

September PTO Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 9, 2013

Meeting called to order at 6:02 PM by Tammie Ciszewski. Motion made to accept treasurer's report by Katie Ressler and second by Tanya Tavernia . Vote was unanimous.

Principal's Message:

- We are excited to start this year and things are going well.
- We will be doing benchmark assessments in the next few weeks for grades 4-6. All grades will be doing MAP testing soon.
- There were a lot of new improvements over the summer. The parking lot was repaved; new carpet in the library; the sliding glass door in the library was replaced with a wall, door, and windows; the old coyote murals were taken down and will be replaced with canvas which will be decorated by the art club; all rooms got new blinds.
- More student art work will be displayed on walls.
- Looking forward to the bully presentation by Jim Jelinske.
- Jen Walden left to take another position in a different district. We are happy to welcome Katie O'Sullivan as our new associated principal.
- Poplar Creek has a facebook page and will also have a Twitter account.
- Any questions or concerns please feel free to contact by Brady Reinke.

Committee Reports:

- **Market Day**
 - The pick-up time has changed this year to 4:30-5:30.
 - We are looking for someone to chair Market Day next year.
- **Box Tops**
 - The fall competition will be October 21st – November 14th.
 - Continue to save box tops. Last year we received \$3500 from saving box tops.
 - We are looking for someone to chair this next year. Jen Wesolowski will continue to help the new chair person.
- **6th Grade Committee**
 - Heather Warner will be committee chair.
- **Creek Crawl**
 - Lori Doyle is the committee chair for the Creek Crawl.
 - A lot of work has been done over the summer. Sponsors were obtained and we received \$1400 in sponsorships for the T-shirts.
 - The kick off assembly will be September 20th. Mr. Bernfeld has offered to be the coyote.
 - The creek crawl packets will be also sent home on September 20th.
 - Each grade level will be asked to donate a specific item to the creek crawl; i.e. chips, water, buns. The specifics will be in the creek crawl packet.
 - A video was made last year about creek crawl and it will be played as soon as PC TV is back up and running. There is also a possibility of putting the video facebook but there may be privacy issues – Brady Reinke to check into this.

- There was a suggestion to change the timing of the T-shirt contest to be held prior to creek crawl and then announce the winner at the creek crawl. The PTO will discuss this idea.
- **Skate Night (no report)**
- **Campbell's Soup Labels**
 - Labels are worth points. They are on the back of the soup cans or on other Campbell's products. We get points with these labels that we use to buy playground equipment.
- **Tyson Project A+**
 - We receive \$0.25 for each Tyson label that is collected.
- **Kindergarten Orientation (no report)**
- **Dr. Seuss Night**
 - Anna Mack and Jackie Vensel have volunteered to chair Dr. Seuss Night.
- **Basket Raffle (no report)**
- **Spaghetti Dinner (no report)**
- **Assemblies**
 - There are 3 assembly's booked for this year.
 - The Bully Presentation will be October 22nd. There will be two assemblies for the children – one assembly for K-3 and one for 4-6. There will also be another assembly for parents on the night of October 21st. We are checking on child care availability so parents can attend the assembly.
 - There will be a rainforest animal's assembly in November.
 - There will be a Russian dancer's assembly in March.
 - Ellisa Lettner made a motion to approve \$2000 for the bully assembly and \$1040 for the other assemblies. It was seconded by Paula Kneprath. Vote was unanimous.
 - Brady Reinke suggested Novel Ideas assembly for next year. The children write stories and then a comedy troop will act out the stories.
- **Carnival (no report)**
- **Spring Play**
 - Brady Reinke will discuss with Lori Hartman-Keiser about a drama Club this year after school.
 - If things are going well in drama club then we will discuss a school play for the spring.
- **Spirit Wear**
 - Looking for a chair for this year.
- **Coke Rewards**
 - Continue to save codes from cases of Coke products or caps from bottles. These can be turned into school or an online account can be made and the points transferred to Poplar Creek.
- **Memory Book**
 - Kelley Timmers will chair again this year.
 - We are going with a new photo company – VIP – this year.
- **Teacher Appreciation**
 - Looking for someone to chair this committee.
- **Entertainment Books**
 - We sold Entertainment books at open house and picture day. We didn't sell as many as we have in the past.

- We ask for the teachers to put a note in their newsletter that Entertainment books are still for sale and to contact Ellie Ewens for information.
- The information about Entertainment books will also be going on the Poplar Creek Facebook page.
- September 20th is the last day of the sale.
- There are a lot of great prizes and incentives to sell books. There are cash giveaways to the families that sell the most books. Also every child that sells books will get a scratch off ticket which will then correspond to a prize. Ellie Ewens will be doing the scratch tickets in the next week.
- **Cousin Subs Fundraiser**
 - The fundraiser will be in December.
- **School Supplies**
 - Only had 11 orders for school packs.
 - This will not be done again next year.
 - Brady Reinke reported that the district is looking at school supply lists and trying to determine if all the supplies are needed as they understand it is expensive for parents to purchase all of the suppliers.
 - If there are children that are not able to purchase school supplies the PTO has a budget to purchase these suppliers. Teachers should contact PTO if supplies are needed.

Old Business

- **Gaga Ball**
 - The parts have arrived. Jen Wesolowski will be going this week to purchase the lumber needed for the gaga ball arena. Brady Reinke will be contacting building and grounds to pour the concrete slab needed and they will also assembly the arena.
 - This will be going on the west side of the building by the playground area.
 - Brady Reinke will be looking into other things for the kids to do during recesses especially during winter. He is looking into a snow ball golf course.
 - We also have a peacefully playground set. This is a set of stencils that can be painted on the blacktop that have various games. Brady Reinke will be looking at a time to have the stencils painted.
- **Summer Literacy/Math Incentive – Compass Learning**
 - Karen Reiss has been handing out prizes to students who did the compass learning over the summer.
 - Children can print off the certificate from the compass learning website and bring it in to get a prize.
- **Book Drive**
 - Instead of a book drive we will have a book exchange at the end of the year. Students can bring in gently used books and then take other books home.
- **Teacher Recognition**
 - It went well last year. We need the teachers to let PTO know when there life events of other teachers.
- **PTO Website**
 - The PTO website is up and running thanks to Anna Mack.
 - Information about PC and actives that are happening at PC will be on the website.

- Anna Mack to put links on the website to the vote for Poplar Creek from Target. For every vote we get money donated from Target. You can also have Poplar Creek linked to your Target Redcard and Target will donate 5% of your purchase price to PC.

New Business

- **Rummage Sale**
 - A possible fundraiser for in the spring – a rummage sale at PC. We would sell space – possibly both indoor and outdoor.
 - Brady Reinke to find out if this is something we could do.

Open Discussion:

- Brady Reinke will be having Bagels with Brady again. He is open to also moving the meeting off of PC grounds if that is easier for parents. Any ideas please contact him.
- There may be a Parent Math Night so children can show their parents what they are learning. Brady Reinke is looking for ways that the school can help the parents – any ideas please contact him.
- Discussion was had that it was nice to have forms and pictures together but it could work out better for some families if pictures, forms, and open house was all at the same time. It can be difficult to schedule the photo company during open house. It was very nice to have a morning option for pictures and forms for parents that can't make the afternoon times.

President's Message:

- Thanks for coming!

Motion to Adjourn:

- Ellisa Lettner made a motion to adjourn meeting at 7:08, seconded by Deb Dempsey, passed unanimously.

