

Albert Einstein Elementary
PTSA Board Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2010

Attendance: Michelle Sullivan, Kari Haegele, Amy Walter, Shauna Kennedy, Penny Miller, Madhu Movva, Deva Demeter, Kitty Tam, Sumi Balakrishnan, Melanie Williams, Margie Segress, Olivia Lang.

Meeting called to order by Michelle Sullivan at 9:20 am.

Minutes from the January 14, 2010 Board Meeting were approved as written.

Student Council Report:

- Student Council to help with Bingo Night (selling raffle tickets, etc). Shauna & Debbie to coordinate with Mr Dahlgren. Council members helped with shifts at VPO & are working on additional community service projects & school announcements.

Principal's Report (*given by Amy Walter*):

- Pilot math program in grade 3 will help determine program implemented next year in all grades district-wide.
- Enrollment for kindergarten is up compared to last year. 4 to 5 classes depending on effects of AYP letter – to be mailed in spring (for kindergarten parents).

Teacher's Report:

- Math plan: 2-year process analyzing everything. Looking for comprehensive program (using online, classroom & parental resources) that balances conceptual understanding with practical skills.
- VPO: After 1st day, sales were down but could be result of it being 1st day. Suggested a brief blurb explaining it in Otter Mail.
- Basketball game preparations are underway. PTSA runs the concession stand.
- Thank you to PTSA for Founder's Day Luncheon.

Treasurer's Report: (*See attached 1/14/10 – 2/08/10 Report*)

Kari touching base with teachers regarding teacher grants. Requests need to be made by the end of May.

New Business:

Otter Grants:

- 2/26 submission deadline changed to 3/1.
- In future, will have more advance notice. Using example of other schools, we will have both a Fall & Spring proposal evaluation.
- Amy will distribute grant forms to staff.
- Committee (Donna Muench, Kari Haegele, Jack Tobin, Julie Lang & Beth Hosier-Nickum) will meet on 3/11 to evaluate & recommend proposals for PTSA consideration.

Playground Ideas:

- Parent group interested in weeding & mulching of beds.
- Abbie Cort submitted letter outlining playground enhancements—powerwashing pavement prior to painting large country &/or world maps, hopscotch & 4-square touch-ups.
- Overlake Church scheduled to do painting in August, but Abbie wanted PTSA recommendation on securing money needed for supplies & powerwashing.
- Board recommended trying to secure builder donations on our behalf—followed by Otter Grant proposal if donations aren't forthcoming.

International Night/Clubs:

- Goal of 6 to 10 family-hosted tables & acts (i.e, martial arts demo, international songs sung by choir, Hip Hop group, Native American group) with no admission charge.
- Teachers working on passports/maps/classroom projects.
- Discussion of request for \$330 from PTSA to cover costs of decorations, passport materials, water & table reimbursements. Figure seemed high due to fact that decorations/supplies provided by teachers/classroom projects. Michelle suggested a \$1 admission. Minimal charge for water also suggested to discourage waste.

MOTION #1: Deva motioned to add line item of \$250 to budget to cover the International Night's costs for passport materials, table reimbursements & extra costs that arise. Amy seconded. All in favor.

Budget Items:

- Oversight with regard to **Math Night**. Used Parent Ed budget but that line item no longer exists. In future, will know costs in advance.

MOTION #2: Deva motioned to add line item of \$450 to budget for Math Night. Amy seconded. All in favor.

MOTION #3: Amy motioned to add line item of \$1500 to budget for Bingo Night. Deva seconded. All in favor.

Nominating Committee Elections:

MOTION #4: Kari motioned that Deva, Amy & Melanie serve as our Nominating Committee for next year's board. Penny seconded. All in favor.

Otter Wear:

- Michelle found AZ supplier for low cost, no-money-upfront, quality T-shirts/sweatshirts
- Two windows of time (per school year) to order shirts/sweatshirts online with delivery to teachers. Will work on "girl" & "boy" background color choices.

PCC Scrips:

- Passive fundraiser where 5% of PCC purchases goes to school
- School would buy \$500 in cards (for initial payment of \$475) to be sold in increments determined by us. Once card is bought, can add funds to it & use indefinitely.
- Check from PCC would come to school in January & June.
- Suggested pre-sale to assess interest level.

MOTION #5: Margie motioned to add line item of \$500 to budget for PCC Scrips program. Shauna seconded. All in favor.

Council Update:

- Today is last day to vote on Bond & Levy issue
- School districts won in law suit brought against the state of WA for underfunding of basic education (second suit).
- Info about new math curriculum & pilot program can be found on lwsd.org
- LWSF Luncheon on 4/28. Open attendance. Each table seats 10 people & hope is that each table will generate \$1500 in donations.

Committee Reports:

Fundraising: No more fundraisers planned for this year. Sally Foster making major changes which might necessitate a change in our plans for next year. Entertainment books considered.

Volunteers: Volunteer recognition is going well. Brainstorming ways to recognize on a larger scale for the end-of-year (At spirit assemblies? Teacher nominations?). **Art of Discovery** is May 10th – 14th.

Membership: Madhu mentioned that new members need to list address—otherwise school's address is automatically filled in.

Family Events: Volunteers needed for Bingo Night. Shauna urged spreading the word so more pre-selling of tickets.

Activities: Next session for Chess & Art begins in April. Thank you to Sumi for updating teachers about which students stay for afterschool activities.

Meeting adjourned by Michelle at 11:26 am.

The above notes were submitted by Margie Segress, Secretary.