

PTA Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2017, 6:30PM
Prairie Library

Introductions & Facebook Live Stream Feedback & Reminder

- Tera called the meeting to order at 6:37PM. We are live streaming on Facebook Live. Tera introduced the board. Mr. Griffin was unable to attend the meeting tonight. Tera also welcomed our guests from Aramark.

Aramark: Brian Mand and Valarie Frigge: Presentation & Questions

- Aramark just began with the School District of Waukesha last summer.
 - What is the expectation for the amount of time to serve the ideal amount of students.
 - Brian reported that ideally he would like the children to go through the line in 5 minutes. He understands that this may not be reality. It seems that the entering of the pins seems to be where things are slower. Brian reports that this is how most schools are doing things, but they are piloting the use of an ID card at Hawthorne. It seems to be going well and there are plans to have ID cards printed for all elementary cards. There are some needs in regards to the IT aspects.
 - There have been a number of concerns around the time as there have been reports that the last child in line may only have 5 minutes to eat. There are 2 lines and children go to the line that serves what choice they want. Is there a way to to have the popular items to both lines. Brian will discuss this with the kitchen staff. There was a question about volunteers and this would need to be approved and they would not be able to do the scanning due to privacy issues. He will also discuss that food has run out and youth are standing in the line for an extra amount of time.
 - The pre-ordered food gives a count but it is always padded. They also look at the previous 5 week cycle counts to get a better idea of how much of what to produce. Some schools have done a ticket from the pre-order so the youth do take what they stated they wanted the previous day.
 - There was discussion around that children and parents shall be accountable to what they pre-order. It was discussed that this is new this year as we never pre-ordered. Parents explained that we were informed that this is was described as a guideline. Brian will talk with the Elementary School Manager to discuss if other schools have some of the same issues with food running out and how the pre-order works out. It may be helpful to have more communication sent out to families about the pre-order and how this is working. Questions came up about adding to the calendar about the pre-order as well seeing if there is a way to do this computerized.

- Questions regarding the time for lunch. 20 minutes seems low and 30-40 minutes seems more reasonable. Also discussed if a youth can get only a milk. They are able to go to the front of the line and get a milk.
- How is the lunch menu determined. There is a requirement and it 8 ounces of protein per week and at least 1 per day. All of the food groups are like this. They are currently being audited for their menu's but have been compliant.
- A question around the amount of waste of food. Every student has to have a fruit or vegetable with their meal. Once a student takes something Aramark is unable to take anything back into their kitchen. There is a liability around giving the food after the students had it. An idea about the wasted fruit...donated it immediately. There was also question in regards to having everything in cups and bags. There was an e-coli outbreak years ago and the School District of Waukesha requires this, but he will look into this.
- Online there was discussion about including the Student Council could help on the no waste.
- There is information in the lobby and on the School District's Webpage.

School/District Business

- Principal's Report (Mr. Griffin was not present but did send information that Tera shared).
 - Mr. Griffin wanted to thank the PTA for sponsoring Prairie for the WEF and shared that the the raffle basket will be for Fireside. He also wanted to thank everyone for the kind contributions during the student-led conferences. The staff really appreciates everything that the PTA does for them. He also reported that Literacy and Math Nights will be coming up and would like for the PTA to assist with the snacks for both nights and pies for math night. He reported that the stools have arrived for the hallway workstations. There will be a Black History Month program on February 28. Mr. Griffin also wanted to share with the PTA that Prairie was awarded monty to enhance the maker space room.
 - Waukesha Education Foundation Requests
 - Celebration of Excellence-Family Event at South High School (Sun. 2/26/17, 3-6PM). Tera passed around information. They are currently accepting applications from teacher for some of their grants.
 - Event Raffle Basket (Prairie's basket was a Fireside Basket)
 - Event Table (highlighting Prairie)
 - Prairie Grant Requests (Possible PTA match). Would this be something that would provide some interest and assistance.
 - Resource Officer Purpose & Frequency
 - The School Resource Officer was here recently and there was question around how often and if they are always in uniform.

