

Lower Allen/Rossmoyne PTO
Meeting Minutes: September 6, 2016

This meeting of the LA/RS PTO was held Tuesday, September 6th, 2016 at 6:30pm in the library of Rossmoyne Elementary School. In attendance were: Stephanie Rush, Renee Healy, Elise Buchanan, Faith Reinard, Carey DeJesus, Rachael Miller, Justin Bitting, Danielle Valentino, Heather Fleisher, Jade Ogundere, Hannah KS Sollenberger, Amy Grube, Kirsten Salvatore, Lesley Rogers, Rachel Beaver, Dara Bogovic, and Leigh Ann Bryan. The meeting was called to order by Lesley Rogers.

Presentation: Fundraising Option- Kyle Shoemaker

- “Great American Opportunities” as a company to do a fundraiser with.
- Fundraiser would occur in the Fall; moving Bulldog Trot to the Spring.
- Kids could sell a number of items ranging from a book, cookie dough, candles, etc.
- The ‘theme’ this year is: Emoji’s
- We’d get 50% profit on books and 40% profit on anything else.
- Lesley Rogers and Dara Bogovic volunteered to run/chair this fundraiser.

Principal’s Report (Via Mrs Healy):

- Back to school night went very well at both schools; great start to the school year.
- Kindergarten and 2nd Grade have had assemblies about “Growth Mindset”
- Mr Granger had purchased the books “*How to Teach Like a Pirate*” and “*Growth Mindset*” for the teachers to use.

Treasurer’s Report- Leigh Ann Bryan:

- Discussed the 2015-2016 school year budget; roughly 95% sure it’s “done”. Looks like there was roughly a \$5,000 net profit that will carry over to this current school year’s budget.
- The Proposed 2016-2017 Budget was distributed and reviewed.
- Motion to approve the 2016-2017 Budget was made by Amy Grube, and seconded by Faith Reinard.

Teacher’s Reports:

Lower Allen- Mrs Healy:

- KAP is to begin on Monday, September 12th, 2016. Currently Kindergarten is AM only; split amongst three classrooms. Once AM Kindergarten is dismissed, those that will be attending KAP will remain at Lower Allen for lunch, recess, and their PM KAP. Mrs Murray and Mrs Ansel will be running this. Hillside will not be in attendance; just Lower Allen students.
- Requests for external disc drives for Mrs Murray (K), Mrs Ansel (K), Mrs Healy (2nd), and Mrs Failla (2); cost is \$25 each (total \$100).
- Flag Crew; typically two kids from second grade will raise the Flag in the AM with Mr. Plank’s assistance. The kids will switch every month or bi-monthly. Usually they have a certificate for participation in Flag Crew. Request was made to purchase lapel flag pins; total \$30 (roughly \$10 for a dozen).

- Request for scholastic magazine for the K-2nd grade students. There will be 32 issues/guided reading material all of which coincides with a lesson plan/unit that each grade will be working on. So this would be educationally beneficial. Cost is \$5.25/student; equaling roughly \$1,000 total.
- Assemblies: request for a parent (or two) to help with planning assemblies. Looking at the assembly occurring during the winter/early spring time frame. Contact Rachel Beaver or Lesley Rogers if you want to help.
- Advertising the West Shore Foundation's Gala on October 15th. Invites have been sent out via snail-mail. It's \$100/person. There will be a raffle, silent auction, etc. For more information, please check with the school(s) office(s).
- Mrs Gruenewald is holding the ice cream party for the students who have turned in their Summer Reading Packet. The schedule is as follows:
 Lower Allen- Thursday September 8, 2016 @3pm; 20 students
 Rossmoyne- Friday September 9, 2016 @3pm; 30 students
 Amy Grube and Dara Bogovic volunteered to assist Mrs Gruenewald.

