

Meeting Minutes

Shepardson PTO

Date: October 6, 2014

Location: School Library

Meeting Called to Order By: Vanessa Wilhelm, President **Time:** 6 p.m.

In attendance: Chelsea Hill, Pam Rice, Jennifer Chadwick, Sara Abernathy, Dixie Gormley, Mary Jackson, Todd Jones, Joy Miller, Kristin Beasley, Alisha Duncan, Vanessa Wilhelm, Heather Castañeda, Martha Rehm, Maureen Ryerson, Sara Abernathy, Leslie Perry, Becky Woodcox, Aisha Thomas and Sarah Putman.

Minutes: Minutes of the September 2014 meeting were distributed. The motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried.

Officers' Reports

President: Vanessa reported that the t-shirt sales made an estimated profit of \$245. The Board approved using the funds to purchase extra school t-shirts to keep on hand for use by students who might need a change of clothes during the school day. Vanessa distributed an article written by PTO Today outlining the role of PTO and guidelines on distribution of funds. It was also noted that STEM Night is Nov 13.

Volunteers are still needed for the vision and hearing screening at the school on October 10. It was noted that Shepardson turned in 6000 milk caps to Morning Fresh Dairy earning over \$300 for the school. It was also noted that it would be helpful if families could rinse the caps prior to bagging and write the number of caps on the bag.

Treasurer: Todd Jones reviewed the Treasurer's Report. The checking account balance is \$14,077.67. The funds in the checking account are allocated to line items on the yearly PTO budget.

Consent Agenda - *Updates from committee chairpersons who were unable to attend.*

Classified Brunch - Jamie Harper: The Classified Brunch is scheduled for Thursday, Oct 9th from 8:30 to 10:30 am. A sign up genius went out a few weeks ago and almost everything is accounted for. We still need volunteers to help with set up/clean up or bring a fruit tray.

Box Tops - Cherie Clark: The 2014-2015 fall Box Tops / Labels for Education fundraising challenge began on September 15th and will run through October 10th. We are getting a good response since adding the Labels for Education. Reminders about the fundraiser have gone out in Friday folders, daily announcements, parent emails and the PTO newsletter. The class who brings in the most labels will win a pizza party. Final totals will be available at next PTO meeting.

Committee Reports

Read A Thon Fundraiser - Dixie Gormley and Casey Yahn: The Read A Thon is one of only two fundraisers for the school year and is Shepardson's largest fundraiser. Students are encouraged to ask family members, friends and neighbors to make pledges for time the students spend reading. The event will be held Oct 31 and will feature guest readers for each classroom, prizes for the students who raise the most pledges as well as a parade for the students. Students are encouraged to dress up for the day as their favorite literary character. All students will receive a goody bag. The committee is seeking donations and volunteers for the event. All students who raise at least \$50 will receive a ball from Culver's.

ABC Fundraising - Chelsea Hill: The ABC fundraiser raised approximately \$4500. The pig race is scheduled for October 13 and Mrs. Rehm's class won the pizza party. The sale items have been delivered and overall the fundraiser went well.

School Directory - Joy Miller and Sarah Putman: The directories have been printed and will be put in teacher mailboxes tonight.

Family Nights - Mary Jackson: Mary stated that Garlic Knot will be having Family Nights the last Thursday of each month with 20% of proceeds going to Shepardson. It was noted that Pablo's Pizza could not commit to a Family Night to coincide with Shepardson Movie Night since that Fridays are one of their busiest nights of the week. Chipotle, Culvers and Chick Fil A will also be scheduled for this year.

Movie Night - Kristin Beasley and Jackie Cole: The Lego Movie will be shown this Friday in the gym. Admission is free and popcorn is 25 cents.

School Accountability Committee (SAC) - Leslie Perry: Leslie outlined the role of SAC at Shepardson. It was noted that SAC is an advisory committee that makes recommendations but does not vote on school issues. Leslie stated that the new testing standards will be more difficult this year and it is anticipated that Shepardson along with all schools in the district will receive lower scores due to the more difficult tests. It was noted that Shepardson's current test scores are excellent and we are doing great as a school.

Old Business:

None.

New Business -

School and Community Involvement Committee - The committee is looking for ways to improve parent involvement. One idea for increasing involvement would be sending a survey to all parents regarding the activities and resources allocated by the PTO. It was noted that surveys have the potential to be a complaint generator rather than an accurate reflection the PTO. It was stated that a separate surveys for the staff and families should be considered as they have different interests and needs. It was also noted that the most productive focus of the survey should be increasing parent involvement in the school. Alisha Duncan, VIPS Coordinator, offered to send parents a flyer reminding them to sign up for school emails as well as to register with the district

so they are able volunteer in the classrooms. It was also noted that all volunteers with school events must be registered with the district. All committees that use volunteers who have direct contact with students should cross check their volunteers with Alisha to make sure they have been vetted by the district as safe people to work with children.

School Kits - It was stated that other schools are offering Back To School Kits at the beginning of the school year. Parents pay one fee per student to an outside vendor and all of the necessary school supplies are purchased and delivered to the classroom prior to the beginning of the school year. It was noted that teachers like the kits because all classroom supplies are uniform and parents like the kits because they are convenient and are often less expensive because the supplies are purchased in bulk.

Technology Lab - The need for decent headphones for the technology lab was discussed. It was noted that some students are without headphones and others are using the wrong kind of headphones in the computer lab. It was suggested that the paddle raising at Trivia Night could be used to purchase headphones for all students.

Announcements

The next meeting will be November 3, 2014 at 6 pm in the Shepardson Library.

Meeting Adjourned At: 7:20 pm **Minutes Compiled By:** Kristin Beasley, Secretary