Organization (PTO) Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2023, 6:30pm, Zoom

Minutes prepared by Lindsey Brown

IN ATTENDANCE: Ashley LaFlam (Co-Chair), Sarah Perrotte (Co-Chair), Amanda Crocker (Treasurer), Lindsey Brown (Secretary), Sunshine Ouimette, Kathie Pudvar, Rae Donovan, Ariel Smith, Carolinne Griffin, Adam St. Germain, and Mary Neffler

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: Ashley opened the meeting at 6:30 pm and introductions were made.

MEETING MINUTES: Meeting Minutes from the December 6, 2022, meeting were reviewed. Amanda Crocker moved to approve the minute as presented, seconded by Sarah Perrotte. Approved unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT (Amanda Croker Presented):

1. The bank balance is currently $14,799.89. There is one uncleared check for Precision Print in the amount of $300.
2. Cookie Love Fundraiser exceeded its goal of $1,500.00 and raised $2,018.00 after the final count.
3. Mini Grants: No current requests. Rae Donovan will send out communication to teachers to help get some activity on applications.
4. There were some small donations from Amazon Smile and Neat Repeat.

FCS TEACHER/PRINCIPAL REPORT (Kathie/Rae):

1. Rae had no new updates on playground repair funding from the district.
2. Rae discussed a pilot project / collaboration with Willowell which would allow 4th and 5th grade classes to participate in outdoor education 2 Fridays a month. Students would be bused there and back (about 20 min each way) hopefully beginning February 10th, 2023. There may be a need for funds for transportation or other activities involved. **Rae** will continue working on planning and getting quotes and follow up at the next meeting.
3. Rae also discussed how some FCS staff expressed the desire to start up a school apparel store. The thought is that FCS students could submit drawings of something that grows that could potentially be used on the apparel and create a fundraiser. **Adam** volunteered to research a program for on demand print of images and **Rae** agreed to get him connected with **FCS staff** interested in working on this project. There was a brief discussion about having PTO fund shirts for subsidized lunch students. This item will be revisited at the next meeting.
4. Kathie shared that the staff appreciation is still being received well and greatly appreciated.
5. **Kathie** also mentioned the school is short on sleds. She will take a count to gather an order and submit receipts to PTO after purchase.

6. **Kathie** has been surveying the children at gym class on items they would like to see for outdoor play. She will get an updated list for us at the February meeting. She did say that surprisingly there was a large request for more blacktop / solid surface for activities. **Ashley** will look into quotes and discuss with the town any guidelines this would entail.

NEW BUSINESS:

No new business to discuss.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Grant for artist in residence:**
   Carolinne presented the idea of having the circus return. That idea was very well received by all. There is concern that it is very costly. Carolinne will reach out to Troy and see about 1-2 week residency, previously the cost was around $6,000.00. She will also reach out to Pete about possible use of the HS or MS gym for the event. **Ashley and Lindsey** volunteered to help with this event. We will revisit at the next meeting.

2. **Amazon Smile & Neat Repeats:**
   Lindsey will be working to set up donation bins at the school and at town hall for a Neat Repeat Consignment. Amazon smile brought in about $50 the holiday season.

3. **Teacher Appreciation:**
   List of Volunteers by month
   November - Melanie
   December - Kathie (2nd grade)
   January - Rumsey (3rd grade)
   February - Ali/Adam (1st grade)
   March - Catie (Kindergarten)
   April - Carrie (4th grade)
   May - Mary/Ashley (5th grade)

4. **Cookie Love Fundraiser:**
   The fundraiser was very successful and raised a total of $2,018.00

5. **Make and Take:**
   The event was a success, there was a large turnout. Possibly need to expand the space next year. Sarah and Lindsey would like to donate the funds they spent on the event and reallocate the holiday budget wherever it can best be used.

6. **Spring Fundraiser:**
   This event is still up in the air. There was discussion of possibly just an event rather than a fundraiser. Possibly involving helping the community and a BBQ for families. **Lindsey** will start an email of all that have expressed interest and the group can come back to this at the February meeting.

7. **Playground Updates:**

No new updates from the district on swing replacement or additions. **Rea** will stay in communication with the district on the playground budget.

Next PTO meeting: February 6, 2023 Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.