Little River K-8 School PTO Meeting

October 3, 2022

Attendees: Anna Victoria Martinez, Seronda Robinson, Christina Randall, Martha Camacho, Elizabeth Evans, Shannon Morgan, Lynette Williams, Lesley Watson, Mansi Gowin, Marcella Harris, Cassie Lewis, Anjelique Jeter, Kim Perry, Kayley Talbert, Paige Aiken, Erica McRae, William Hill, Erin Reip, Easley Schack, Maren Schreiber, Julie Kent, Corey Hogans, with Jessica Rider, Michelle, Nicole Connelly, and Amanda via Zoom

1. Welcome and Introduction of attendees: name, grade level of student(s), and favorite thing about fall
2. Committee Updates
   1. Hospitality: New committee chairs introduction
      1. Full Moon schedule with Moon Pie for teachers and staff—October 4
      2. Apple Bar at end of October: Thursday, October 27—same day as Teach or Treat for teachers who will be staying late.
         1. Will send a sign-up genius for those who can contribute to Apple Bar and Teach or Treat supplies (toppings, candy, etc.) Write down your name if you wish to receive the sign-up list.
         2. Will check on/repair Candy Monsters as needed for candy donations
      3. Creating a Facebook page for Hospitality committee; can meet briefly after main meeting for those interested in getting involved
   2. GoPlaySave Fundraiser
      1. Still need books returned—58 books still out.
      2. Thank you to volunteers who helped sort and record books and payments!
      3. May need note for younger students to understand the fundraiser.
   3. Silent Auction
      1. Getting website ready to go live.
      2. $7000+ value in auction prizes
      3. Letters to drop off for auction requests—let Julie know if you can help.
   4. Little Shops at Little River
      1. Saturday, December 10 from 1-5pm
      2. Many vendors booked, especially small business and local vendors
   5. Spirit Wear: <https://littleriverk8.itemorder.com>
   6. Book Fair
      1. 7:30-3:30 hours available—volunteers will be needed to fill shifts.
      2. Sign up will go out for shifts
      3. Will have to charge taxes this year
      4. Can use eWallet option—this was successful last year
      5. $10,000 in sales this spring! We get 25% back in cash. In the spring we opted for Scholastic funds which allowed us to use 50% of profits ($5,000!) toward purchases for the Media Center.
      6. October 27 (Thursday) Teach or Treat-PM. We are still figuring out logistics for where to set up tables. “Haunted Book Fair” will also be open.
      7. Spring Book Fair has been moved so that it doesn’t occur during Easter.
      8. See Maren at end of meeting for questions or to sign up for shifts.
   7. Dine Out Nights:
      1. Zaxby’s: Thursday 10/6, Monday 11/21, Tuesday 12/13
         1. Zaxby’s would like to have a representative in place with a sign for PTO. Any help covering shifts during dinner hours would be appreciated!
      2. Alpaca: Monday 10/17 (3726 Mayfair St by South Square)
         1. New restaurant for us to have dine-out; need to specifically say you are with Little River.
      3. Hog Heaven: Tuesday 11/1
      4. Looking for other restaurants to try, especially one that offers a sensory friendly time slot. If you know of any suitable locations or have any contacts, let us know. Sensory friendly means less stimulation, lower audio-visual input. Mellow Mushroom is a possibility.
   8. Room Parents
      1. Erica McRae will be sending an email with Zoom details for room parents.
      2. Many teachers still do not have a room parent. At least 1 is needed for each teacher.
      3. Room Parents can coordinate celebrations, send out sign-ups, and generally support the teacher in contacting other parents.
      4. Can email Erica with questions; see her after meeting if interested.
   9. Crayons2Calculators: 10.25, 12/6, 3/7, 5/2
   10. Penny Wars: January 2023
       1. Big water jugs with label for each grade level will be set out. Silver coins remove points from a grade.
       2. Teachers in winning grade will enter drawing to win priority parking.
       3. Opportunities to sabotage make it fun!
   11. Science Night: Thursday, March 13
   12. Spring Carnival: (Tentative) date April 15, Saturday during Book Fair
3. Financial Update
   1. $3,504.07 YTD Expenses; 4,537.29 YTD Revenue
   2. $20,348 Expected Expenses and Revenue for year (must be equal)
