

PTO MINUTES *****Meeting of January 11, 2010

There were approximately 11 staff and parents attending

Old Business: The meeting was brought to order at 6:35pm. Joel gave us an update on the Carnival. They did decide on the obstacle course inflatable which is going to be geared toward the older kids and there will be one that the little kids will be able to use as well. Fair Hair will be at the carnival with extra chairs and cans of spray! No running out this year!! They are still looking at giving a VIP pass to kids who have active military family members (immediate family that is) in either Iraq or Afghanistan. This VIP pass would be to do the games/activities and possibly some food. Keep on selling raffle tickets and really promote the new obstacle course to encourage kids of all ages to come. We will also have the Polar Mascot uniform and would need a volunteer to dress up for the day. Donation letters were sent out to businesses and just a note to parents: If you or your company is willing to donate please contact the office ASAP; the more the better. We will be serving tacos again instead of the pizza and will look at whether or not the menu would need to be reviewed after this year's carnival. The committee will be tentatively meeting towards the end of January and if you are still interested in helping out please contact Karla at the office and she will give you the information.

January 21st is Hometown Creamery night and the 5th grade teachers will be scooping. Hometown Creamery is doing the "coolest school" contest to see who raises the most money for their night for each month. The school with the most sales receives an additional check for 10% of the sales from other schools...plus more. Some schools like Cowern have had theme nights where they dress up in say Hawaiian gear and have beach games or activities. We would like to draw more families to Hometown Creamery night so we may look at having game or activities that would interest kids and families in coming. We are going to look at possibly selling raffle tickets to the carnival this month if possible at the Hometown Creamery nights.

Goodies fundraiser from last month discussion: They seem to have more options than Sally Foster (see under New Business for next year's plan) with offering chocolates, flowers and more gift items. We will hold off for the spring and look at it for possibly fall of next year.

Update on the Bravo Performance: Heather talked with the lady and she said the most wanted performances are for Opera and Ballet. Heather also asked for feedback from the K-1 teachers and got dates from Karla that would work between now and end of year. Once she gets feedback she will schedule a day.

Follow up on Insurance for PTO playground: We only need insurance for those activities that are PTO events vs. school events (i.e. Carnival, Harvest Dance, child care during meetings, etc.). All other use would be covered by district since the playground was gifted to school for school use.

Revisited spirit wear days and had some discussion on the new apparel bought a month or two ago. Some shirts and other items have been losing their white paint after one or two washes and wears. We will have SPIRIT WEAR days every Friday. If your child does not have Castle wear just have them wear red, white and black!

Castle Spirit wear had a printing problem. ALL orders for printed red t-shirts will be replaced by the company. Watch for your replacement to come home by February 1, 2010. You do not need to do anything...if you ordered one- it will be replaced. We are sorry for the inconvenience!

New Business:

Kristina from Sally Foster had requested to do a small presentation on some changes to the Sally Foster fundraiser program for next year. They are going to be focused on internet sales primarily with the fundraiser focused on purchasing gift cards that can be used to purchase items through Sally Foster. We would receive 45% profit on the sales of the gift cards and these are a gift card that could be "re-charged" which means that we could potentially have revenue throughout the year. They are also going to be offering more items on their catalog which would include holiday, different occasions, stationary, gift items, etc. Product will be delivered to individual homes. Shipping costs would be determined according to amounts purchased. Kristina did not have the specifics on this as of yet. They would still have the cookie dough option as well. We use to get 50%; they are lowering to 40% profit but would give us 45% for the next year. One positive is that it would eliminate drop off and pick up at the schools and more options for families on when and how much to purchase. The gift cards would be sold in denominations of \$20 (an amount their marketing team felt most people were comfortable spending).

Another fundraiser from Sally Foster would be selling a coupon booklet. This would give us between 50-60%

profit and the coupons would be geared to the area where we live and we could have some decision on what types of retail we would choose to have on the booklet. Essentially they give 5 booklets to every student and are based on the honor system of either bringing back the unused booklets or the money for the booklets. The coupon booklet would cost \$20.

Applebee's Fundraiser is scheduled for March 6. They will be selling tickets for shortly after first round of information from the carnival has gone out. We don't want it to get lost in the shuffle. They are looking at needing about 12 volunteers and at least 6 people have to be age 16 and older out of that 12.

BASKETS NEEDED for the silent auction for the carnival. Baskets do not all have to be the same but any donation would be accepted. If interested please contact JoAnne Romain at j_romain@comcast.net.

Saints North roller-skating for Castle coming up on February 11th. Look forward to seeing as many people as possible.

Principal's Report: Mrs. Town started out with telling us we have a current enrollment of 450 kids at Castle. She talked about the spirit wear days and the concerns with the shirts losing their white printing (see above). (See notes from old business). Mrs. Town is looking forward to spirit wear days on Fridays for the future.

January 19 from 4-6p.m. is a reception for superintendant on receiving her award for Superintendent of the Year. Everyone is welcome to attend. MAP testing for reading is done and teachers will review.

Paraprofessionals celebration the week of January 18th and there is a band concert on January 26th at 2:15p.m. only.

February 23rd is Sneak -A- Peak at Kindergarten and Registration Night for kindergarten for fall.

Office staff is making calls now off of census information to get an estimate of number of students.

Treasurer's Report: Brandee passed out tax information and wanted an approval to send out so that could be done. Motion was made, seconded and approved to send out. She also sent out a letter from the Attorney General about continuing to support Castle as a Charitable Organization. Brandee needs to send out a few forms to the AG's office and that will be done as well. Talked briefly about the need for ordering more Castle laminated folders. Currently we have about 400 of the blue and white ones with the Castle on them. It would not be enough for next year's students and talked about looking into a red and white color with a cub and/or possibly paw prints that lead into a Castle.

Brandee passed out a copy of the updated budget report.

Proposals:

The 4th grade Kindness Retreat is happening on January 21st. Everyone is excited and there was a motion made to spend \$50 on a treat and juice box for students on this event. The motion was seconded and approved.

**HOMETOWN CREAMERY NIGHT 1/21; SAINTS NORTH 2/11; CASTLE CARNIVAL 2/20:
NEXT PTO MEETING 2/11/2010**

NO SCHOOL ON 1/29/10. MARK YOUR CALENDARS.