



# Brookside Elementary PTO Meeting Minutes

October 15, 2019 ~ Brookside Elementary School, Cafeteria

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Call to Order: 6:04 PM

Attendees: 10

Vallery Miller called the meeting to order.

## Principal's Report:

- Mrs. Blatus represented Principal Smith at this meeting.
- Thank you to Mrs. Harries (LH) for the Start With Hello Week at Brookside.
- The half-day for Professional Development will focus on RULER training. This training was mentioned at Curriculum Night and is a socio-emotional learning program. This first year will focus only on teachers – getting them familiar with the training. Year 2 will incorporate the students into the program.
- There are many excited students for Trunk-or-Treat. LH stated that the Boo-tique has been set up in B4 with a rack and mirrors. It will open this week.

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes from the last meeting were presented in paper form to all attendees.

*Motion to accept secretary's report as written was made by Vallery Miller and seconded by Hollis McCauley.*

**Treasurer's Report:** Presented by Karen Mirabito-Cowan.

- Discussion regarding the bank fee and whether it could be waived as we are a 501(c)(3) organization.
- PQ: What landscaping was done? PTO explained that mulch was fluffed on the playground and they cleaned up the front and back areas. Discussion continued as parents wondered why PTO was paying for landscaper. Betsy Miller explained that to her knowledge, all elementary school PTOs were responsible for maintaining their playgrounds. The conversation was tabled so that PTO could look into the issue further.

*Motion to accept the 2019-2020 Budget report as explained was made by Vallery Miller and seconded by Tricia Hurley.*

## Upcoming Events and Current Fundraising Updates

### **Bear Wear (Katie Muchirahondo)**

- 142 pieces were ordered, and we should receive in 2-3 weeks.
- We received positive feedback on the quality of the material.
- We will open the store again but unsure of the date. Might be hard to do again before the December holiday – perhaps in the spring.
- \$2/item went to the PTO so that was a profit of \$290.00 (approx.)

### **Scholastic Book Fair (Katie Muchirahondo)**

- The first book fair was a huge success.
- 6138 books sold and the cash back value was \$1534.58.
- LH shared a story of a very excited student skipping the halls on book fair day.
- We will have two more book fairs in Jan/Feb and last one in April/May depending on MCAS dates.
- Last book fair will offer posters in addition to books.

### **Yankee Candle Fundraiser (Vallery Miller)**

- There were some issues with the order forms where students did not put their names on the packets.
- The orders/payments should go out on Thursday and we will receive the candles in about 3 weeks. They will be distributed to parents at Parent/Teacher Conference Night.
- LH asked how we did. VM indicated that we made a \$750.00 profit.
- KM asked if the online order portion was still open and VM said that she will check on that.
- KMC stated that online orders after the deadline might not credit the student.

### **Trunk or Treat (Katie Muchirahondo)**

- KM indicated that we do not have enough trunks as of today – only 21.
- Previous years we had 46, 33, and 21 trunks.
- KM attributed the change to a different community at the school; we lost 9 families that were in fifth grade last year that were not available to participate this year.
- We do need more volunteers to make this happen.
- Decorators must arrive between 4:30-5:30 PM to set up.
- \$2/pp for pre-pay tickets and \$3/pp at the door. Thursday the 24th is the pre-pay deadline.
- DJ Wild Bill will be there again this year and we will have donuts and cider like last year.
- LH asked where the donuts came from and KM stated that we get them from Country Kitchen who individually wraps them.
- Event will be 6-7:30 PM and volunteers must stay till 8 PM when lot should be cleared.
- Mrs. Blatus offered to decorate a trunk.
- Hollis McCauley asked if we had a lot of candy. KM indicated not as much as previous years, but the PTO has extra. Cars can turn students away after they stop 2-3 times.

### **Additional Business**

- LH asked if we will be doing raffles in November. KM said that we typically do these on parent/teacher conference nights. We have given each grade \$100 to make a basket in previous years, but not for the last two years. LH said that if the PTO has a list of themes, the teachers can donate to those themes.
- PQ: Inquiry about family friendly events. VM stated that we are working with Wamesit Lanes for a possible mother/son night.
- PQ: Inquiry about another science on the street event? KM stated that we did not have a huge turnout for the last one (40pp) two years ago.
- KM stated that we are waiting on Chunky's to hear about possibly renting a theater but the only kid-friendly movie coming soon is Frozen 2. Parent suggested that we can go to AMC for complete listings.

### **Adjournment**

- Next meeting will be held on November 19th. 6:36 PM meeting adjourned. Motion to adjourn was made by Vallery Miller and seconded by Hollis McCauley.