

BLUE OAKS PTC

Working together for our students

Meeting Minutes September 8, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 6:42 pm. There were 45 people in attendance.

The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by PTC Facilitator Mimi Magadia.

Welcome

Amber McNinch welcomed and thanked all for coming. She introduced the PTC Board, Teacher Reps and Mr. Ancker. A motion was made to approve the May minutes from Beth Martin and Karen Henderson seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Business Action

Voting for Elected Positions:

*When elections were held at the end of last year for this year's PTC Board the President & Treasurer were still open. VP B Amber McNinch stepped in as President pending this year's vote. Tonight Amber submitted her resignation as VP B and nominated herself for President. Nichole Johnson was nominated to fill the vacated VP B position. Sarah Wilk was nominated for Treasurer. Ballots were passed out with said names and an opportunity to fill in other nominations. Votes were taken and tallied by Rachelle Sloan and Trish Verandes. Election results were unanimous and are as presented: Amber McNinch (President), Sarah Wilk (Treasurer), & Nichole Johnson (VP B).

Budget Review & Vote:

*Proposed 2011/2012 budget was passed out to PTC members. Beth Martin motioned to approve the budget as presented, and Danelle Giusti seconded the motion, The motion was approved unanimously.

Special Guest: Round Table Pizza

Dan Stafford of Round Table Pizza presented the results from last year's Family Meal Deal Card fundraiser. Blue Oaks raised \$1900 last year! The deal will be the same this year. \$2 is donated back to PTC every time card is used. Mr. Stafford suggested we put the card on our website so people can download & copy the card. Deal is good at both Foothills and Woodcreek locations. New this year, they will have a raffle for Free pizza for a year.

Program Updates & Reports



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Fall Fundraiser: Entertainment Books will kick off this Friday morning at an assembly. The cost is \$30 per book. PTC gets 50% of proceeds. Sale ends 9/23. One book will be sent out with each child to either purchase and order more, or return as a "no thank you". Tracy explained some of the new features (i.e. Gift cards inside the book, Smartphone app). Incentive prizes this year are: Blue 3DS (1st place), \$75 Toys R Us gift cert (2nd place), Family Movie Package (3rd place), Pizza party for top-selling class, and teacher incentives! If a child sells 3 or more they automatically receive a coupon for free Baskin Robbins ice cream, plus be entered into a drawing for lots of prizes from local businesses.

Escrip:

Suzanne Giuntoli presented results from last year of \$4750 raised. She mentioned that we are on track this year to exceed this amount. 80% of the proceeds came from the Safeway club Card loyalty. The "online mall" link on the PTC website allows 16% of your purchases to go to PTC. 269 families are enrolled as of today but our school has 650 families so potential is huge! Blue Oaks parents spent \$547,000 last year at Safeway or other loyal vendors. The program is very secure, using the same encryption as banks.

Nov 1st is the deadline to renew your Safeway Club Cards. Four Yearbooks will be raffled off at the November PTC meeting to those who register or renew before Nov 1st. Suzanne mentioned that also until 9/13, every time you buy a product at Safeway with the "school bus" logo we get 10% back.

Box Tops:

Trish Verandes reported that this fundraiser raised \$1600 last year. Patty Eid (Chair) has done a fabulous job of promoting this and making it fun for the kids. This year will run the same as last year with grade-level boxes in the office for students to put their carefully clipped box tops in. The grade level with the most wins an extra recess. Finally, Gina DiBlasio was the winner of the Back To School Night "Guess how many box tops" prize!

Dinner Out: Laina Allen (Chair) reported that the first Dinner Out is on Weds. 9/21 at Dickies BBQ. 2nd one will be at California Pizza Kitchen and 3rd one is set for all 3 locations of local Rubios. She is working on La Provence night out for an



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adult only option. Also working on Icing On Cupcake and possibly Krispy Kreme. More details to come later in the year about this fun family fundraiser!

Upcoming Events

Fall Book Fair: Amber reported this will take place October 3rd-7th. Theme is "To the Book Fair and Beyond...Reading is Out of This World." 3 "Lunch With Someone Special" opportunities plus some after school shopping hours. New this year...an online program where you can order items week prior or during and we will send them to you (good for gifts).

Bear Jamboree: Laina Allen (Chair) reported this family community event will take place on Oct 7th. She mentioned this year they plan on more games but need more volunteers to make this happen. Volunteer hours will be split up into 1 hour shifts. The event will be set up on the Lower Grade playground due to more access to electrical outlets and a more secure setting with fence surrounding. Wristbands will be sent home with purchased tickets which should alleviate the lines at the gate. Adults are free.

Winter Fundraiser:

Beth Martin presented the Mixed Bag Designs sample products and catalog for members to take a sneak preview, Sale launches on Oct 21st and will run for 2 weeks. PTC receives 50% of the profits.

