

Sun Valley School PTO – Executive Board Meeting
Minutes for Wednesday, Oct. 30, 2013
Sun Valley School MPR

Board Members Present –Barbara Ayoubpour, Jenn Hatch, Rebecca Thompson, Heather Walker Jennifer Spilly, Michelle Beresh, Meghan Greenwood, Casey McCabe, Ilene Snyder, Laura Riordan, Laura Kiff, Susan Zelinsky, Heather Walker, Diona Polito Rubin

Others Present – Shannon Kim-Gotelli, Kala Shah, Joey Chandler

President Barbara Ayoubpour called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

1. PTO General Business

a. Welcome: Barbara

- We are awaiting the book fair results.
- Coming soon: a PTO guide for the coordinators of various school events. With the growing number of events and programs, we need a guide on how to consult/inform the board, advertise to the community, etc.

b. Approval of Minutes 10/16/13:

Meghan moved to approve. Jenn Hatch seconded. Approved unanimously.

c. Principal’s Report: Julie Harris

- Halloween parade will be on Thursday at 1:10 p.m. Parties will be low or no sugar with emphasis on games and other activities.
- We’re developing a staff team to discuss school behaviors and spirit. We currently have lots of small groups putting on lots of separate events – lunch clubs, spirit days, student council – and we want to discuss how it can be more fused together. “We are doing all these good things but we need some glue.”
- This Friday’s assembly: Kala Shaw talking about community kindness.

d. Treasurer’s Report/Financial Update – Jenn Hatch

- We are waiting to put through the charges for the directory and 5th grade trip to Walker Creek until next week.
- For Walker Creek, this is the first year parents are being asked to pay for full amount, and most are. Only a handful of families have requested full or partial scholarships. We budgeted \$6,000 for scholarships, but we won’t need to use it all.
- District wants us to prepay for enrichment teachers this year (we were not asked to do this last year)
- We are drafting a financial report on the new kinder yard sunshade to send to district so the district can include it on their insurance plan.

2. Pledge Update - Jennifer Spilly:

- The last day to pledge is this Friday.
- 79% of families had pledged as of last night.
- We’ve exceeded our dollar goal of \$160,000. So far \$166,000 has been pledged.

- Jenn Hatch added that 80% pledge participation can be considered a huge success compared to lower participation at other public schools. The ongoing message is “Even a dollar counts.”
- Jenn Hatch said that technically we don’t reach 100% because there are always a small percentage of families who have been identified as unable to give.
- Jennifer Spilly said communications are better this year, especially with Spanish-speaking families, thanks to translator Jennifer Granillo. Also helpful was putting pledge ambassadors (and kids) out on the curb each morning this week to help open car doors, hand out pledge envelopes and collect pledges.
- “I support Sun Valley” car stickers will be distributed in Friday Folders to families that pledged.

3. Dads Club – Joey Chandler

- Pancakes and Haunted House: 250-300 people came through, which is more than last year, and event grossed over \$1,800. The event cost about \$500 to produce.
- Discussion followed about pricing and amount of food provided. Rebecca Thompson was concerned about high price of \$5 for two pancakes and extra for sausage. Jenn Hatch asked if future pancake and haunted house event should be considered a community event (with a lower cost) or a fundraising event (with similar cost to this year). Joey said the dads want to feel like they are raising money for school improvements. Casey McCabe said that next year’s organizers can consider offering a family price. He also said that \$5, this year’s cost, was still cheaper than eating out at a restaurant and he received only one complaint.
- Next schoolwide Dads event is the Egg Drop on Dec. 17.

4. Directory Update – Tabled

5. Scrip: Heather Walker

- September: We sold \$3,500 worth of retail cards. Our revenue from that was \$323
- October: We sold \$5,800 worth of retail cards. Our revenue from that was \$473
- Ilene Snyder asked if the program is worth the effort? Heather answered “not yet.” But it’s still a new program and next year will be much easier, she said.
- Heather is working with 3 volunteers.
- Holiday order forms are going in Friday folders, due Nov. 8 so cards can be delivered before Thanksgiving.
- Will do another order form in December.

6. Bike Rack Proposal – Laura Riordan and Joey Chandler

- Joey said the Dads Club can pay for new bike racks.
- Jennifer Spilly has local supplier contact.
- Laura said the racks cost \$500-\$800 each, not including installation. Possibly need two by Room 1 and another by the basketball court fence (where we hang lost-n-found clothes.)
- Why? There’s not enough space for bikes right now, they are toppling over on kids. Joey added that the current racks are not made for small bikes so bikes fall over.
- Julie Harris said we cannot install two racks by Room 1 because they would hinder pedestrian flow. And we will need to send the district a map of plan. Julie also wants to know how many bikes we are talking about.

7. Safe Routes Update – Rebecca Thompson

- Next Walk n Roll day is Nov. 6. Have enough volunteers to walk with kids, and hoping Green Team will be involved. The prize for walk-n-rollers will be green pencils, and hopefully move toward giving kids just high fives in future. Bridget Hook has requested a robo call from Julie on Nov. 5 to remind families.

- Meghan added that the kids really liked signing the poster last time. Will do again.

- Julie Harris: We need an assembly, tie it in with Green Team. We also need to tie Walk n Roll with schoolwide spirit activities. When we had a Safe Routes parent team, we had more spirit and excitement surrounding this event.

8. Parent Advisory Council Update – Jen Hatch, Barbara Ayoubpour: Tabled

9. PTO/SVS Events

a. **November Restaurant Night:** Elks Club still TBD. Another restaurant has been chosen for Nov. TBA

b. **Halloween Parade (10/31)**

c. **Dia de los Muertes (11/1)**

Julie Harris said Jennifer Granillo has been amazing and done extensive work beyond normal scope of her job, including offering rides to families who don't have cars so they can come to event. She's providing supplies, making phone calls and more. A Girl Scout troop is also creating an altar.

d. **Outdoor Ed – 5th Grade (11/4-11/7)**

e. **PTO General Mtg (11/14)** Is Davidson principal coming? Julie will try to get ahold of her

10. Other New Business:

Julie Harris suggested we review our progress on the community building exercise from earlier this fall.

Shanon Kim moved to adjourn. Jenn Hatch seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:34 a.m.

Next Board Meeting: 11/13/13, 8:30 a.m.

Next General Meeting: 11/14/13, 7-8 p.m.