

Brownsville Elementary PTO
General Membership Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2010

In Attendance: Sue Brown, Amy Life, Melinda Somers, Megan Sullivan, Helen Winkler, Lori Benedict, Dawn Kidd, Suzette Mata, LeAnna Dalton, Jeanette Abell, Ian Sole, Jo Vining, Betsy Aronson, Claiborne Miller-Davis, Shan Meulenberg and Cady Garey.

Prior to the beginning of the meeting a representative from Classic Cookie gave a presentation and brought sample cookies. As a thank you for having the time to give the presentation, the company will provide cookies for teacher and staff appreciation week.

- I. The meeting was called to order at 6:48 and everyone introduced themselves as there were a large number of new people in attendance.
 - A. Lori Benedict moved to approve the February 23, 2010 General Membership Meeting minutes, Amy Life seconded. The motion was carried.
- II. Reports of Officers
 - A. Jo Vining, Principal

Budget Update—Changes are occurring rapidly and nothing is finalized yet but the outlook seems to be more positive than previously thought. More information is coming.

Golden Apple Award nominations are being accepted. Teachers feel that it is an honor to be nominated. All written nominations are shared with teachers.

Still catching up from snow day losses.

Linda King sends her thanks for all the support during her husband's illness.

Pam Moran is coming to Science Day on Thursday and Thursday evening is also Literacy Night as well as the Used Book Sale.
 - B. Joanne Meier, President

Duane Snow, Board of Supervisors representative came to Brownsville for a one on one meeting to answer questions about the budgeting process and the current state of decisions about next year's budget. The B.O.S. decides on funding for the School Board but first has to set the tax rate—which must be decided before the state budget is set. Joanne felt good about the meeting and felt the Mr. Snow was a supporter of schools. The overall feeling was positive, but we must all remain vigilant. Mr. Snow offered to come back and meet again and maintain communication.

Beginning Phase II of the website rollout wish list. \$1500 has been budgeted for improvements.

PTO is now on Facebook! It will add to our ability to announce events and calls for help. The PTO email address is: contact@brownsvillepto.org
 - C. Sue Brown, Treasurer

Evening Event raised \$5,525.83 and was a lot of fun.

Assembly Fund—yes, we are interested in having Barter Theatre next spring for an assembly during the day time for the kids and as a fundraiser at night for the grown up community. Still hoping for a Star Lab

event this year but are waiting to see if it is an option. Jo Vining reported that BES would be inviting the Barter Players to our school for two performances in the Spring of 2011. Specific date and second play TBD - Ian Sole to follow-up with BP and JV.

D. Lori Benedict, Nominating Committee

There are only a few spots left to fill. Representatives from all areas of the school district are desired.

III. Old Business

A. Gifting Suggestion Form due April 10

The gifting suggestion form was passed around to those in attendance and it was noted that these forms are available to teachers, staff and parents. Mrs. Vining will solicit ideas from teachers and staff but suggestions are welcome from the rest of the Brownsville community.

IV. New Business

A. Fundraising Brainstorming –Many thanks for those of you who came out and brought such wonderful ideas!

Ideas:

Consignment Sale—60% to seller and 40% to the PTO

Jog-a-thon—possible Crozet Health Fair tie in to Jog-a-thon

Partner with local restaurants for a monthly (?) dinner out/spirit event for percentage of sale.

Direct donation request at the beginning of the year (i.e. \$25 per family and you get a car magnet.)

Sally Foster—model has changed to gift card purchase for online orders in \$20 increments.

Innsbrook –50% of profit from wrap, nut, beauty product, etc. sales.

School supply packages preordered for the beginning of the year. Could Crozet School Supply help with this?

Success seeds

Eco-tulips—2nd week of April Bulb Festival

Discussion of above ideas will continue through emails and continue in during the April meeting.

V. Reports of Standing and Special Committees

A. Parent Council, Ian Sole

Corie Kelly gave a presentation, The Importance of Reading, at the recent Parent Council Meeting.

B. Bee Program—no report

C. Teacher and Staff Appreciation, Amy Life

March Madness continues. Each week a new teacher gets dinner, dessert, etc. from a random drawing.

D. Used Book Sale, Lisa Koolman and Maryann Russell

Lisa provided great information about set up on Thursday and called for volunteers to help with sorting and set up.

E. Fun Fair, Melinda Somers and Megan Jackson

Fun Fair date—Friday May 14th. The theme this year is BROWNSVILLE BIGTOP.

Committee will draft a WISH LIST of needed supplies so that sponsors might be able to

give needed items directly. Structure of booth sponsors has changed—each class will be responsible for staffing a booth and finding a sponsor at \$350 @booth. Event Sponsor needed too. Megan is sending info to room parents.

- F. Fun Run, Jess Haden
Possible May 16th date? Jess and personal trainer have exchanged emails.
 - G. Tile Sale
Getting down to the wire and this doesn't look like it will happen. Possibly next year?
- VI. Announcements
The next PTO Meeting will be Tuesday, April 20th at 6:30pm in the library.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Cady Garey
PTO Secretary