

Albert Einstein Elementary
PTSA Board Meeting Minutes
April 8, 2010

Attendance: Michelle Sullivan, Amy Walter, Shauna Kennedy, Debbie Breer, Kari Haegele, Deva Demeter, Kitty Tam, Sumi Balakrishnan, Rana Shafi, Margie Segress, Jack Tobin, Olivia Lang.

Meeting called to order by Michelle Sullivan at 9:16 am.

Minutes from the March 11, 2010 Board Meeting were approved with one revision.

Student Council Report:

- Council is proposing to organize a free Running Club as a playground activity. Mile markers could be made by summer work team/Deva has pedometer. Pass out small rewards (i.e, beads for a necklace) for specified distance run. Mr Tobin is good resource since his daughters' school has this in place.
- Shauna to email Mr Dahlgren regarding signs to be made for upcoming teacher basketball game.
- Michelle to give Otter Wear information to Olivia for announcements.

Teacher's Report:

- Working on new district-wide report card system which will be in place next year. Will have only 2 report cards (January & June) but parents will have more information through the online component. Also a goal-setting conference with teacher in October.
- Amy sent out reminder about the May 31st deadline to teachers with remaining balances on their teacher grants.

Treasurer's Report: *(See attached 3/11/10 – 4/07/10 Financial Activity Report)*

New Business:

Art:

MOTION #1: Deva made a motion to change the Art Docent budget line item from \$1000 to \$1350 to cover supply costs for this year. Rana seconded. All in favor.

- May art enrichment project to be based on Bellevue Art Museum's Art of Discovery traveling exhibit. May 10-May 13th at Einstein. Art docents can volunteer to be collection docents leading discussions with classes in the school library. **Art of Discovery docent training: April 29th @ 9:00 am.**
- **"Arts Night" on May 13th:** Each student to choose his/her favorite art enrichment piece to hang in the halls around the school. Families come to view art & choir will perform. Deva requested volunteers to help her hang artwork.
- The total proposed art budget for next year is \$1400 & Art of Discovery will have its own budget.

Basketball Game:

- PTSA responsible for obtaining items to sell (i.e, pom-poms last year), pre-sale tickets, set-up & advertising.
- In past years, we have split profits of ticket sales/concessions with opposing team's school, but we will be keeping those profits (approximately \$500) this year due to Einstein's greater participation in the event.
- Instead of creating a separate basketball shirt, we will be exclusively launching our new Otter Wear at the same time this year so due to the amount of work teachers put into this event, they have asked if PTSA would be willing to pay for the 11 players' t-shirts with the extra profit we will earn from the event (\$7.50 per shirt = \$82.50 or approximately total of \$100 expense this year).
- We'd then set a precedent of providing those shirts for each new player joining in subsequent years.

Budget Forecast: (*See attached Budget Forecast 2009-2010*). Surplus of \$15,135 to discuss.

Computer Upgrade Project:

- Schools in LWSD run on a "4 to 1 plus a lab" ratio with hope for "1 to 1" ratio in future.
- Parents have voiced concern over state of computers in our school. Every October, report comes out with number of students so if necessary, more computers are delivered & our oldest computers are replaced with newer (usually refurbished) models. All were new in 1992, but that means those are wearing out at same time. We also have laptop computers, but they don't always work optimally. (4 year lifetime for CPUs & 5 years for notebooks is expected.)
- Power is also an issue since too many power strips aren't necessarily safe.
- District has agreed to upgrade computers to Windows 7 & pilot different netbook models to propose. District can accept PTSA donations but must oversee them so computers are standardized across district.
- Discussion about putting our budget surplus funds toward computer upgrades so if standard is set by summer, we could have new computer system in place early fall. Would need to put the vote to the General Membership on 4/22 which is too soon.
- Discussion tabled until Windows upgrade & netbook evaluation takes place. Jack to check on whether laptops will be upgraded or not since they're "above & beyond" our school computer requirements.

Slate of Officers for 2010/2011 - Nominating Committee (*see attached "Einstein PTSA Board Nominations" & "2010-2011 Einstein PTSA Board" flowchart*) – Margie Segress added as Secretary.

MOTION #2: Shauna made a motion to approve the PTSA Slate of Officers for the 2010-2011 school year as presented by the Nominating Committee. Amy seconded. All in favor.

Proposed Budget: (*see attached "Budget Highlights/2010-11 Budget Proposal"*) The budget balances— with the exception of outstanding Otter Grants.

MOTION #3: Amy made a motion to approve the proposed budget. Shauna seconded. All in favor.

General Membership Meeting Agenda: Michelle presented agenda for 4/22 meeting.

Council Update:

Budget Cuts/Budget Input Meetings: State budget isn't finalized due to budget cuts so budget input meetings have been postponed. Council Meeting tonight (4/8) so Michelle doesn't have information to share yet.

Otter Wear T-shirts: Teachers have chosen gray for Einstein's basketball team. Decided PTSA members should purchase sapphire blue color (if they plan to buy one) so we will be easily identifiable at events. Also discussed purchasing volunteer t-shirts to be made available for volunteers to borrow & wear just during events (big enough to fit over clothing).

Playground Spring Clean-Up: Saturday, April 24th from 9 am to Noon

Organized by MyEinstein blog group. Landscaping people will bring wood chips in. Clean up beds. Boy Scout troop to help. Call for volunteers in Otter Mail. Bring your own gloves, wheel barrows, etc.

Committee Reports:

Fundraising: Donna & Amy have ideas in the works.

Family Events: International Night is really coming together.

Meeting adjourned by Michelle at 11:37 am.

The above notes were submitted by Margie Segress, Secretary.