarding a request she received from Cragin Elementary for support in setting up a science lab using ESSR funds. Marleen expressed concerns regarding a lab versus classroom-based science. A meeting date has not yet been announced.
- On December 7th, Caryl Crowell, Esther Witt, and Colin Waite will offer an all-day workshop at Cooper ELC on Adaptations and Interconnections. Elisabeth Roberts is interested in helping out. Caryl moved that PESI fund a facilitator in training position for this workshop at the same level as in the past. Barbara seconded. The motion carried. Another workshop, possibly an overnight Moon Journals workshop will be offered in the spring. Cooper is currently in the process of acknowledging 100 teachers who are great science teachers.

Curriculum:

- The SRC has been moved across the street and is still in disarray.
- Ernie Navarrette has asked for support from PESI to fund notebooks and sheet protectors for the new Ron's Ramps kits. Barbara moved to provide $60 for items to be used for the manuals for Ron's Ramps. Ginny seconded. The motion carried. We will ask Ernie to check on the availability of items in the warehouse before we purchase anything. Ernie can be reached at Ernest. Navarrette@tusd1.org
- PESI volunteers can help refurbish kits as the SRC is currently understaffed. PESI will write a letter to the TUSD board in support of increasing staffing.
- Ernie and Meg are currently working on a form for requesting materials.

Communications:

- Barbara, Elisabeth, Marleen worked on a letter to the board introducing ourselves and advocating for support for science instruction and the SRC. In the letter, we share what we have been doing, thank the board for purchasing the new science curriculum materials, and advocate for more PD for teachers. There was discussion about getting co-signers or additional letters from other organizations and persons who support science learning.
- Barbara has added PAYPAL to the website for a DONATE button. She encourages us to try it out. She is adding events to the calendar and working on the email contact list, eliminating bounce backs. She recommends dating the list each time it is revised.
- PESI thanks Ginny and Jaime for their work on the newsletter. Ginny has suggestions for streamlining the process that she will share at a later date.

Nominations:

Nominations are needed for the positions of Treasurer and Secretary. Peggy will train the new Treasurer. Ginny moved to nominate Araceli as Treasurer for a 2-year term. Barbara seconded the motion. Araceli was elected unanimously by those present at the meeting. Since no one was willing to serve as Secretary, it became a "committee" job. Brooke offered to set up Zoom meetings. Caryl offered to take minutes and Sonya will fill in when Caryl is not available.

Fundraising:

Our fundraising event is December 5, 2021, from 2:00 – 7:00 pm at Crooked Tooth Brewery. We will revive Science Trivia and other activities. The Little Cloud Band will perform. There will be gift baskets and other drawing prizes. The brewery has arranged for food trucks and Ben will offer his Science of Beer tour and tasting. Some PESI members will stay after the general meeting for more planning.

Our next meeting will be Monday, January 31st, 4:30 p.m, at a location to be announced.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Minutes taken by Caryl Crowell