



## Parent Teacher Organization

Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, October 6, 2022  
9:30-11:30 a.m.

**Board Members Present:** Julia Halliday (President), Mr. York (principal), Lara Stout (lower grade teacher rep), Xiaoyu Fan (Chinese teacher rep), Lisa Nielsen (upper grade teacher rep) Patti Harrison, (fundraising chair), Shelley Beck (spirit chair), Becca Bishop (secretary), Amber Elkins (Jog-a-thon co-chair), Jessica Muelleck (communications), Angie Haaga (Chinese), Susan McDougal (co-treasurer), Trina McCarthy (co-treasurer), Jen Preece (teacher support), Amy Bennion (room parents & art contest), Others: Amy Burton, Amy Kalbes (Health and Safety), Amy Burton (PE equipment), Kierstin Glenn, Lisa Christensen, Katie Enniss. **Via Zoom:** Candice Diehl

### Motion to Open:

Becca Bishop

### Principal Report:

- Curtains are on the stage now (black, not blue)
- All of the new projectors are installed. These have extra ports, bright enough so teachers don't have to black out classrooms.
- Wiring our school right now to update sound systems and voice amplification systems.
  - Outdoor is not updated
  - Update will help to accommodate systems and not have dead systems.
  - More than one ethernet port in each classroom now.
  - Still using the PTO closet – so plan on another month or so before using.
- Halloween Parade: Majority of the parade is outdoors. Kids will be in the hallways ready to join the parade. This helps kids to not have to navigate the classrooms.
  - Can the parade start before 9:30? It will as close to 9:30 because of how long it takes parents to find parking.
  - Alta Bank does NOT want us parking there (even for big events). There are liability and insurance problems with this
- Marquee: Are we ever going to get this?
  - This legacy money was given to the school and parents want to know what is being done with that?
    - Mr. York is not getting any answers from the district. This is not a priority of the district.
  - They would like to get the school painted white.

- Many classrooms do not have natural light. White will help it feel brighter and more conducive to learning.
    - Mr. York painted the teacher spaces himself.
    - Can we fix doors, trim, etc. We just want to update the school.
  - If the school wants it for something else, let's get a proposal in.
  - We have the money, just not the ability to get the things done.
- Our stage was slated at \$250,000 and came in around \$450,000
- Jordan district has a backlog of projects.
  - Outside contractors can only come in when students are not in the school.
  - Can we bring in our own contractors in the summer?

### Teacher Report:

- **LARA STOUT (Lower grades teacher rep):**
  - Thank you for the Jog-a-thon. It was fun. They loved it. Thank your for the snow cones
    - Thank you to the teachers for supporting the jog-a-thon. They really helped
  - Thank you for fixing the ball and recess equipment
  - Thank you for the drum bus. If we do this again, only give the 1<sup>st</sup> graders at 20 minutes.
    - Can we have this not fall during rotations? Some classes had to change the time.
  - Teachers would love to know the meals in advance (couple of days before). This way, teachers can plan ahead if they need to.
    - Thank you for the dinner!
  - Safety duty – only listen to teachers. Parents need to recognize that the teachers are helping the students and they need the space to direct traffic and kids.
    - Teachers are out at 8:30
    - Safety patrol come at 8:15 to get ready. Students may come out earlier before teachers. There will be times when safety patrol is present, and teachers are not.
  - Battle of the Books: Encourage your students to participate!
- **LISA NIELSEN (upper grades teacher rep)**
  - Jog-a-thon: Thank you!
  - Suggestions for next year to consider.
    - The sound was way better this year. Thank you!
    - Can we have the jog-a-thon on Thursday? Kids come tired the next day and makes for a lost day.
    - Can we keep the events on the same day of the week because when we switch and have one assembly Tuesday, jogathon on Wednesday, and prize day on Thursday – this makes it so some kids miss their rotation for 3 weeks.
    - Suggested schedule
      - Friday assembly
      - Thursday Jog-a-thon
      - Thursday day: Prize day

