

PTO Board Meeting Minutes 05/29/08

Date:	May 29, 2008	
Time:	9:00am	
Location:	PLE Library	
Attendance:	Kirsten Bell – President	Deb Ristow – PLE Principal
	Laurie Fernandez – VP PLE	Sandie Carter – Horizon Principal
	Deb Buschmann – VP ASA	Randy Daul – Asa Clark Principal
	Mary Ann Abrahamson - Treasurer	Several PTO Members/Parents
	Fran Henning – VP Horizon	Brad Schlaikowski – incoming Treasurer
	Debbie Mistele – Corr. Secretary	Angela DiCastrì – incoming Rec Sec
	Jean Derzay – Rec. Secretary	Jackie Sklenar – incoming Horizon VP
	Greg Derzay – PTO Website Coordinator	Deb Tuttle – incoming Asa VP
	JoAnn Sternke - Superintendent	

Introductions:

- Current board members introduced themselves.
- Outgoing members: Deb Buschmann, Fran Hennig, Jean Derzay and MaryAnn Abrahamson. All given going away gift “serving boards” from the PTO.
- All new board members introduced themselves at the meeting: Deb Tuttle, Angela DiCastrì, Brad Schlaikowski, and Jackie Sklenar.

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Barb Hegna - Recruiter

- Be involved! Kids love it!
- Open positions – handouts and on the website.
- Make a fit for you and lifestyle – can work at home, once/month, etc.
- Any questions please call or email Barb Hegna
- Festival of Learning – what is it? Performers tied in student learning experience at each grade level. Renaming contest. Prize for the winner in the fall!

Joann Sternke (superintendent)

- When thinking of PTO, 3 “Es” come to mind: Energy, Effectiveness, Efficiency!
- Busy working on hiring!
- Full time VP for PLE – John Vitale
- Excited to bring on 4K in PLE.
- Committed to be hired before the end of the year.
- Board approved 23M budget this year.
- Project Lead the Way expanded at middle school and moving to the high school.

Questions:

What is past budget? Answer: Growing about \$700,000 per year.

Deb Ristow (PLE Principal):

- Theme – Broadcasting this year. Many assemblies were tied to broadcasting. Wanted to be able to film broadcasts with green screen. Still would like to do next year.
- “Wild About Learning” is the theme for next year.
- 4 year old kindergarten kicking off in the fall.
 - Combo of onsite and offsite : Tiny Tech, Mary Lensmire, Children’s Learning Center.
 - 2 hour and 40 minutes at 5 days per week.
 - More children opting for PLE rather than offsite.

- Mary Milbrath and Ellen Vermillion moving into 4K program.
- Many classroom changes. 4K classes in kindergarten area. Room 107 will be a classroom – shared between Geldnich and Duerwachter.
- Pilot program for 3 years.
- 750 kids in enrollment next year.
- Jodi Hackl moving to Asa Clark next year.
- John Vitale taking on VP role at PLE.
- More writing in math – addition to curriculum.
- Reading incentive this year was a huge hit! Racing sausages. With goal of 300,000 minutes, kids read over 350,000 minutes.
- Saying goodbye to M. Witry (reading specialist), J. Wrobelski (1st grade). Lots of interviewing going on currently. Hope to complete by end of the school year.
- Thank you to all PTO efforts! Volunteer recognition – June 5th.

Sandie Carter (Horizon Principal):

- Team Horizon this year. Will be bringing back next year. Kids seem to really identify with this.
- Training camp at the beginning of the year – showed them how to play with all the equipment outdoors.
- Talked about bullying.
- Chris MacIntosh (Professional football player) – came in this year to talk on teamwork
- March Madness – Big hit again this year.
- Pam Flowers – Author visited this year.
- High school robotics team came in. Wanted to show there are other teams that use brain power.
- Fundraising – Nike reuse a shoe, quilt project, American Heart association. Have kids think about why they are doing the fundraisers. Had speakers come in and talk about the reason behind giving.
- Writing/math problem solving – big push this year.
- 5 new staff members this year. They gave a shot in the arm with new energy.
- 3 retirements – looking for band teacher. Two 5th grade teachers leaving (Kirby and Zombroski).
- Thank you!

Randy Daul:

- Thank you PTO!
- Busy year:
 - Collaborative learning/teaching – sharing best practices.
 - Integrated reading/writing together when moved to block schedule last year. Improved!
 - Planning for all students to have laptops – 09/10 year. 8th grade only. The following year, hope to have entire school with laptops.
 - New elective classes this year – forensics, investments, drama classes. Well received.
 - Encourage students to explore different classes, find out who they are.
 - Project Lead The Way this year – in robotics class, next year growing into tech-ed classes. Next year moving into the high school
- Cindy Carol (Art teacher) – Kohl award winner this year.
- Dennis Kuehl – 29 years – retirement (band director)
- Visit the district website – try to keep up to date with student achievements
- Largest engagement in student activities this year.
- 15 students go to state for forensics this year.
- Great year!

PTO Accomplishments:

- Fundraiser – moved from Innisbrook to KB. Very successful!
- Organizational changes – Increased communication – Chairperson training in August.
- Website updated with all chairperson summary forms and relevant committee docs
- Standardized chairperson summary form.
- Technology – email communication with over 1200 parent's names.
- Purchased PTO computer
- PTO manager – volunteer database
- Increased volunteer participation by 92%
- Family events – want school to be fun! Breakfast with Santa had a 25% increase. Secret Santa shop implemented. Sock Hop attendance over 900.
- Purchased a PTO camera with proceeds from Breakfast with Santa

PTO Volunteerism:

2 Hour pledge changes:

- 1 – Volunteer form k-8th grade.
- Form will contain checkbox for 2 hours only
- Continue to thank all volunteers after 2 hours.
- Change recognition walls – post names after 2 hours volunteered or post all names, however keep tally of hours? Funnel of some sort with goal at the top.

Make volunteering easier:

- Looking into online registration along with paper handout in packets.
- Continue chairperson training – Get year off to good start! Make transition easier with updated summary reports online.

New volunteer incentives:

- Volunteer giveaways – Kindergarten parents last year – Leapster. This year All about Learning party room (\$125 value).
- May add giveaways for each school or grade? Particularly at older grade levels.
- Continue special thank you for chairs – gift cards.
- Volunteer of the Year award?

Kathryn Beich:

- Bought by Great American Fundraising
- Changes this year: Jewelry, Canvas Impressions.
- Several co-chair positions open.
- Excited about change.
- Mary Heinen won gift basket give away!
- Angela DiCastrì new chairperson.

Strategic Planning:

- Many parents participated in the evening meeting.
- Family events : Beach fest, movie night, reading night. More investigation needed.
- Educational series: Sent out survey for parent feedback
- Fundraising : Country springs "savings" opportunity, Boston Store coupon books for next year.
- Went well, however may not do every year.

MaryAnn, Treasurer:

- Increase in budget this year!
- Where does the money go? About \$45,000 to schools – field trips, FOL, teacher appreciation grants.

- Surplus of \$ - Funding PLE: sounds systems (teachers), envelopes for library (\$8400)
Horizon –sound systems, playground equipment (\$12,000), Asa – (\$12,000)
Scoreboards and record boards. PTO able to fulfill all surplus requests this year!

Questions:

No Questions

Thank you for all that attended!

Please send any other suggestions, questions to the board@pewaukeeppto.com

Or enter suggestion box on the website <http://www.pewaukeeppto.com>

Ajourn