Skate Nights and Family Nights:

Amber reported that we are planning on 2 skate nights (Winter & Spring) and two Family Nights (Movie night and Sky Zone night). Carolyn Turpin has stepped up to chair the two Family Night events.

Volunteer Needs:

Karen thanked those who have signed up for PTC Rep and Amber had them stand for acknowledgment. Karen reported that there are a few more needed. She announced the results of the raffle for those who signed up before first PTC meeting. Karen reported that she will be sending out an email shortly to recruit Book Fair and Bear Jamboree volunteers.

Teacher Appreciation:



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Nicole Owston (Chair) reported her goal is to do something every month for the teachers. She passed around sign-ups for ideas and helpers. She will also put something in the newsletter.

Tiles for Tech:

Jerica Siska (Chair) reported that a flier will be coming home in the next few weeks with all the painting days listed. She explained the program and process and stressed the importance of pre-registering so she can set up a special spot for you to create your masterpiece!

Buddy The Bear Volunteers:

Trish Verandes reported a need for volunteers to be Buddy the Bear at various school events! Please let her know if you are interested. Volunteers can be teenage children or adults.

Kumon:

They have donated \$200 towards Bear Jamboree and a coupon for their services will be going out shortly to families. Thanks Kumon!!

Teachers' Reports

Kindergarten is off to a great start. We are learning the rules and how to be good citizens, which happens to be our first Social Studies unit. New letters, sounds, and words are being introduced as well as the numbers 0-5. Kindergarten is enjoying reading many books and learning new centers. We are also assessing the children to find out what they know. Our first Activity Day is coming up on September 16th. We can't wait to make some apple themed projects.

First Grade An important goal for the past two weeks has been to establish routines and procedures that will create a supportive classroom environment and foster independent learning for each student throughout the year. We jumped right in to our curriculum and have been developing phonemic awareness skills and comprehension strategies in Language Arts. In writing, we have initiated discussion about why we need to write, what writer's do

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and started to make a brainstorming list about things we can write about. In math, we have been able to explore with the manipulatives and see what patterns we can make. Finally, we have been busy creating a classroom community where each child can feel safe in a risk-free environment.

Second Grade is busy learning new classroom rules and procedures. They have adjusted to a new school year with help from their pal Arthur. Students enjoyed reading Arthur books, completing Arthur art projects, and writing academic goals for the upcoming year. Second grade started its first math unit on addition strategies. Students will soon begin a literature unit on kindness!

Third Grade is spending time practicing the new-to-third-grade skills, such as classroom procedures, library skills, Accelerated Reader process, homework procedures, and more. In Math, we are focusing on place value to 10,000 and rounding. In science we will begin our study of Habitats, while in social studies we will teach students how to give and receive "I Messages." Our Language Arts time will focus on how to select and read books for meaning, and apply strategies to enhance comprehension, accuracy and vocabulary.

Fourth Grade is rotating teachers for one period, 4 days a week. Mrs. Wells will be teaching all the science to all three classes, Mrs. Morrill the social studies, and Mrs. Bussell will read novels and do plays. Currently in science, students are doing a life science unit. They are learning about living organisms and how they depend on each other in an environment. Food chains and food webs are a major focus. Additionally they are learning to write summaries, a possible tested genre for the STAR Writing test. In fact, this past year's test had students write summaries.

In social studies students have been learning how to locate places on Earth using latitude and longitude. They have learned about the equator, the prime meridian, the tropics, hemispheres, and the poles. The first novel being read is Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing. It is the story of a fourth grader who has to contend with all the trouble his baby brother causes for him. During the reading of this novel, the kids are learning to write "responses to literature", another possible tested writing genres. The three teachers are having a great time with this wonderful batch of 4th graders!

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5th Grade we are learning about the important reading comprehension skills: Drawing Conclusions/Making Inferences. We are preparing the students for continuing their understanding of writing essays and response to literature type essays. In science we are learning about plant and animal cell structures. We are learning about many topics in math: prime numbers, divisibility, exponents, PEMDAS, functions, prime factorization, the distributive property and large division.

Principal's Report

Jeff Ancker began by thanking the parents who attend the PTC meetings and the many volunteers who make our school so awesome. He welcomed new staff this year: Robin Malkewitz (resource aid), along with Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Bussell and Mrs. McDonough to the teaching staff. He reported that we are very full in each grade level. He thanked Beth Martin and Jerica Siska for working so hard on the grants and the Tiles for Technology. The school received a grant for \$2500 towards Art activities. He also reported that the staff did a great job saving energy last year reaching their goal of more than %15 saved, earning \$5000 from the district. Reported that STAR scores have increased each year for 5 years in a row with a score increase from 918 to 920...one of the best in the area!

Open Floor

Nothing to report

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.