

Foothill PTO Meeting Minutes

September 16, 2008

1. Call to order – 6:00 p.m.
2. Officer's Reports
 - a. President's Report – Susie Wyman
 - * Feed the Fox fundraiser- \$39,000 raised. Suggestion: have a place to put donations at Back to School night. Have address printed on envelope. May want to include postage. Officially over, but may extend.
 - * 2008 – 2009 Calendar- Teachers look over proposed PTO calendar. Are there places we could streamline/improve? "I Have a Dream" gift collection is an option We want to make sure not to overextend.
 - b. Vice President/Volunteer Coordinator Report – Heather Bush
 - * 2008 - 2009 Committee Chair Folders: new folders forthcoming with contact info of other committee chairs, and "Tips for Success." Review the section on "Newsletters and Communication." Use PTOmanager.com to automate communication with volunteers. PTOmanager.com is moving tentatively forward on a trial basis.
 - * Open Chair positions – Diversity Committee Liaison (a PTO liaison to help teachers coordinate Multicultural night), Foothill Kids Care, Parent Info Fair 2009, Feed the Fox 2009.
 - * Parent Info Fair 2008 reflection – Let's avoid summer volunteers. If we are organized in the spring we can be ready for August. Note for 2009: It was a lot of work to match up assessment times with volunteer shifts. Setting the expectation that parents should sign up to volunteer for something was successful!
 - c. Public Relations Secretary – Annie Weber
 - * PTO newsletter deadlines – Submit notices to newsletter as soon as date is known. We want to streamline communications to minimize translation costs, unnecessary emails, and paper usage. Put all announcements in the Foothill Flyer or PTO newsletter.
 - d. Treasurer Report – Jeanne Walsh/Laura Rogers
 - * New online accounting software Implemented for easy access to all PTO chairs. \$180/yr.
 - * Meet and Greets – Any checks into PTO box not marked "Meet and Greet" are going toward Feed the Fox. Kindergarten did a good job of phrasing the request that only one parent attend. Either a child's father or mother can attend next year. Consider standardizing wording for all letters in 2009?

* update: 1180 (K), 905 (1st), 1100 (2nd). One host was concerned that event was too early in year, and too close to Feed the Fox making it harder to get contributions. October is not possible because of conferences. November and December are too late in the year since the teachers need money to spend in August and September. Grade levels all did very well this year. Thank you to all parent hosts and attendees.

**Principal's Report – Melisa Potes was not at the meeting due to a district class

3. Committee Reports –

- a. Fox Tracks – Foothill Alternative Transportation – Mariella Colvin: A program to get families to walk, bike, bus, skate to school. Stickers forthcoming (October 8th). Taking the bus to school helps relieve traffic congestion, keeps our campus safe and saves fuel. We have made \$500 through Whole Foods bag credits to date. Walk to school day is October 8th: Mariella needs help coordinating. More bike racks are on the way.
- b. Landscape Committee – Linda Spillmann and Machal Gillach: check PTOtoday website for ideas. Ask McGuckins for bulb donations
 - i. Fall clean up –What are areas of greatest need? Need strategies to promote event. More dad participation would be great. Schedule for a Sunday afternoon to avoid church and sports conflicts and plan a “rain date”. Date will be October 11th
 - ii. Science Garden – Curriculum exists (“Garden to Table”). Assess potential of teacher buy-in and degree of parent interest. 10 schools in the district are already participating.
 - iii. Parent needed for long-term Playground Planning Committee: meetings will be on Tuesdays from 3:30-5:30. See Melisa Potes if interested.
- c. Spaghetti Dinner – Kim Richter: October 8th is a religious holiday, so date will change. November and December are possibilities. Discussion on a need for entertainment/structure to occupy kids/families. Possible ideas: Food/Coat drive (kids sort); combine with Book Fair.
- d. Directory – Jill Bagley: Directory on its way, forthcoming soon. Directory is entirely funded by business donations.
- e. Bingo – Dana Bacardi: More dads are getting involved. Dad callers are being utilized. Please spread the about these important grade level fundraisers, especially with new paperless system. Flyers will not be sent home. Get two big fence signs for Bingo (no dates, so they are useable next year). Have student council make signs to target students. Healthy options will be available (fruit, goldfish, juice boxes, etc.). Parents bring baked goods to sell (nut-free, please). Funds raised go to the grade level of the night.

4. Old Business

- a. Crossing Guards: This is a huge priority. We need (a) a network of reliable volunteers, or (b) a paid person stationed at one or more intersections. Kiwanis/Optimists Club could help? Follow up with Paul Bailey. Parents can call Police Dispatch and ask for Public Safety: 303-441-3333 to voice safety concerns around the school.
- b. Teacher Appreciation Week: The committee will publish a list of ideas for parents and students (early May).

5. Announcements –

Last fall meeting will be October 21 at 6 p.m.
2009 meetings: Jan. 20, Feb. 17, April 21, May 19
Childcare provided

6. Adjournment – 7:30 p.m.