

Southland Elementary PTO Meeting Minutes

May 6, 2021

Zoom

Board Members Present: Nicole Campbell, Shelley Beck, Brenda Bingham, Patti Harrison, Amy Kalbes

PTO Members Present: Lisa Jackson, Lacey Butterfield, Amy Burton, Kiersten Glenn, Angela Greer, Jen Preece, Tara Toraya

Meeting called to order by: Nicole Campbell at 9:30 a.m.

Items Discussed:

Principal Report

Teacher Appreciation - Mrs. Jackson wanted the PTO and Teacher Appreciation Committee to know much she appreciates the amazing activities this year. She said the beautiful decorations alone have transformed the school.

Mrs. Butterfield echoed her sentiment, adding that giving the students flowers for their teachers was especially touching. She said that while gifts are not at all expected, the kids felt special all being able to give something to their teacher. She said that an activity like this might be something to keep in mind for future years.

[Addendum: Patti shared these comments with the Teacher Appreciation Committee.]

Summer School – Mrs. Jackson explained that every school in the District will be holding Summer School. It is only for a small group of students with targeted needs that can be addressed in the two-week summer school session. It will run June 8 – 19, from 9:00 – noon. Since there will be no crossing guards, busing will be provided. Sack lunches will be sent home. Chinese-specific education will not be included, as this summer school program is mandated by specific Federal guidelines. Parents whose students have been selected, including those who are online, will be receiving a phone call and follow up information.

Beverly Taylor Sorenson Teacher – Southland is currently looking for a new BTS Teacher. Ms. Jakositz, our former music teacher, will not be returning to teaching. Mr. Smith, our current drama teacher, will also be leaving, as he is relocating. We wish these two amazing teachers the best of luck in their new endeavors. They will certainly be missed.

Teacher Awards – We'd like to congratulate three of our outstanding Southland teachers on receiving well-deserved awards:

Lisa Nielsen – Golden Apple Award

Sarah Hively – Jordan Education Foundation Outstanding Educator of the Year

Li "Kate" Xu – Southwest Valley Chamber Teacher of the Year

Teacher Update – Mrs. Butterfield asked what the teachers could do to help with Super Field Day. Nicole is putting together a letter and schedule. Due to the format of this year's Super Field Day, teachers will need to be with their classes on the field. There will also be a water bucket activity, and teacher volunteers are needed.

Ms. Wang asked that we share a reminder with parents to please send students to school with masks, extra masks and water bottles.

PTO Board Nominations 2021-2022

Secretary – Amy Kalbes nominated Tara Toraya. 2nd by Patti Harrison.

Previous nominations: President – Amy Kalbes, Treasurer – Susan McDougal, Historian – Jen Preece

Voting will take place via e-mail next week.

Budget – Brenda has primarily been processing room parent, teacher discretionary and virtual field trip payments. Next week, e-mails will go out to room parents and teachers, reminding them to submit their reimbursement requests ASAP, but no later than May 27th.

Field Trip Replacement – Nicole reported that we've heard from all but 5th grade regarding their plans. Mrs. Butterfield will check with 5th grade. She also mentioned that while the 1st graders didn't really view their activity as a "field trip" they did enjoy the accompanying learning activities they were able to purchase. Thanks to our teachers and students for making the best of what we're able to do this year!

[Addendum: 5th grade has since updated us about their field trip.]

Super Field Day – Will be held June 2nd. Although it will look different, it will be fun! There will be some water games (musical chairs with sponges, tug-of-war over water, etc.). Other games include an obstacle course, relay, carnival games and "dunk tank" where students will throw balls to dump water buckets on teachers. Refreshments will be handed out. Students will be outside for two different sessions of 1-hour each and will rotate through five activities during each session. An e-mail will be sent out for volunteers to sign up via Help Counter. Due to the limited number of volunteers, we ask that volunteers only sign up for a single shift.

6th Grade Celebration – Will be held June 1st. Shelley reported that her committee would be meeting tomorrow to finalize plans. They are thrilled that they can now hold the celebration at Centennial Park! Volunteer positions were immediately filled with excited 6th grade parents. There will be five sections, including: sports, lawn games, an obstacle course, water games and a photo booth with props. Students will remain with their classes as they rotate through the sections. Snacks will be provided and lunch will be delivered. Buttons will be made featuring the 6th grader's design voted #1 by the 6th grade classes.

Jog-A-Thon 2021 – Patti announced that as of now, Jog-A-Thon is on for September 2021, featuring race day, prize day, the skit and awards! Preliminary planning is underway. Since Jog-A-Thon is held only a few weeks into the new school year, work begins in the Summer. Jog-A-Thon is a huge event and takes a village of volunteers. A survey asking for volunteers and planning committee members will be sent out before the end of the year. Potential volunteers will be contacted during the Summer. If you might be interested in helping in any way, please contact Patti at southlandpto@gmail.com and be sure to fill out the e-mail survey.

Comments – Nicole expressed her appreciation and gratitude to all of the parents, volunteers, teachers and students. It's been a challenging year, but we've all found ways to come together and we've seen just how resilient our kids are!

Next PTO Meeting – September 2021

Motion to adjourn by: Patti Harrison at 10:20 a.m., 2nd by Shelley Beck.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 2021

May 3-7 Teacher Appreciation Week

May 6 PTO Meeting at 9:30 a.m.

May 31 Memorial Day (No School)

June 2021

Jun 1 6th Grade Celebration

Jun 2 Super Field Day

Jun 4 Last Day of School (in-person 8:45-12:45, no lunch served)