

Roxboro Elementary PTA meeting 11.08.17

Call to order by Clare Taft at 6:07pm

Motion to approve September minutes-minutes approved

School update (Shelley Pulling):

The staff had a professional development day Nov 7. It was conference style at the high school-whole district was all together. Staff were able to choose which programs they wanted to attend. Training by Dr. Fran on instructional leadership. Intensive leadership training was offered for principals last year and was open to others this year. SP was trained on CPR and AED. New requirements for Ohio-all staff will be trained in CPR and AED every two years. There were several other conference style training sessions throughout the day. There was online training for sexual harassment, slips and falls, and workplace safety. Teachers participated in Math Expression and Science Fusion courses. Principals evaluate teachers during this process with walkthroughs and normal evaluations. Lots of paperwork but great to get into the classrooms to see what's going on. Nice to see all the different personalities at Rox and how the staff works with the kids. Our district is making great strides with the goal of Culture of Excellence.

PTA status updates (Clare Taft):

Budget update given by Sarah Bunce

Income comes from 4 main events-Chocolate sales are projected to bring in \$9000-have \$8400 so far. We are ahead \$1300 for chocolate sales this year. Seemed like sales were lagging but not so this year. PTA dues are still coming in-numbers not as high about and we are about \$400 off budget this year for dues. The Bake sale at PT conferences was hugely successful bringing in roughly \$200. Halloween dance has always simply been a fun event but became a successful fundraiser this year with raffle baskets. We made \$700. Thanks to Amy Kluge and MP Jolivette for organizing.

Guest Speakers

Elana Baldwin-guest speaker on gerrymandering and school voucher system

Elana began with the question-how much does CHUH pay for chartered kids? 4.7 million/year and it will be higher next year. We have approximately 2000 students in district who are eligible for to use vouchers. She is organizing a grassroots campaign to brainstorm this problem and spelled out a few ways to help now. Ohio is a swing purple state with identified gerrymandered districts. We as parents and concerned citizens can write letters to the appropriate officials. It would be great to get folks who've come back to public, parents with IEPs, or others to write letters. Clare Taft asked if there was a point person in the district-Possibly Family Connections and Reaching Heights. Susan Kaiser is a good point person. Rosemary Pierce noted that a district employee planned kindergarten onboarding events for years suggesting that this person would be a good contact. We need a kindernet chairperson for the district. Parents need to be the squeaky wheel. Full PTA council endorsed the Heights Coalition for Public Education in past. Elbaldwin414@gmail.com

Michael Lehto-guest speaker on walking/biking to school safety

The national organization is called Safe Routes to School. This issue began with the Fairmount and North St. James crossing-which is bad news. Additionally the Coventry/Scarborough/Fairmount intersection is also a large dangerous intersection. The issue has two levels-1) addressing the specific intersections and 2) getting the entire city behind Safe Routes to School. An online petition has been started asking the city to take action in the form of crossing guards, police, or other safety measures at this intersection. The school district sent a safety guard out to check the intersection and reported that 13 kids crossed that day. Many concerned parents and citizens showed up at transportation meeting and shared stories on district level. City has many ideas to redesign the streets to put pedestrians first. The city received \$7000 from Safe Routes to School which was put toward curb improvements and speed signage on North Park and West St. James. The work that needs to be done now within the PTA council is to have PTA as a group speak up and say this is an issue that matters to us, get more money from Safe Routes to School, and continue to ask the transportation advisory committee to research the intersections and make changes. Please sign the petition-it is a district level issue. Bike coalition got money to buy bikes from Safe Routes to School.

Committee reports for the upcoming events (Clare Taft):

One School One Book

The kick off is January 30 and it will finish Feb13/14. There is a big art theme this year. We will need help with the opening assembly. The format will follow last year's with skits, tailspinners, teachers will read first chapter, Mayor comes to read to the classrooms. Literacy night will be Feb 7th for which we will need volunteers as well as for the scavenger hunt to help deliver goods. The timing of One School ONE Book will be same time this year-we polled the teachers and there was no consensus as to the best time of year so we decided to stay within the same time. An ongoing problem with this time of year is that it leaves little time for Black History Month and Chinese New Year.

World's Finest Chocolate Sales update given by Molly Jones

We have brought in \$8400 still have \$720 outstanding- 155 boxes were purchased and 15 donated.

Holiday gift drive update from Clare Taft

PTA collects money to give gift cards to all staff members in building. This is a way to eliminate families from having to give individual gifts, enables us to give to the entire Rox staff and helps room parents so they aren't running out to get teacher gifts. Should we poll the staff to see if they want one big gift for school like a printer? Shelley Pulling did a small poll and gift cards were preferred to group gift and so It was decided that we stick with gift cards. Colleen Beard will need some help the week before winter break purchasing and distributing the staff gifts.

New fundraiser idea explained by Clare Taft

Annie Safran suggested a mini Scholastic book fair during the holidays. Buy one get one Dec 13-14 and it will run during the first and second grade musical night. This will be a great way to buy gifts for holidays and fundraise for the school. The planned timing-it will not run the whole day. Annie is looking for a co-chair for both mini and full book fair-please email her if you are interested.

Parents Night Out

Will be held November 18th-moved location because the new business does not yet have a valid liquor license. The new location is Parnell's new spot on Cedar and we will bring in food. We will have a raffle-children's museum, childrens theatre.

January 10th is the next PTA meeting

The Village

Lisa West still has a village need-Mrs. Mckinley Mon and Tues 910-950.

Succession planning

Clare will be moving on from President next year. Kelly Nolan wants to pass dances along to a new member. Book fair needs a co-chair. There will be a nominating committee in January for future positions.

District PTA

PTA council will have Dr Womack speak November 27th in the Heights High small auditorium. Scott Wortman meet with PTA reps to talk about the calendars for next year. It will be an open conversation format.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:26pm

Governors Board Meeting 11.30.17

Clare called to order 7:12pm

Chocolate Bars Sales and Just Write a Check have a large overlap of participating families. Chocolate was designed to be a fundraiser for all families since it doesn't require any money. Chocolates sales have gone down, we made \$4000 this year and it has been falling each year. Just Write a Check had its biggest year ever. Should we think about getting rid of

chocolate next year? Need plan to hype up JWAC this year so next year it can possibly replace chocolate.

Julie Mokotoff said that even though there is family overlap with participation in the two fundraisers that doesn't mean parents will donate more to JWaC if Chocolate sales are eliminated simply because of the fact that Chocolate is a zero cost fundraiser.

Katie Giles talked about how chocolate puts the fundraiser in the hands of kids since some of the kids do go out and sell the chocolate

A 45 minute discussion ensued-back and forth brainstorming many ideas:

- Boulevard El had a successful small formal music concert fundraiser held at a school family's home-can we use some kind of party like that to kick off write a check
- A service work day-kids pick up trash on their street and get donations for # of pounds of waste collected or some other local community service project
- Penny wars at school so kids still participate
- Changing the name of JWAC to Gimme 5 or I've got 5-there were many name suggestions
- A high ticket cocktail party open to all and directed to the community members with \$\$\$
- An opening kick off party encouraging current families to give more than they have last year
- Continued and improved incentives for donations
- Holding JWAC at a different time of year so it doesn't overlap with the many other concurrent fundraisers

It was decided that we don't want to eliminate chocolate since it does still provide a money free fundraising effort and (somewhat) puts the fundraising in the hands but maybe change it and bump up JWAC for the future

Meeting adjourned at 8:12pm