

Southland Elementary PTO

Meeting Minutes

November 5, 2020
Zoom

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

PTO Members Present: Lisa Jackson, Lacey Butterfield

PTO Members Present via Zoom: Sarah Elliott, Angela Greer, Josh Harrison, Sharon Kartchner

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

Items Discussed:

Principal Report by Mrs. Jackson

- Mrs. Jackson thanked parents for being so supportive. We have a great parent community!

Teacher Update

- **Halloween Party Feedback** – Mrs. Butterfield said the feedback she's received from teachers has been very positive. They appreciate the parents who are willing to provide a party even though they can't attend. Most teachers received boxes with party supplies, which worked very well. There were a few minor issues which could be solved by teachers communicating what types of activities they'd like for their classes. Teachers also liked the flexibility of doing parties when it worked best for them or spreading activities throughout the day. Ms. Wang submitted prior feedback to the Board, which echoed these sentiments.
- **Slim Simba** – Mrs. Butterfield shared that the kids are enjoying the Slim Simba program. They are excited to send in their pictures.

PTO President-Elect – The PTO is still looking for a President-Elect. If you are interested, please contact us at southlandpto@gmail.com.

Parent Teacher Conferences – November Parent Teacher Conferences will be virtual. Parents need to sign up for a time on Skyward. Since teachers will be virtual, the PTO will be providing treats in lieu of dinner.

Online Book Fair – An e-mail was distributed via Skyward yesterday with information about our Online Book Fair. As a reminder, this is not a PTO fundraiser. Money raised goes directly to the school.

Battle of the Books – Southland will be holding a Battle of the Books this year. There will not be a battle with other schools. Ms. Quinney (6th grade) will be leading the program this year. Books have been ordered. There is a link on the school website highlighting this year's books.

Jog-A-Thon Wrap Up – Thanks to all our Southland students, parents and staff, our Virtual Jog-A-Thon was a great success! We raised \$26,468. In addition to raising funds, the majority of students participated virtually and earned buttons and prizes. Way to go Southland!

Budget – Brenda reviewed a presentation outlining our current income and a proposed spending budget. Our budget income for this year includes: \$26,468 earned from this year's Jog-A-Thon + \$2,350 from Jog-A-Thon sponsors + \$17,558 left from last year = \$46,376. If the proposed budget of \$39,841 is approved, it would leave us with \$6,535 in excess funds.

Jog-A-Thon Spending Ideas Discussed

Spending Survey – The Board surveyed parents, asking where they'd like to see excess funds directed. The majority supported purchasing water bottle fillers for the school. Some requested additional room parent and teacher discretionary funds. (The proposed budget includes increases in these funds for this year.) Other ideas were more technology, literacy support and a cultural education program. Sharon Kartchner mentioned that the SCC has provided funds to Southland for technology and literacy.

Water Bottle Fillers – Mrs. Jackson confirmed that the district is providing one water bottle filler for each school. Ours would be placed outside the cafeteria, by the kiva. They must be ordered through and installed by the district. There are only six plumbers across the district. We have no ETA for the one that's been ordered. The PTO would like to provide at least 2 more fillers, depending on the price. This would allow one filler in each wing of the school. We would also have to address the ongoing cost of filters, if they are required. Mrs. Jackson will follow up with the district to get a bid.

Teacher Recognition – Those in attendance wanted to make sure there was sufficient budget for recognition of our teachers throughout the year. Additional funds were already allocated for this purpose in the proposed budget. The online teachers who are still connected to Southland do come into the office on occasion. We could leave something for them in their boxes also.

Art Programs – Angela Greer shared that she'd heard a desire for more art programs in the classroom. Those in attendance agreed.

New Cultural Program – Shelley Beck proposed a new program based on a parent survey idea. This would be a fun way of introducing other cultures to our students through activities, crafts, games, etc. Sharon Kartchner suggested providing it like a party in a box. As a potential avenue for delivery, the Board asked for an explanation of the new "Second Step" rotation. Mrs. Jackson explained that it is a social/emotional wellness curriculum brought to us by a

district grant. After some discussion, those in attendance agreed that we'd like to provide some cultural enrichment to our students but are sensitive to teacher workloads. Mrs. Jackson suggested putting together a proposal and surveying our teachers.

Motion for Budget Approval

Sharon Kartchner motioned to vote on the budget below. Angela Greer seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously by all of those in attendance.

- 1) Approve proposed budget of \$39,841
- 2) Allocate \$6,535 excess as follows:
 - a) \$500 - new cultural program
 - b) \$6,035 - water bottle fillers

Comments – There were no additional comments.

Next PTO Meeting – Thursday, December 3, 2020, 9:30-10:30 a.m. via Zoom only.

Motion to adjourn by: Sarah Elliott at 10:45, 2nd by Shelley Beck

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 2020

- Nov 5 PTO Meeting at 9:30 a.m.
- Nov 6 Teacher Work Day (No School)
- Nov 11-12 Virtual Parent Teacher Conferences
- Nov Online Book Fair
- Nov 13 PTC Compensation (No School)
- Nov 19 SCC Meeting at 5:30 p.m.
- Nov 25-27 Thanksgiving Break (No School)

December 2020

- Dec 3 PTO Meeting at 9:30 a.m.
- Dec 17 Virtual Winter Parties ❄️
- Dec 21-Jan 1 Winter Recess (No School)

January 2021

- Jan 7 PTO Meeting at 9:30 a.m.
- Jan 18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day (No School)
- Jan 19 Professional Development Day (No School)
- Jan 21 SCC Meeting at 5:30 p.m.