

THARP ELEMENTARY PTO MEETING MINUTES

Date: Monday, August 26, 2019 7:30 pm

Number in Attendance: 23

Introductions:

<u>Board Members</u>	
President	Christine Lance
Vice President	Kathryn Baron
Treasurer	Sharla Buxton
Secretary	Vickie Loeser

Principal's Report: Jessica Rardon

Principal Rardon was very happy with tonight's turnout. She reported that they are off to a great start. Talked to 6th grade parents about the book "The Gift of Failure", by Jessica Leahy. It's an amazing book. She recommended it to parents.

Some of the buses are running a little late. They are starting explorer period next week which is about building community and exploring core values. They are also making sure students understand how to use canvas and their ipads. If there is an issue with their ipad, students should report this to their 1st period teacher. Also the App portal was somewhat problematic today.

Treasurer's Report: Sharla Buxton

Projected income is \$15,500. Main fundraisers are Cookie Dough, Mattress Sale and Spirit Wear. Current Bank balance is \$22,455.62. Very much need income from the upcoming sales to fund large projects including new Water Fountains, Benches and the Bathroom Walls. Suggested looking into the water fill stations. (Ridgewood Elementary currently has them. Norwich just put them in and used Rojen to install them.)

Tharp also needs new playground equipment. They are thinking of asking the 4th graders what kind of equipment they would like. Mrs. Tanner will survey the Arrow kids and Kathryn Baron will assist her. The other areas with needs include updates to the Media Center, Landscaping and Student Council. The Mattress sale is one of the big fundraisers held in the Spring. It's very easy.

Committees:

Cookie Dough Sale – Suzanne is Chair

This is one of Tharp's biggest fundraisers. It is teamwork fundraising with whole school rewards, not individual ones – snow cones, pie in the face, dunk tank and inflatables etc. Fliers will go home on Friday with 1st turn in day Sept. 3rd. People will also be able to order on-line. Delivery is October 16, 2019. Suzanne will create a sign-up genius because volunteers will be needed for delivery that day.

Box Tops – Cassie is Chair

Cassie is trying to get them going again this year. Box tops is phasing out actual physical box tops and moving to digital scanning of them. Cassie will also notify folks about Kroger rewards and Amazon Smile. Chris is updating the website and adding information to Facebook and Twitter.

6th grade social – Chair Needed

This event is coming right up and is scheduled for Friday October 11, 2019. Girls arrive at 6:45, boys arrive at 7:00 (Pick-up is also staggered with girls picked up 8:45 & boys at 9:00pm). The cost is \$5 plus a canned or other non-perishable item to go to the food bank. The theme is Football. We still need to hire a Police Officer to help with the Traffic. They will also have a game room in the media center. The DJ will be Dan Cordle and a vendor will provide a Photo Booth. Each Team will bring food:

- C – salty
- A – sweet
- T – fruit
- S – plates/cups/napkins

Spirit items – Chair Needed

Spirit wear items will go on sale beginning October 16, 2019 which is also Conference Night. The sale will close on October 30, 2019. PTO will also try to sell other Spirit items such as Water Bottles etc. (This may tie in with the Holiday Shop sponsored through the Arrow Economics program.)

Teacher/Staff Appreciation – Chair Needed 53 Staff members (Plan for 60)

Staff appreciation will be done monthly instead of one week twice per year. PTO needs ideas for staff. What ideas cost nothing? PTO has a sign-up genius for lunch/recess volunteers. We already have several people signed up. Suggestions include asking for donations for the "teacher incentives" that they give to students. Or maybe PTO can give teacher or team stipends for \$50 - \$100 dollars. Other ideas include a cookie or donut cart. PTO will continue the teacher supply drive for tissues, markers, wipes etc.

Social Media: Cassandra

Needs to get Twitter going but has now linked our Twitter to Facebook. However the website still needs work. She will be meeting with Christine and the media specialist.

Book Fair: Media Specialist

Our Media Specialist will handle the Book Fair. The date has not yet been determined.

ISPTO: Katie

Katie will be Tharp's ISPTO representative. She is already attending for Ridgewood as well. The first ISPTO meeting will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2019 at 6:30 pm. Location TBD.

Open Discussion

We have an author visit, Jason Reynolds, coming and was not budgeted. However the Media Specialist will take it out of her Book Fair profits. Principal Rardon noted that she inherited this expense from the previous administrator. It's not in the budget, but costs \$3200 dollars.

There is a related speaker from his book that is available for about \$800 dollars. He will be here in October. Principal Rardon would really like to have him and is willing to pay for it out of her budget or would appreciate if the PTO would be willing to fund it.

Upcoming Events:

September 2	Labor Day NO SCHOOL
September 3	Cookie Dough Fundraiser begins
September 9 – 10	Team Building Days
September 18	ISPTO Meeting 6:30 pm
September 20	Wildcat Way Community Day
September 30	PTO Meeting 7:00 pm
October 11	6 th Grade Social 6:45 & 7:00pm
October 16	Cookie Dough Delivery/Spirit Wear Sale Starts
October 16	Parent Teacher Conference Night
October 17	End of First Nine Weeks
October 18	In-Service Day NO SCHOOL
October 23	ISPTO Meeting 6:30 pm
October 28	PTO Meeting 7:00 pm
October 30	Spirit Wear Sale Closes

Next Meeting: Monday, September 30, 2019

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:25 pm