

Sierra PTO
Board Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2019

Attendees: Principal Gibson, Stephanie Nuttall, Tara Bellino, Niccoli Anderson, Carrie Dabau, Veronica Hinojosa, Sam Rathjen, Jackie Heisterkamp (need attendee sheet)

Meeting called to order by Stephanie Nuttall, President, at 6:10 pm.

October Board Meeting Minutes: Stephanie Nuttall asked for approval of October's minutes. Niccoli Anderson nominated and Carrie Dabau 2nd for approval.

Treasury Report: This month report updates given by Veronica Hinojosa and Stephanie Nuttall. The budget worksheet as of October 31, 2019 was provided to all attendees.

- Ranger invoices received from district for both evening events. (bingo and watch dog night)
- Cash Rewards has received \$878.41 so far this year.
- Fall Festival received enough monies to cover expenses. Additional report available with detailed amounts.
- Restaurant nights is very successful so far this year with receiving \$1,142.81 of the estimated revenue of 2K.
- Spirit wear has been busy with orders for Turkey Trot t-shirts and new water bottles. Cost of water bottles will be recouped throughout the year as they sell.
- Expenses for this month include:
 - Blue Ribbon Ceremony travel expenses will be reimbursed by the PTO.
 - Classroom Materials: Prepaid monies for stem materials that 4th grade will be using. Once their project is complete, they submit for a grant reimbursement of expenses.
 - Mother/Son Bowling Night: Deposit of ½ of invoice was due to reserve space at Main Event.
 - Gift to School: Vinyl posters for student restroom doors have been ordered. Alex will hang when they arrive.
 - Insurance: Received invoice for our annual bill.
 - Yearbook: Has received fund from sales.

Principal's Report—Blue Ribbon Award/Ceremony was attended by Breanne Yamada, Principal Gibson, Principal Connor and Superintendent Vessley. This was a very large event that had 362 other schools with 3 to 4 people attending from each school. There was an opportunity to take photos with the Assistant Secretary from the office of the U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos. During breakout sessions, it gave us a chance to network with other schools and hear of their school's culture. There were schools that had received this award five times. (A Blue Ribbon award can only be awarded every five years.) It was a powerful experience.

What makes us special is our community; such as bringing the community into our school for the veteran's day assembly. Back in the 2017-2018 academic year Sierra was proud to be recognized as an A+ School of Excellence by the Arizona Educational Foundation. During the 2018-2019 school year, Sierra was nominated by the State as a school that meets the criterial. (This is the top of the top.) A team lead by Principal Connor was tasked to complete a rigorous application. Sierra received on the bases of being an Exemplary High Performing School. We are continuing to trend upwards. On display is the Award, Banners, Letter from Department of Education and a flag.

On December 8th at 8:00am there will be a big Assembly for the Blue Ribbon Award. Attendance expected from Kyrene School District Superintendent and board members. Ice cream is being donated at the end of the day by Blue Bell. PTO will give other treats to the students that cannot have the ice cream.

Sanford Harmony – Presenter Sam Rathjen

Sanford Harmony is designed to set the stage for positive relationships through a lifetime.

Harmony is a social emotional learning program for Pre-K-6 grade students designed to foster communication, connection, and community both in and outside the classroom. The five themes are Diversity and Inclusion, Empathy and Critical Thinking, Communication, Problem-Solving, and Peer Relationships. Each of the Harmony themes address an important need to create positive and proactive environments that support the student success.

For the first 15 minutes of the student's day is spent on the harmony activities. Meet Up is a forum where students gather to establish and monitor expectations for how to treat one another, share experiences, solve problems, and build community. Buddy Up is a peer buddy system that intentionally creates opportunities for students to get to know one another, form connections, collaborate, and learn together. A new buddy each week. Quick Connection Cards provide peers with opportunities to share, think, collaborate, and have fun together during Meet Up and Buddy Up. Also promotes Conversations, Collaborations and Community Building. Each classroom sets their own goals. When sitting in a circle they can talk about what they are struggling with or what good things are happening.

For more information, visit sanfordharmony.org

Upcoming Events:

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| 11/21 – 11/27 | Book Fair |
| 11/22 | Hospitality Lunch for Sierra Staff |
| 11/27 | Turkey Trot |
| 12/1 – 12/17 | Honeybaked Ham Orders |
| 12/3 | Blue Ribbon Assembly |
| 12/6 | Papa John's Restaurant Night 9:30am – 11:00pm |
| 12/9 – 12/13 | Holiday Shop |
| 12/17 | Gift of Time |
| 12/18 | Cookie Exchange |
| 12/19 | Honeybaked Ham Pickup 12pm – 2:30pm |
| 12/20 – 1/3 | Winter Break |

Meeting adjourned at 6:46 pm.