

PTO BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Springdale Park Elementary School
6:30 p.m. EDT
Monday, September 19, 2011

1. Welcome and old business
 - Attendance: Deborah Danzig, Nicole Foerschler, Morna Gailor, Heather Hallett, Aleta Mills-Stubin, Liam Pelot, Maria Rein, Cameron Stoeckel, Jenna Mobley (teacher), Yolanda Brown (Principal), Chante Blackwell
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 - Jaclyn Hirsch – Patch
 - Local website focusing on Virginia Highlands
 - We can create a user name and post announcements of events we are having
2. 30 minute presentation on Spring “Fun Run” – Billy Boughey
 - Boosterthon.com
 - 52% of pledges go to the school – 10% of that money goes directly to the teachers
 - Balance goes to Boosterthon – they make 6-8% profit, the rest goes to their costs
 - Boosterthon sends staff to campus for 2 weeks to teach character lessons / leadership
 - Teacher / classroom commitment is 5-7 minutes / day for 6 days
 - Kids get pledges per lap, then have the Fun Run during the school day. The Fun Run is a 75 minute block of time.
 - Morningside just finished this fundraiser. Their portion of the pledges was \$74K. Mary Lin grossed \$96K – profit will be over \$45K. Average is closer to \$25K-\$30K.
 - \$2K reservation fee required when book a date. Motion to approve \$2K deposit. Seconded. Motion Approved.
 - Ideal dates would be the first two weeks of May, 2012
3. Report of Principal Brown/Administration
 - Report from Ms. Brown on staffing resources/ratios
 - Enrollment: K=102 (5 classes), 1st=110 (5 classes), 2nd=102 (4 classes), 3rd=82 (4classes), 4th=80 (3 classes), 5th=64 (2 classes). Total = 540
 - APS School Board resolution has increased class size limits vs. the start of the year. We are currently at a stand still regarding potential staff additions
 - Need to ensure that all children are re-enrolled during registration process this year. Idea to give children an incentive during the school day once their parents have registered. This will lead to children encouraging their parents to register

- Update on curriculum/funding requests from Ms. Brown
 - Next year, Georgia will do away with the Georgia Performance Standards. They will be replaced with a Common Core Standard, in which 43 states have agreed to teach to the same standard
 - Have put some programs/tools in place for Reading/English Language Arts (Saxon Phonics, STAR Reader, Accelerated Reader)
 - Now need additional focus on Math curriculum
 - Currently have a hybrid math program, but we do not have a tool for math that gives us a good profile/assessment of our children (Like STAR Reader).
 - Renaissance Learning offers STAR Math. This assessment tool has the GA Performance Standards as well as the Common Core Standards loaded, so each child can be assessed based on the current standards as well as the standards for next year. Need to understand the current level of each child in order to differentiate teaching.
 - Additionally, tool will also help administration / teachers get a handle on where we may have gaps in our math curriculum vs. the new standard that will be put in place next year.
 - Quote for 2nd-5th grade (assessment is not appropriate for K and 1st) is \$3,161 for initial start up. Yearly maintenance is \$962. The school will pay the ongoing maintenance fee.
 - Motion to approve purchase of STAR Math. Seconded. Motion approved.
 - Study Island – subscription for 2nd-5th grade due 1/1/12. Last year's board approved purchase of Study Island based on last year's enrollment. Have an updated quote based on new number of children of \$4,541. Motion to approve up to \$1,500 incremental funds (above what was approved last year) for Study Island. Seconded. Motion approved.
 - First in Math is an online mathematics program that provides students with an opportunity to practice the fundamentals of fact fluency and problem solving. Requesting the PTO to fund the program for grades 1-2 at a cost of \$1,535.10. (3rd-5th graders are piloting a new online math program that will be paid for by the school budget). Motion to approve. Seconded. Motion approved.
- Springdale Park has been selected by Turner Broadcasting and the Green Council to film different aspects of the school regarding pending LEED certification and how we create a healthy school environment. This will occur Monday 9/26
- Councilman Kwanzaa Hall will be visiting the school on 9/21. He will be bringing King of Pops
- Transportation – need to figure out a way to get children out of the car quickly in carpool lane. Nicole will communicate to remind children to be prepared to exit the vehicle safely and that parents are responsible and teachers are only there to assist.

4. Report of Teachers/Ms. Mobley

- Grants Committee are open to parents/teachers/students/community members
- Request for Funds: Music Program requests \$1500 (\$500 each for Chorus, Band and Orchestra) for sheet music, music stands, strings, reeds, etc. that Ms. Turgeon, Mr. Rodriguez and Ms. Valkova need on an ongoing basis. This would be an annual request. Motion to approve. Seconded. Motion approved.
- Request for Funds: Parent Library (\$400) – Ms. Rousso would like a library for parents containing resources for parents in working with children. Motion to approve. Seconded. Motion approved.
- Request for Funds: Teacher of the Year (\$200) to send Ms. Shorter and Para pro of the year Ms. Peebles and their dates to APS recognition banquet. Motion to approve. Seconded. Motion passed.

5. Presidents items

- Request for \$500 in annual funding for media center parties for birthday book club and Accelerated Reader. Last year's birthday book club spent \$500 less than raised. Motion to approve. Seconded. Motion approved.

6. Pending Items/Intra-Meeting Items Needing a Vote

- Playground Sod – Request for \$225 in additional sod to patch problem areas. Motion. Seconded. Motion approved.
- Revised Communications policy proposed by Aleta – will be e-mailed to us for approval
- Ms. Blassingame's request circulated via e-mail on 8/30 to approve \$300 per year for the One Fair, specifically to host the judges - approved via e-mail votes
- Ms. Rousso and Ms. Lynch's request circulated via e-mail on 8/30 to approve \$300 per year for Career Day - approved via e-mail votes
- Request for 36 additional lockers at \$2,528.71 circulated via e-mail on 9/14 - approved via e-mail votes
- Request for 200 additional bag tags, with the PTO to fund up to \$285. Motion. Seconded. Motion approved.

7. Committee Updates

- Treasury
 - Heather submitted a proposed budget with anticipated revenues of \$150K and projected expenses of \$105K. All board members should review the projections for their areas and provide feedback before our next meeting.

- Fundraising
 - Dine Outs – Yeah Burger 9/27, El Taco 10/18
 - Innisbrook Wraps - 170 students participated. Sold \$16K in merchandise with approximately \$5K raised for SPARK.
 - Birthday Book Club - 120 new books for the school \$2,400 raised to cover costs
 - Whole Foods 5% day - raised \$4,747.02
 - October is Book Fair
 - November is Read-A-Thon
 - December is Artome Sale
 - January - Flower/Plant Sale
 - February - SPARK After Dark
 - March - Original Art Works
 - March - Fun Run / Booster-thon
 - May 5 - May Day
 - Sponsorship - VHMPA donated \$5K
 - Capital Campaign - parents would like to know what our big ticket item will be
- Community Building - Student Enrichment
 - Debate
 - Ms. Redel will be the coach
 - Emory will also provide a student for assistance
 - Morna will complete the application
 - FSN rescheduled
 - New date is November, 17, 2011
 - Fall/Winter - Spirit Gear Orders
 - Morna will e-mail the proposed amount requested for approval
- Operations/Technology – No Update
- Fifth Grade Committee – No Update

Calendar – Upcoming Board Meeting and Date of November general meeting