

## **Colfax PTO EB Meeting**

January 2, 2013

Music Room

3:30 PM

In attendance: Sarah Sirlin, Darcy Gordon, Anne Kurzweg, Jenny Ganger, Henry Willis, Abbie Campsie, Shannon Ewing, Joie Conroy, Kipp Dawson

### **I. PRESIDENT - Abbie**

Abbie shared thank you notes to PTO from teachers. Movie night might be moved to March or April. Mr. Lydon's night out - 30 children signed up. Grossed 580.00, netted 260.00 for PTO and 260.00 for Mr. Lydon. He also has snacks to sell. Waiting for a date from him to do it again in January.

Discussed pool as a possible project. Estimate received to fix up area around pool and retile pool itself with blue and yellow tile, remove rusty fence/gate, about 28,000.00. Abbie will be getting another estimate on Friday. According to Joe, we have the green light from facilities to take this project on, because this is something the district would have to contract out anyway. Abbie thought she might put up pictures of the pool at PFP and brainstorm with committee re: how to raise money for it at PFP. We would not need the money until the summer.

Darcy discussed the idea of breaking the work down into units, i.e., you can finance this section of tile. Henry thought that this discussion should be held with the general PTO; Abbie planned to bring it up at the next general meeting.

Sarah raised the issue of warranty for pool work, and whether we need to allocate funds for future maintenance, as was done with the playground. Shannon said that the district currently maintains the pool, and would continue to do so. When we had to set aside maintenance funds for the playground, we did that because the district had nothing allocated for that.

There should be an e-mail blast and the issue should be in the newsletter. Maybe we should find out whether the work can be done in stages. We should have talking points and make the case for the work on the pool. Joe should also speak to the general PTO. Joie pointed out that the pool attracts families, and if we lose families, we lose teachers, etc. -- there is a larger impact if the pool is closed. The swimming lessons are also an important life skill, and the chipping/peeling paint is a problem.

Abbie will have bullet points available to PTO EB so that we are able to answer questions if asked. She will bring photos and bullet points to general PTO meeting. Darcy also mentioned that we can do grant writing for this project.

## II. **FUNDRAISING** - Darcy

Appeal letter campaign raised about 19,400.00 and Darcy is expecting a few more checks to come in. Discussion about whether we should have a section of the newsletter -- a "treasurer's corner" or "where did our money go this month?" -- about what PTO has spent on and what it is committed to spending in the future. The budget sheet is for transparency, not messaging/communication. Henry pointed out that we need to make it tangible for people, i.e., how many kids are getting services that the PTO pays for, via bullet items. The article can be linked to the website. Henry and Ellie will start the process of getting this written.

PFP is 6 weeks. Melanie and Sukanya are handling a lot, donations will go to Ann Anish's house for basket assembly. Next meeting is at Melanie's house on Monday. Darcy shared the invitations.

## III. **TREASURER** - Henry

Have raised 28,000 plus and have spent a little over 13,000. We are expected to raise about 10,000 more. Have budgeted about 40,000 for expenses that we'll see coming in over the remainder of the year. We had budgeted a net deficit and now have about 44,000 (not including the money market account). If all went as budgeted we will have about 14,000 unaccounted for in the bank.

Counting on raising 15,000 at PFP. If we meet our budget and meet our expenses, we will have about 15K in the bank. We are on schedule to exceed fundraising.

2500 from Mad Mex was placed in general donations budget line. Designated donations approx. 1K. Designated donations - if less than what was budgeted, and we spend what we said we would spend, there is no implication. Henry suggests that we not encourage designated donations, because it makes things more complicated and restrains PTO. Darcy noted that most designated donations were for principal's discretionary fund, garden, and supplies. So far there has been no issue. We are not restricted to spend designated donations prior to June 30th.

Henry is not sure whether we received bill from Romp n' Roll yet -- when it comes (it will come to Joie), that money should come from middle level activities.

Re: requests: Teachers are not able to purchase technology; tech from the district is buying them. Apple TV will come soon.

School supplies - we've only spent \$100 out of 2500. Joie will speak to the teachers in charge of supplies to see whether anything is needed. This is the first time we've had a supply budget, so don't know whether it will carry forward.

Shoebox will be added as a budget line.

#### IV. **COMMUNICATIONS** - Sarah

Jan. 18 deadline for Feb. newsletter content. Sarah will encourage people via targeted e-mails to contribute. Could letter from Presidents be less detailed, if we are going to have Treasurer's report, and Adam's report?

Julie Fiez will write a follow-up re: winter luncheon, and Joe Snyder will write about the "being green" contest. Joie will contribute something too, and Kipp will get something in about Student Council.

Kipp mentioned that the music program does not get enough publicity - Ms. Moule (working at her desk during the meeting) will write something. Maybe Ms. Malvin will write about the athletics, or coordinate kids to write about events/teams.

Volunteering - Jenny will coordinate with Amy and Lara (committee) to write something.

Abbie will write something about the tours.

Shout-outs - Sarah will e-mail a shout out form to Kipp for passing out to the middle level kids. Maybe a special Valentine's day issue.

Submitted by Secretary Anne Salzman Kurzweg