



## **Sunrise Elementary PTA General Membership Meeting 10/7/2014 Minutes**

**Members present:** Please see attached sign in sheet.

**Call to Order:** Jennifer Tunnell, President

- Welcome and Introductions
- Reviewed May 2014 General Meeting minutes, approved by membership.
- Reviewed Standing Rules for 2014/2015, approved by membership.
- Reminder that upcoming PTA meetings are: General meeting 1/13/15, Executive Board meetings 11/6, 12/5. All PTA members are welcome to attend meetings.
- Due to Abby Hirsch stepping down from VP Communications, Jen Guadagno has been nominated for position. Jen Tunnell read from the WSPTA Uniform Bylaws Article 5, Section 6. Membership voted to elect Jen Guadagno as VP Communications.
- Goals for 2014/2015:
  - President's Goal: Apply for awards.
  - Membership Goal: attain 85% membership. It has been 79% for last 3 years.
  - Communication Goal: Improve communication by using Twitter.
  - Fundraising: Raise \$25,000 during Fall Ask.
- Reminder that next Spirit Wear Day is Oct 24th due to Halloween.

**Principal's Report:** Steve Hopkins, Principal

- School priorities: Grow as a Professional Learning Community, and operate as such.
- The staff have done trainings and have PLC meetings to attain this goal. Steve provided examples of how staff are operating as a PLC.
- Internet Safety: Cottage Lake Elementary is hosting Seattle Police Dept. Officer Stephanie Thomas on Monday, Oct. 27th at 7:00pm, and have invited Sunrise families to attend. Steve will post details in Sunriser.
- Discussion regarding bringing Stephanie Thomas to Sunrise. Discussion regarding the content of the presentation, the age of the students (5th and 6th grade only) and the relevance to all parents. The presentation is given to small groups of students in the library, and then the parent portion is the same night without the students. Members would like this presentation to be given at Sunrise. Steve will arrange.



**Programs - Social Events Report:** Darin Benson, VP Social Events

- Dance will be Friday, Dec 12th. Winter Snowflake theme. Still need volunteers for ticket sales and concessions.
- Chair needed for Bingo Night.

**Programs - Enrichment Report:** Laura Mackenzie, Co-VP Enrichment

- The play, Snow White and the Black Forest, will be Oct 24 and 25. \$5 in advance, \$6 at door.

**Membership Report:** Alison van den Heuvel, Co-VP Membership

- 236 memberships, up 6% from last year
- Suzanne Killion won the blanket (given as prize for becoming a member)
- T-shirt sales - over \$1000 profit, up from last year.

**Communications Report:** Jen Guadagno, VP Communications

- PTA format in the Sunrises newsletter has changed. Smaller posts, with links to longer stories on the PTA website.

**Fundraising Report:** Jenn Thomson, Co-VP Fundraising

- Fall Ask events: letter sent home in kid mail, attended Curriculum Nights for grades K-4, will send an email to room parents to communicate fundraiser, will print out envelopes and send in kid mail (envelopes will serve as a reminder and make it easy for people to put a check in the PTA bin), will make a thermometer sign to show progress towards \$25,000 goal.
- Reminder given that they have PCC cards for people to buy.

**Treasurer Report:** Mark Rogers, Treasurer

- Treasurer's Report for September 2014 attached to minutes.
- Science program cost went down slightly due to new science specialist but no budget change required.
- Question from member prompted discussion about the amount of cash on hand in PTA bank account. Discussion regarding the need to have a certain amount in order to fund the science program, at least 1 year in reserve (\$46,000), in addition to other operating costs



for the other programs we sponsor. Member suggested we communicate more clearly how the budget works, in order to explain the large amount of cash in the bank.

Discussion about fundraising, historically and current year.

- Question from member to Steve: Can we expect NSD to start funding our science program, considering the changes with Common Core? Steve replied NSD will educate the teachers on the new Science Common Core, but will not provide additional funds or pay for Science Specialists. Our program is a grandfathered program that will be lost if the PTA doesn't continue to fund it.

#### **New Business/Announcements:**

- Playground improvements - discussion regarding organizing another cleanup. Volunteers organized 2 cleanup days during the summer, where new mulch was spread, broken glass and weeds were cleaned up, and new lines were painted. Steve suggested Community Serve Day, August 24/25, which is organized by local churches and volunteers come from all over for a 4 hour job. Steve will set this up for next summer.
- Buddy Bench - member suggested we remind students of the purpose of the bench and how it should be used.

**Meeting Adjourned.**

**Next General Board Meeting January 13, 2015.**

Submitted by Julie Johnson, Secretary