

Sierra PTO
General Meeting Agenda
20 January 2021
6:30pm Via Zoom

Attendees: Jill Cable, Julie Davis, Stephanie Nuttall, Christine Vanderpool, Brian Gibson, Kim Graber, Veronica Hinojosa, Sarah West, Ann Trent

- 1. Welcome and Call Meeting to Order** – Stephanie welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6:32pm. She highlighted all the wonderful events we have done so far this school year: Virtual Bingo Night, Pumpkin Decorating Contest, Snowman Building, Pajama Drive, and several restaurant nights. We have stayed busy and managed to do a lot of great things in such a crazy year.

- 2. Review and Approval of September General Meeting Minutes** – Veronica and Jill approved the minutes for September.

- 3. Principal's Report** – Principal Gibson said that he was excited about some 5th grade end of the year student centered activities being discussed. It will be different than past years, but something special for those graduating.
Gibson informed us that early release days are set. Even though we are hoping to go back in-person, the early release days will stay. Mr. Shelberg has a meeting about AZ Merit coming up so we will know what it will look like soon. The writing portion of the test will be taken first, and the test will be spread out over a few weeks in hopes to make the testing times shorter.
The staff is currently working on a kindergarten story time for incoming students. So far there are 27 students registered for kindergarten next year.
Jill stated that there are typically guidelines for AZ Merit and asked if these would be changed this year. Mr. Gibson said they are waiting for training to find out more information. Stephanie asked if there will be a training for parents/caregivers to give the test. Gibson stated that they are hoping to learn these parameters as well, but so far we do not know.

- 4. PTO Financial Review-** Veronica went over the budget stating that we hoped to make \$2,000 on Bingo, we came in around \$745 which is not bad considering it was virtual. For cash rewards we are above goal at \$2,161. We have spent \$200 out of the donation fund. Restaurant night is at \$1,663.96. We are still hoping to have a Spring Carnival and raise \$3,000. We should break even for Bowling Night spending \$150 and making that money back. For class materials, communications, and compassion fund, we are still under budget. The Father Daughter event is still being planned, so we will wait to see the cost of that. We have not spent anything on office supplies. The agendas, directories, and folders are right on track with budget. We still have \$1,000 budgeted for workshops if any teachers find a workshop they want to attend. We are over by \$300 on our website because we had more activity this year. We have spent nothing on the workroom. For yearbook, we are hoping to make more. Stephanie added that cash rewards is huge this year. Amazon Smile is adding up, and that if we are even we can consider it a success.

She also asked Principal Gibson about the Spelling Bee plaque, as we usually purchase one for the winner. Principal Gibson is checking on that for us.

5. **Build, Bowl, and Bond** - Christine reported that we have 30 students signed up. Each student will receive a bag with a STEM parachute activity, a list of games and activities, some snacks, a coupon for a free Dairy Queen Blizzard, and Would You Rather questions for the students to complete with the special lady in their life. Shannon Allen and Christine Vanderpool delivered all of the bags tonight to the families who bought tickets and are excited to see the pictures the families send in from the event that will take place on Thursday, January 21st.
6. **Upcoming Sierra Girls activity** – Jill Shared that Kelsie Makar and Rachel Holm are looking to pair this with a restaurant night to give families the opportunity to order a special meal for 2. They are also planning a dessert craft such as a fruit pizza. They will create a youtube video with directions on how to make the dessert pizza with questions and talking points for the evening. They are brainstorming a catchy name for the event.
7. **PTO Direct Donation Drive** – Kim Graber reported that we are sticking with the theme Knock it out of the Park this year. It will take place from Feb 22-March 5 and will be a virtual direct donation. Emails will go home starting Friday, February 19th. Jill and Julie are ready to promote the event. The email will state that we know this is a hard year, but we hope to start next year off on the right foot. Every donation receives a hydro flask Sierra Suns sticker for each student in the family. We will promote and hope the community wants to give. It will be a much lower key basis this year. Veronica asked if Kim was working with Carrie on tax receipts. Kim said she will work with Veronica and Carrie on Paypal as money come through. Kim also stated that with the help of Stephanie and Julie they were able to specify what the money is paying for, as an example a \$20 donation will go towards readers, etc.
8. **Upcoming PTO Calendar items** – Stephanie reported that we have a new restaurant night next week at La Casa de Juana on January 28th. It is their first time pairing with a school to do a restaurant night. Holly Mitchell has been amazing setting up restaurant nights. We also have Spring Break coming up March 8-13. Stephanie also reported that we hope to have a new board at the April meeting. We are hoping for another book fair this year, which is in the works. And we will celebrate the 5th graders in June with the student shirts and slide show.
9. **Proposed PTO Gala** – Sarah is gathering prices for the Gala and looking at venues, DJs, drinks, etc. So far Foothills Golf Club has had the best prices. With the DJ, auction, light apps, and 2 drinks we can sell tickets for \$50 a person. Sarah has so far received quotes and information from four different places. She is also looking into planning a tandem childcare event with a movie night at the school where we can possibly use kids club staff to help out. It would be helpful to have at least two more people on the committee to help plan the Gala and childcare event. Julie commented that price points give her pause and asked if there was a possible scholarship option for a family who might be interested but cannot afford. Sarah mentioned that her last school sponsored a

teacher, and that we can look into what we can do to sponsor someone. Kim Graber mentioned that you can also rent the Club West club house at \$15 an hour with a \$70 cleaning fee as another option to look at. If that were the case we would need to look into catering. Ann Trent mentioned that Perfect Pair might be willing to help. Ms. Trent also said to involve staff members in the auction. She would be willing to offer 4 free tutoring sessions as an auction item.

10. **2021-2022 PTO Board & Chairperson Positions** – Stephanie reported that we have positions for next year and to reach out if anyone knows someone interested.

11. **Thank you-** Ms. Trent wanted to give a heartfelt thank you to everyone. She said she is still writing all of the thank you cards to families and staff who have blessed her with so many gifts and prayers for her daughter Hope.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:19 pm

Meeting Notes Submitted By:

Christine Vanderpool

Sierra PTO co-Secretary

January 21, 2021