

**Freedom Elementary School PTA**

**Meeting Minutes, October 7, 2021**

**I. Call to Order**

Virtual meeting due to COVID-19. Lori Coon, Co-President, calls to order the virtual meeting of the Freedom PTA at 6:31 p.m. on October 7, 2021.

**Attendance**

The following individuals are present at the meeting: *Jessica Smith, Karen Barnes, Kara Copley, Lori Coon, Becky Clemens, Jane Castner, Becky Kaufman, Melissa McGuinness, Jen Meyer, Rachel Andress, Kristen Winans, Federman, Liz Rosenberg, Karice Parada, Kristen Jenkins, Ashley Schall, Patricia Martin, Mamata Poch, Becky Keyser, Jennifer Sharpless, Katherine Shaw, Sandi Miller, Shannon Howard, Caitlyn Christ.*

**II. Old Business Review**

- a) Spirit nights- (Becky C.) 9/7-CFA \$268.65, J&P \$300, 10/5 CFA awaiting total.
- b) Continued Box Tops (Becky K). She notes that there has been a dramatic drop since the receipt scanning started. Was approx. \$1,200 year, now only a couple hundred. If we have parents start sending in receipts instead, Melissa has offered to scan. We will see if we can have a receipt box at stores.
- c) Continued Coke Rewards, usually \$400 year earned
- d) Certifikid, \$5 earned per purchase
- e) Amazon Smile: Always good fundraising, the wish list for teacher's closet will be done again

**III. Treasurer Report (Lori Coon, as Lou Rolfes not present)**

- a) Teacher reimbursement requests are due. For this year, we propose \$100 for each teacher, \$50 for part-time. This needs to be approved.
- b) Budget has stayed same except for playground.
- c) Hoping to fund some field trips this year. If not due to COVID, perhaps assemblies.
- d) \$500 allotted for playground ribbon cutting ceremony. Ideas: hot cocoa bar since it will be cold? A parent makes hot cocoa bombs, incorporate somehow?
- e) Budget motion carried and approved.

**IV. Secretary Report (Melissa)**

- a) Square store has been updated with additional merchandise. Will post again on Facebook.
- b) NexTrex: we are doing so well! Almost 120 pounds of plastic collected already! Keep it up! I have partnered with Martins to drop off collections to them.

**V. Principal/Playground report: Jessica Smith**

- a) School is getting back to normal routine. New individuals hired for lunchroom and classroom assistants.
- b) Some volunteers will be allowed INSIDE the school hopefully soon. Outdoor visitors will be allowed for the Fun Run.
- c) Playground is scheduled to ship on 11/15, installation scheduled to begin on 11/22. There will be an orange construction fence around the work area. Children will be allowed outside depending on the level of construction on particular days.

**VI. Vice-Principal Report: Karen Barnes**

Question regarding behavior incentive budget. It was \$2,000, but now budget says \$850. Lori has amended.

**VII. Teacher Report: Ms. Castner**

Nothing to report, but she thanks the PTA for the donations for the teacher supply closet. It is much appreciated by all!

**VIII. President Report: Lori Coon**

Redistricting meeting was held on 10/4/21. Next meeting is 10/18/21. Nothing new to report.

**IX. Fundraising and upcoming spirit nights: Becky Clemens**

- a) Glory Days, all month. Need itemized receipt. We will get 10%.
- b) Bupperts, all month. Mention Freedom. Hayrides included!
- c) 10/20 Chipotle, 11/2 CFA (this will continue on 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month), 11/22 Panera, 12/7 CFA, 12/14 Five Guys, 5 Below, hopefully the week of Black Friday.
- d) Ideas? Player's Fun Zone, Seafood Legend, Krispy Kreme again
- e) FUN RUN! 11/4, rain date 11/5. Raised \$28k last year, and we spent \$5k on the shirts. Looking to do something different than shirts this year.
- f) Penny Wars- Jen Meyer is willing to head this up again. Maybe tie this in with a charity event for the community?

**X. Committee Chairs needed for Open Positions**

- a) Treasurer for next year (shadow Lou)
- b) IT Chair
- c) Spirit Nights
- d) Environmental Club (Melissa would like to head. Ms. Castner advises that she and Ms. VanFossen will support)
- e) New Hoffy Mascot needed
- f) Sunshine Committee (Janitors, Secretary Day, Bus Driver Appreciation, etc)

**XI. Hot Spots: Patrick H.**

- a) Hot Spots will open again on Monday. The licensing issue has been resolved.
- b) They have a new director and appropriate staffing. (Eric, Donald, Kathleen, Mr. Richard)
- c) If families choose to leave, they will be reimbursed their registration fee. No 30-day notice needed. Families are not charged this week and have a 3-day credit for beginning of year.
- d) Closets and new supplies are coming soon.

**XII. Other**

- a) Veteran's Day was cancelled for this year. Jennifer Sharpless asks if we can still have the event if it's held outside. Ms. Smith responds that maybe just one grade, but no outside visitors.
- b) Giving back to community because of everything the community has done for us for the playground: ideas, Food Drive, CPS stuff stockings, adopt a family (but it is noted that staff adopts a couple families per year), Sandi mentions backpacks or a first aid kit fundraiser (but it is noted we have gotten away from any type of fundraiser like this)
- c) Classroom Liaisons/Representatives (Sandi): She notes they have received a lot of interest and hope to have a list finalized by next week.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:38 pm by PTA Co-President Lori Coon. Minutes submitted by Melissa McGuinness.