   3. A sponsor donated funds toward the Silent Auction. This is why we have revenue for the Silent Auction before the event has launched.
4. Volunteer Needs
   1. Immediate Needs
      1. Room Parents: at least 1 per classroom
      2. Silent Auction: 1-2 individuals (or more) to drop off letters
      3. Financial committee: 3-5 volunteers to assist in filling out forms
   2. Upcoming Needs
      1. Book Fair
      2. Vendor Show
      3. Science Night
      4. Crayons2Calculators
      5. Spring Carnival
      6. Communications
   3. Need to complete volunteer approval form via DPS for any school-based volunteering: <https://www.dpsnc.net/domain/133>
   4. Email [littleriverpto@hotmail.com](mailto:littleriverpto@hotmail.com) to help!
5. Questions
   1. Clarified Book Fair hours for volunteers
   2. Apple Bar and Teach or Treat will both be October 27 to help teachers who will be staying later that day. The Apple Bar will be available for 2 or so hours during teacher lunch hours (which begin as early as 10:16am)
   3. Are there books in Spanish available at the Book Fair? Maren will ask Scholastic contact to provide materials.
   4. Box Tops for Education is an app that lets you scan your grocery receipts to credit the school.
   5. Can parents check out books from school media center? Dr. Hogans will check with Ms. Kusz.
6. New Business
   1. ComedyWorx (Raleigh): donated a date night and Family comedy night package to the Silent Auction, plus introduced a fundraising program.
      1. They will sponsor a comedy night event at the school, can charge or not, and will provide content (will be reviewed by administration prior to booking).
      2. Consider holding this event in the spring, sell concessions. Depends on how earlier fundraisers go.
      3. They also have programs geared toward middle grades; youth Improv troupe, classes at the Raleigh location.
      4. Would invite Little River students and families.
      5. May have a “suggested” donation, but do not plan to charge admission
      6. Could be used as a reward or a thank you following another fundraiser, or run with Book Fair to bring in more families
      7. If we can bring in extra funds from Penny Wars, we may not need to be concerned with selling concessions.
      8. Overall opinions are favorable, so we will consider trying this event after seeing how fall fundraisers go.
7. School Safety Information and Q&A with Dr. Hogans
   1. Little River School Safety Protocols: overview of policies. There are a broad range of policies in place to deal with a wide range of circumstances.
      1. Goal: keeping everyone safe.
      2. Duty of Principal to conduct drills, inspect building, and file written report of inspection.
      3. Drill requirements: required to test emergency systems.
      4. Emergency Planning requirements: Campus Emergency Response Team (CERT) plan, School Reunification Plan (outlines how parents will be reconnected with children in the event of a complete building evacuation and/or relocation), and School Risk Management Plan (SRMP). Also, schools have the School Critical Incident and Response Recovery Team (SCIRRT), Nonviolent Crisis Intervention Team (Crisis Prevention Institute), and Diabetes Care Management to address a variety of needs.
      5. Drills: Fire drill (monthly), Lockdown drill (2 per year), Severe Weather/Tornado drill (2 per year), DPS Earthquake drill (3rd week in March)
      6. Other Safety Items
         1. Secured doors
         2. Buzzer entry system
         3. Cameras
         4. Direct communication with law enforcement
         5. Double door entry system
      7. Questions
         1. Is the door system safe? We have confidence that the systems in place work, but there are always ways to improve. Other parents report that it isn’t an automatic “let in” when you arrive at the building unless you are recognized or provide identification.
         2. Will we receive a notice prior to lockdown drill? No, but a letter goes home the day of. Parents report that teachers prepare kids for drills so they understand why they need the drill and how to follow protocols.
         3. Can contact Dr. Hogans with further questions.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:39 pm by Julie Kent.

Minutes prepared by Kayley Talbert