



Parent Teacher Organization

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 5, 2023

9:30-11:30 a.m.

Board Members Present: Mr. York (principal), Jessica Muelleck (President), Robyn Shelton (president-elect), Jessica Sabin (Treasurer), Trina McCarthy (Treasurer), Becca Price (Communications), Becca Bishop (secretary), Julia Halliday (volunteer coordinator, Jen Preece (Musical), Amy Kalbes (safety), Amber Elkins (jog-a-thon co-chair, musical), Patti Harrison (jog-a-thon co-chair, fundraising chair, book fair), Jessica Knorr (Chinese co-chair), Amy Burton (PE), Amy Bennion (Room Parents), Candice Diehl (Battle of the Books), Shelley Beck (musical & school spirit) **via zoom:** Tyler Steiner (Enrichment chair), Katy Hansen **Others:**

Called to Order:

Julia Halliday, Jessica Muelleck (seconded)

Jog-a-thon

- \$36,635. This was great. We had 65 less students this year, so were happy with this amount. (682 last year vs. 617 students this year).
- Cotton candy parties on Tuesday
- Principal's lunch, recess, etc. will be done next week.

Spending survey

- How do we allow parents to voice an opinion? We want to include people and be deliberate about how we spend the money.
- Survey monkey is an easier platform, but you must send out multiple links.
 - How much does it cost to do a survey monkey account?
 - Would we rather a google form?
 - Is there another platform we can use?
- Katie Ennis will create a spending survey to send out to parents.
- Ballot for students?

Vision and Hearing

- Friday, November 17th: Vision Screening
 - 9-11:30 (4-6 volunteers), k, 1, 3, 5, and IEP's
- Hearing Screenings: November 29th

Red Ribbon Week

- Amy Kalbes is taking over Red Ribbon week.

- A lot of flyer information only includes “special days,” so Amy Bennion and Amy Kalbes will make an educational flyer of what Red Ribbon Week is.
- American Medical Association has a statement about vaping. -AMA information
 - Maybe include a statement from there
- Tie ribbons fence on Friday, October 13th. Amy would love help tying these on!
- Red Ribbon Week is October 16-20th.
- Pass red ribbons on their backpacks – keep consistent with green and white ribbon.
- Wrap yourself in red, make healthy choices.
- Reference websites for parents to talk about – parentsempowered.org.

Principal Report

- Substance related instances are usually skyrocketing in 9th grade.
 - Alcohol and traditional tobacco offenses are going down, vaping is on the RISE.
- Nan Ririe stepped out as the assistant principal because of many family medical problems.
 - Nancy Ward is here currently filling the position as a temporary assistant principal.
 - In the process of hiring a new assistant principal
- 3rd Grade DLI Teacher Update
 - Did not get an expedited interview for our teacher. Congressional office was not able to make this happen.
 - Interview is October 25th – probably a couple of weeks after this time if she is granted the visa.
 - *Backup plan* for a student teacher if this does not work out to get the visa. (an American-born Chinese teacher from Foothills elementary)
- Staffing
 - We have all of aides we need this year and a fully staffed lunchroom.
 - Mr. Bench will be back October 12th. Mr. York has been great at filing in 😊
- SCC
 - Making a new council to go with state guidelines – with 4 parents and 2 teachers.
 - We can add parent and teachers by changing our bylaws.
 - We can change our bylaws about allowing for remote meetings.
 - We must have a concrete number of parents of bylaws. We cannot have an “at minimum” on the SCC. Don’t make your number too high because we MUST reach that number every year after we create that.
 - We can change the bylaws to create ability for online voting.
 - October 12th at 5:30 in the library
 - Funding associated with SCC is a huge fund that we use (TSSA is the largest fund of our school’s overall budget).
 - Want to make sure the rules for spending are followed.
 - Half of the spots of the community council needs to come up for election every year. This means that ½ of the members in the election this year can only serve a one-year term.
 - ALL PARENTS can attend SCC meetings. But only the elected members can vote. Parents are allowed to talk if they are recognized by the chair.
 - Lay Kou will be the SCC representative with Mr. York.
 - Must choose a chair (a parent). The other positions can be faculty or parents.

- SCC training for chairs that takes place in early November over zoom.
 - SCC must discuss the future of the DLI program and how we implement it at Southland. This is not whether the program lasts, but what model we will adopt.
 - The program that we have is currently to give preference & weight to students with siblings, Boundary students, JSD Students, Outside of JSD
 - DLI future
 - Working with DLI teachers
 - Working with other principals
 - Presentations at other schools to promote DLI at our school.
 - Can we take the students over to help promote it as well.
 - Go through Riverton's Bridge program and see long term of DLI.
 - Colter (Chinese-speaking aide) – show how a kid who has made it through the Bridge program. He is a role model.
 - Halloween parade will be outside.
- 50th anniversary will be next year (not this year) – NEXT YEAR!
 - Time capsule was buried under a tree (where the current assistant principal's office is). It may still be under there.
 - Finding interesting items in cleaning out the school.
 - dedication pamphlet, slides from the first year of operation, and other random items, handwritten dedication speech.
 - More items from the 80's or 90's
 - Can we collect items from the early years?
 - Shirts, items, etc. that we could collect.

Battle of the Books

- Online applications are up on the school website. Mr. York will also send out an email with the link and there is a QR code. All information went out to parents this week. Deadline is October 20th!

Enrichment Chair

- Meeting with Tyler Steiner on Monday about possibility of serving as enrichment chair.

Chinese Co-Chair

- Lisa Christensen and Jessica Knorr will work with the Chinese teachers. Thank you!

Spirit Friday

- Treats for wearing blue or Southland shirts on Fridays. Also, if it is a dress up day, that will be accepted as well.

Teacher Update

- Frohlich – lower grade representative
 - Thank you for the PTO!
 - Please have 3rd grade teachers take time to explain BATTLE OF THE BOOKS
 - Anyone can participate.
 - They can be with students from other classes.

- Weenig – Upper grade representative
 - Thank you, PTO, for amazing jog-a-thon and the smooth process.
 - Thank you to the teachers for feedback!
 - Do room parents have their budget? Amy Bennion will communicate this to room parents.
 - At least \$5. Official amount will be after the budget meeting.
 - PTO dinners. Please let teachers know ahead of time what the meals will be so they can plan for dietary needs.
 - Vegetarian, gluten free, etc.
 - Thursday afternoon lunch would be more beneficial than dinners – Mr. York needs to check to see the rules from Mr. York
 - 6th grade conferences were difficult!
 - Students would like to know when they are getting medals – cotton candy, medals, and buttons will be given out on Tuesday.
 - Please encourage BATTLE OF THE BOOKS
 - MUSICAL: Little musical skits will be done in class next week. Look for an email about the time frame on October 18th.
- Kou
 - Co-chairs are Lisa Christensen and Jessica Knorr
 - Chinese New Year fun fair after school – week of January 22nd
 - Invite the community to come in and join us.
 - Want parent help to man the stations and some of the teachers will be there.
 - Might add more booths to have lots of options for students and community members.
 - Invite Miss Utah to come because she is Chinese or have a booth for questions.
 - Waiting for her response
 - Give them the red packet at the end after they have visited the booths.
 - Do we have a preliminary budget for what funding you would want?
 - Could we coordinate with middle school and high school students to help run the booths. This might help for students to see older students.

Musical Practices

- Practices are Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30-5:00
- Students

Motion to Close: Jessica Muelleck, Seconded (EVERYONE)