- Mrs. Nielsen suggested we change how the first 50 prize pickers are chosen.
  - Suggestion: Can we do tiers for the 50 prizes? She felt like some of the biggest donors didn't get anything
    - Patti Harrison explained that top donor in each grade gets a prize.
    - Our large donors usually remove their kids from the highest donor reward (so they don't get chosen each year)
  - Patti Harrison explained 418 kids were in the 50 drawing. This is truly by chance. Part of the reason we get so many people to donate \$50 is because of the chance that they might be entered into bigger prizes.
- Assemblies every week at the beginning of the year. This was a lot! Can we spread out the number of assemblies.
  - Internet, walk to school, constitution, jog-a-thon, prize day, art contest, drum bus (to name a few)
    - These assemblies take at least 45 minutes of assembly and transition and they teachers spend half the day rescheduling.
    - Feedback with Green Ribbon Week – don't do the assembly.
- Art Contest:
  - Can we do it for the 2<sup>nd</sup> parent teacher conferences?
  - Beverly Taylor arts grant means that she invites the community into see what she is working on. The art show needs to be tied to when the community is already in the building. She needs this to be a longer turn around time. She needs to display her artwork in order to get her 75% funding.
  - Do we keep the art contest? These kids aren't allowed to go beyond our school because we are a PTO.
    - We have an art teacher. For now, let the art teacher take it on and have the art teacher encourage the students to participate in Riverton's art contest?
  - Consensus was to get rid of the art contest while we have an art teacher and let the art teacher encourage art.
- Parent Teacher Conferences
  - Love the dinners! Lisa Evans rolls are the best!
  - Don't do drum bus on parent teacher conference week. This is just one more thing. This is a high intense week for teachers.
  - Don't schedule things during parent teacher conference week.
- Battle of the Books
  - Teachers, please encourage battle of the books!
  - Optional assembly – some teachers didn't have high participation and didn't like going to the assembly.
- **FAN (Chinese Teacher Rep)**
  - Chinese cultural experience.
    - Panda express is a no for lunch. They don't donate anymore since covid.
    - This will be in winter and lunch outside school is not an option. Sack lunches.
  - Inventory was taken for items we already have

- Chinese New Year decorations – have plenty of stuff. Don't need to purchase extra.
      - We have items for school wide celebration. If needed, teachers will use the class funds to buy other items.
    - Chinese Bookfair
      - We have a \$50 credit from last year
      - Most teachers do not find it very beneficial for students because the books are often too difficult.
      - Teacher Wish lists for Chinese
        - Most beneficial way would be if teachers gave a list that they would like to have in their classroom.
        - These books are difficult for at-home use.
          - Maybe older siblings read to younger siblings
          - At home books aren't very practical for students to read.
          - Could we create a google doc to send to parents? This could be similar to how to do wish lists for the scholastic bookfair. A google doc would be a good way of keeping track of what is bought for the teachers.
- **JOG-A-THON**
  - \$41,233.49 for the Jog-a-thon
  - Cotton candy parties, medals, buttons will be given Wednesday 10/12
  - Top earners party will be in November
  - Classes who earned ice cream and extra recess will schedule them
    - They will let us know if they need help
- **Spending Survey**
  - Julia sent out the survey sent out for parent teacher conferences.
    - Any other things to add to the survey before it goes out digitally?
    - Teacher enrichment, school wide experience, and school property enhancements, or anything else.
    - Bike rack for kindergarten?
    - Recess equipment
      - Just balls. Add Money for recess equipment for balls. \$500 for more balls.
  - We still need to go over the budget and decide how we want to spend money once we get the results from the survey.
- **PTO service project**
  - Read the bylaws. We can't use monetary funds for a service project
  - Charitable projects can be part of this.
  - How do we support Jordan School district students?
    - Socks, underwear, etc.
  - How do we involve older students in these service projects?
  - Work with service team

- **Red Ribbon Week**
  - Flyers in boxes and extra flyers are available at PTC
  - Water bottle stickers to hand out
  
- **Halloween Parties & Parade**
  - Safety nightmare. We need to know which kids are at school that day before we start the parade.
  - Kids are ALWAYS late and especially late on parade days.
  - Emphasize that students must be on time and check in with their teacher.
  - 9:30 parade time. Simba will be in the parade.
    - Afternoon kindergarten students are allowed to come to the parade. Miss Iverson will keep track of what afternoon kids come to the parade.
  - For parties, parents must be fingerprinted. NO younger children will be allowed at parties. No limit on parties.
  
- **Hearing & Vision**
  - Vision October 17<sup>th</sup> – need volunteers. Please sign up on help counter!
  - Hearing November 9<sup>th</sup> – all of those are filled
  
- **Battle of the Books**
  - Encourage people to participate individually or as a team
  - Buttons will be here after fall break
  
- **President-elect**
  - Need a president-elect. Please let us know if you would be interested.
  
- **Budget**
  - A budget meeting will be held to go over the budget further
    - For now the coding and Christmas choir budgets can be eliminated because we don't have teachers to head them up.
    - Budget should be ready for approval for November.

**Meeting motion to close:**

Susan McDougal, Patti Harrison (seconded)

**Next Meeting: THURSDAY, November 3rd @ 9:30 A.M.**