**Bethke Elementary PTO Meeting Minutes**

**November 15, 2016**

**8:35 a.m., Bethke Cafeteria**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by PTO President Lisa Kuchler at 8:39 am.

**Welcome/Introductions:** Lisa welcomed all attendees to the meeting.

**PTO Monthly Business Updates**

**Welcome Committee:** Jessica gave an update about the welcome committee. A New Family Breakfast has been planned for Thursday. There are about 40 new families this year.

**Budget Update:** Svetlana gave a budget update.

**Pledge:** We have almost met our income goal for the year. We are short on King Soopers cards as well as Box Tops. We made a great profit from the golf tournament. Over 50% of pledges have been turned in. We are trying to push for the end of the year to meet our goal. We are at about $13,000 profit for the year so far.

**Committee Updates:**

* Book Fair – Rebecca Davis and Erin Hughes are heading this up. Book fair is going well. $770 was collected last week for All For Books. Preschool story time is Thursday at 10a.m. Still need volunteers, especially Wednesday at lunch and on Friday.
* BTE – Cassi Wedel – Collection wasn’t as good as expected. Hoping for a better turn out next time.
* Copy Room – Slowly getting up and running. Wendy Ralph is the chairperson.
* Fall Social – Great feedback – maybe work on a solution to the long admission line for next time.
* Friday Folders - Karis Harmon
* Golf/Community Sponsored Events – Turn out was great. Jason and Nick agreed to do it next year.
* King Soopers Cards – 5% of purchase(even on gas) goes back to the school. This was below budged compared to past. Working on building awareness. They can be purchased and reloaded at King Soopers.
* Original Art – Deadline is Nov. 23rd. Help will be needed sorting orders.
* Schoola – Good turnout and will be donated next week.
* School Directory – Completed for the year.
* Spirit Wear – Hoping to have the online ordering option available on Friday so items can arrive before Christmas. Samples will be available in 1-2 weeks. Tye dye shirts, short sleeved shirts, performance tees, and hooded sweatshirt are available. Range from $15-$15.
* Volunteers – To date, 807 hours have been logged. Of those hours, 582 were in the month of October. Thank a volunteer when you see them in the hall!

**Teacher Grant Requests:** 5th grade: Each class already has an ipad that they use for supplemental activities and for apps, pictures for yearbook and graduation, small group instruction and station based learning. They also use it for social media as well as digital citizenship for students (online responsibility). 5th grade is requesting another ipad to accommodate student growth. Mrs. Moore’s total grant request is $478. Motion to grant this request was approved.

4th grade: Core novel sets. These are novels the students read throughout the year. They are requesting 50 additional copies so that every student can have their own copy. Total cost is $892.50. This benefits the majority of the students and contributes to students’ education. The books are not consumable and will remain in the classrooms. This grant request was approved.

Kindergarten: Requesting additional items due to use and increased enrollment. This includes 30 noise cancelling headphones for $100. They are also asking for magnetic marker board easels for stations, writing, and manipulation of magnetic numbers and letter. The estimated total is $310. The final request is for sand timer sets per classroom. These serve as visual aids for students. Estimated cost is $50. The grand total is $460. The grant request was approved.

P.E.: 1,000 Colored bands are requested for field day for $179.90. They can be consumable and it was suggested to buy a bulk amount to cover this year as well as future years. The grant was approved.

Second Grade: Teachers would like to purchase Civil War chests. It includes Civil War era costumes and paraphernalia (canteens, water packs, harmonica) to give students an idea of what it was like to live during that time period. The trunk is $80, and they would like an additional $250 to add various items. The grant was approved.

Tech: Mr. Mac would like to purchase new ipads with the newest updates and features. He is asking for 2 ipads for $956. Current ipads will still be used for other activities. The grant was approved.

Third Grade: Teachers are requesting $298 for 3 sets of math games. These games would be used weekly in small group settings. The grant was approved.

**Mr. Mac presented on internet safety**: First grade begins learning about internet safety and how to stay safe. They watch videos as a class. 3-5th grade receive an internet safety badge. Cyberbullying is discussed with students. They are encouraged to not share personal information. Students play games to show awareness of internet safety. 4th and 5th grade create videos about being kind and demonstrating internet safety. After receiving badges, students can communicate in a forum to practice skills they have learned.

Mr. Mac encouraged parents to go online on the internet with their children sitting with them to model appropriate internet and social media behavior. Create a family Twitter, email, Instagram, or Facebook account to help students demonstrate their skills to build up to receiving their own account in the future.

There is a kid safe youtube app where videos are safe for kids to watch. Parents should focus on kid- safe products, but most of the time, parents are encouraged to sit with their children to see what they are doing online. Mr. Mac will put together a list of apps for parents that are safe for kids.

**Mr. Gallagher**: Mr. Gallagher followed up on the discussion held at the last PTO meeting regarding the new math adoption. He stated that there was a bit of a transitional time due to the added reading and writing component, as well as an overall increase in analytical thinking associated with Envision Math. Teachers are getting feedback from the district and passing the information to other teachers. It’s still a work in progress, but overall teachers are more comfortable and able to access more resources. Parents and students are reporting that the transition is becoming easier over time. Grade level teachers are discussing the order in which they will teach the curriculum for next year based on this year’s experience. The move to Envision math was a well thought out decision based on changing standards and needs of students.

Update on Bond – it is still being determined if the bond passed or not. At last count the numbers were leaning in favor of the bond, but all votes need to be verified because of how close the results were. We won’t know anything official until at least December 10th. If it passes, there will be a new elementary school built across Highland Meadows golf course. It would open in the fall of 2018. Bethke enrollment will continue to rise until the school opens. A third modular is set to be added next year. Current enrollment is 621, with more predicted to arrive during the holidays. Bethke will not be accepting school of choice.

**Wrap Up:** The next PTO meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 7th at 6:00 pm. Ann Alfonso will speak about state testing.