- Mid Year Staff Changes
 - There have been some staff changes, but Mr. Griffin was not hear to discuss. Two of the Special Education teachers have resigned. One effective currently and one at the end of the year.
- Kohl's Cares Field Trip Grants: up to 4-\$1000 grants
 - This is a teacher driven project and parents can not assist.
- District rolled out new website
 - Do we know when Prairie will be seeing a new website.
- Election Issues
 - There was an election today and protocols are very different from the Presidential Elections.
- Other Questions/Discussion
- Superintendent's Council Report: None
- Curriculum Council Report: None
- Special Education Round Table Report: None

PTA Business Operations

- Monthly Expense Report: Andy R.
- Minutes-Vote to approve January 2017-Patti C.
 - Erica K. made a motion to approve the January 2017 PTA Meeting Minutes. Molly seconded. A vote was called. All were in favor.
- Kindergarten Play request for funds-\$40.00
 - A music production is not part of the Kindergarten curriculum. In the past years they have purchased a program using their teacher allocations.
 - Ben S. made a motion to approve \$100.00 to come out of the special allocations fund. Erica K. seconded. A vote was made. All were in favor.
- Questions/Comments

Month in Review

- Art & Talent Showcase: Friday, 2/17/2017
 - This was great. There were 28 students that participated. There were not many people that came on Friday night. Is there a way to get more people present. Parents really liked how they did the art was explained. One concern was to have staff in the back to assist as there was some disruption. We are also in need of a chair.
- Book Fair & Teacher Conferences
 - This went well. There was a thank you from Mrs. Dugan. There was positive teacher feedback for the vendor. There seemed to be a little more confusion with the Sign-Up Genius.
- International Give a Book Day
 - We will work on this for next year.

Upcoming PTA Events & Program Discussion

- Wellness Program with staff
 - Mr. Booth and Mrs. Sanchez are the coordinators. There is a run/walk on May 13. There is also a Park and Rec Run on 5/13 as well and there is a training that students can sign up for as well. Mrs. Sanchez will come next month to discuss further.
- Good Friends presentation on Special Education
 - Molly presented on Good Friends and explained that there is a presentation about acceptance. She is in the early stages to have a presentation to students and some professional development for staff. She will have more information for the March meeting.
- Art Fundraiser to benefit PTA-Kids art into gifts
 - Mrs. Anderson could assist students in making some of their art into gifts. The question would be if there is any interest and if it could include all grades. Parents agreed that there is interest.
- SCRIP Deadline: Friday, 02/24/2017
- Dr. Seuss themed Literacy Night: 03/02/2017, 6-7
- Family Night Out: Skateland (Thursday, 03/09/2017)--there is no school on Friday..**Please make sure to tell them you are with Prairie.**
- Next PTA Meeting: **Tuesday, 03/14 from 7-8 (After Math Night)**
- Box Tops (Deadline: Friday, 03/31/2017)
- Spring Spirit Wear Order
 - The plan is to do the same order as the fall order. There is a shortage on a yellow paw print shirt but they could do it is charcoal gray.
- Staff Appreciation Week (May 1-5)
 - There was an idea of a picnic table for staff so they are able to sit outside and lunch. Looking for someone to help chair. Feedback that kids really liked the appreciation notes.
 - An idea of bringing a flower or fruit for the teacher. Also discussion of SCRIP for this as well. It was talked about how this has been requested for the end of the year as well. Another idea of how students can help teachers.
- Palooza Committee: Monday nights @7:30 at Culver's on Sunset
- PTO Expo in St. Charles (near Chicago-Thursday, 04/20 from 9-2)
 - Anyone is welcome.
- Spring Elections: March and April Nominations, May Elections
 - President, Secretary, and Treasurer-Elects open
- Questions/Comments
 - Six Flags reading logs are due on Friday
 - Possible gardening help during recess.
 - Buddy Bench and Playground

Paw Points for Parents Drawing (Need not be present to win)

- Laura B. was the Paw Point winner.

Tera adjourned the meeting at 8:14PM

Submitted by Patricia Cooper