

Redmond Elementary PTSA
Board of Directors Meeting
May 14, 2009

Call to Order

President Laura English called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Attendance

Laura English, Shelia Kandeler, Kerry Lodge, Katie Chilcott, Suzie Connor, Angie Christensen, Bilge Baykal, Elaine Paul, Linda Pangborn, Mette Clarke, Janitzia Pizarro, and Janice Heid, Marguerite Moskat, Elena Savage, Tali Guday, Joyce Teshima

Special Introduction

Ms. Teshima, the incoming Redmond Elementary principal, was introduced.

Special Presentation

Clay Heilman from Nature Vision gave a presentation at the request of Ms. Moskat who feels the program would be a positive one for Redmond Elementary. Nature Vision is a non-profit, outreach, nature education program that aims to foster appreciation and stewardship of our environment through integration of school and community for a sustainable future. Nature Vision is staffed by naturalists and educators and is connected to state standards/FOSS kits. The concepts from the curriculum are highlighted and applied to the ecosystems of the Northwest. Schools are also sometimes able to receive free programs from the programs sponsors, such as the water district in Redmond. The program has a very functional registration system that requires little from the PTSA. The PTSA sponsors Nature Vision into every classroom for 1 or 2 programs per year with each program being 1 hour long and \$75/class. Nature Vision schedules directly with the teachers so that the program can be done at any point during the year in order to complement the curriculum in the most effective manner. Some schools use assembly money or field trip money to help with the cost. In order to provide 1 lesson per class at Redmond El. the cost would be about \$1,350. Mette Clarke moved to fund at least 1 lesson per class. This motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

The minutes from the March meeting were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report

Kerry Lodge reviewed the current status of the treasury. Another \$460 of corporate matching came in, and Emergency Prep raised \$100, which is listed as miscellaneous donations. Yearbooks are at \$760 so far. Expenses for the month have included \$83.15 for the science egg drop project as well as some capital equipment expenses (Ms. Matheson's book and AR test purchases and orientation folders for next year). Elizabeth and Kerry will compare notes on the Hawk Walk totals as there is discrepancy between their records. The budget meetings are going well.

Teacher's Report

Ms. Moskat highlighted the volunteer luncheon for Monday as well as the fact that the teachers got to down load the lock down process and think through improvements. Young Author's day is next Thursday.

Principal's Report

Ms. Heid's report highlighted two big calendar changes for the 09-10 school year. One, goal setting conferences will be held in October as will the Scholastic Book Fair. Two, January conferences will serve as follow up conferences. There will only be two report cards issued during the year – January and June. February break will be on a Thursday, Friday, and Monday. There will be no cutting of staff from LWSD and the district student/teacher ratios will remain smaller than the state mandate. There will be 2 full day kindergarten classes and one ½ day class with two teachers/grade for the rest of the grades. Ms. Heid feels like we are good on cafeteria tables and do not need more. This will be the last year of the math grant specialist as her budget has been cut so we will not get the remaining 2 years. Finally, Ms. Heid shared the results of the winter/spring math testing for Kindergarteners and her hope for a grant that would allow for benchmark testing fall, winter, and spring for next year.

New Business

- The fundraising discussion detailed the forms of passive and active fundraising currently in use. Passive income from PACE will continue though we have opted out of \$500 to ensure a soft launch. As far as EScript goes, it is possible we will have to re-sign people each year. We can expect corporate matching to decrease some next year. Box tops should remain the same. In terms of active fundraising, Pass the Hat, Sally Foster, the used book fair, hawk walk, and bake sales are up for reconsideration. In order to buy more time on decisions like whether to continue the Hawk Walk, the budget can be left as Fundraising for now and then broken down next year by the first general membership meeting. Laura moved to continue Sally Foster next year, and the motion passed with one nay. Tali mentioned that a “green” option as opposed to wrapping paper would be nice. Elizabeth suggested that we add a reusable bag with the Redmond El. logo to the spirit wear collection. It was decided that green fundraising should be put on the agenda for next year. Laura said, “I will do pass the hat.” It was suggested that the used book fair coincide with January conferences.
- Membership fees need to increase next year otherwise our net decreases to \$1 for individual memberships and \$0 for family. The prices would change to \$12 for individual and \$20 for family. This needs approval by the general membership.
- As far as nominations go, the slate needs to be voted on by the general membership. Also needing a vote from the general membership is the budget, membership fee increases, the change in standing rules to allow two treasurers.
- Elizabeth moved to ratify the email vote for an increase in emergency preparation funds. The motion passed unanimously.
- The possibility of alternating morning and evening meeting times for board meetings was briefly discussed as a way to attract more participation. The idea will be further discussed with the board for 2009-2010.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