Rossmoyne- Mrs Valentino:

- As a reminder, 5th grade is set to have their annual field trip in the spring to Philadelphia (which has already been approved for), in addition to a reminder of the Senator's Game in the spring (again, already approved for).
- 5th Grade would like to request for the Daily Colonial Life Assembly from Traveling Trunks. This is a hands-on assembly, where the performers will dress "in the times" they are representing. The cost is about \$60 a class; totaling \$180.
- 4th Grade would like to have an assembly from Traveling Trunks as well; in the past they had a Native American theme. It would also cost roughly \$60 a class; totaling \$180.
- 4th Grade will start their swimming unit on October 11th (or October 18th for Mrs Hugar's class). It will last for 5 consecutive days. On the last day, the parents are typically invited to come along and watch.
- Also a big Thank You to all the families who were able to attend Back to School Night. So far it seems like a great start for a new school year.
- Request for this scholastic reading program for 4th grade specifically; "Science Spin" and "Geo Spin". Cost would be \$542.25
- Hopes would be to also find a similar scholastic reading program that both 3rd and 5th grade could get, or something in lieu of this for 3rd and 5th grade specifically. Cost would not exceed \$1,000.

Old Business:

- Whitetail Environmental Center (WEC) is going to occur in the Fall this school year. It's already scheduled as follows:
 Lower Allen- Tuesday October 4th, 2016
 Rossmoyne- Thursday October 6th, 2016
 Forms for volunteers have been sent home. The request is for 'all-day' volunteers

(8:45am-2pm). One may ride the bus with the school, or drive and meet at Pinchot Park. Please remember that in order to volunteer/chaperone this event, one MUST have ALL of their volunteer clearances on file at the school in addition to the annual Vital Statistics form (there's a link for these on the school website in addition to the Facebook Lower Allen/Rossmoyne PTO group).

We voted on gifting \$100 to the naturalist, and a \$25 giftcard to Kathy ___?___ for their support in allowing for us to continue with Environmental Day for our students.

- Motion to approve "Old Business" was made by Jade Ogundere and seconded by Amy Grube.

New Business:

- **Non-Profit Status- Lesley Rogers**

- We were registered as a non-profit 'private' foundation. This is an error; we need to be registered as a non-profit 'public' foundation.
- By being designated as a non-profit public foundation, anything donated is tax deductible to the person or business that such item was from. We can also apply for a tax-exempt status for stuff we purchase as a PTO (i.e. Ice cream for the ice cream party coming up, etc).
- The cost to fix this change is \$400. Lesley Roger's husband (a CPA) will be able to work alongside Leigh Ann (our current treasurer) to get this paperwork in motion.

- **Tissue Toss- Amy Grube**

- Mrs Kline had requested for there to be a 'sandwich bag' toss in combination with the usual Tissue Toss we hold yearly, since the classroom also goes through many sandwich sized baggies in addition to tissues throughout the year.
- In lieu of a typical 'prize', the students will be able to win a "hand stamp" for a great job in participation to help out their school(s).
- A date is still to be determined; so keep an eye out for the flyer/facebookpost/blast email! 😊

- **Bulldog Trot- Amy Grube**

- We are switching things up this year and having the Bulldog Trot in the Spring!
- Amy Grube is looking at revamping this event. Instead of the typical obstacle course lap, she's looking at the possibility of having three (3) separate stations set up for the students of all capabilities to be able to participate in.
- This event is still in a planning/preparation stage. Look forward to more information. Contact Amy Grube if you want to help

- **Spirit Wear- Elise Buchanan**

- Elise is reviving the Spirit Wear sales! She currently is working with a company on samples: t-shirts, boy tech wear shirts, girl fitted shirts, hoodies, fleece, polos, etc.

- They're finalizing the design for each sample. The plan is to have either our school logo or "#Bulldog Best" on it.
 - The sale is to take place at the end of September/early October. It will be an online store, open for two (2) weeks. Then it'll take another two (2) additional weeks for delivery to occur.
 - We're trying to work on a way for those who do not have online-access, to still be able to order through the PTO.
 - There's a \$75 fee to get the logo set in the company's embroidery machine.
 - Keep an eye for more information to come home shortly!!
- **PowerPacs- Rachel Beaver**
 - Backpacks will be filled with food, at New Hope Ministries, for families that are on the free/reduced meals list that would be interested in participating.
 - Currently 1/3 of our student population is on this list; so this would be a great help to many!
 - The backpacks will be sent home on a Friday, and need to be returned the following Monday to the school.
 - This is still in a planning stage; more information will be available once we have things more finalized.
 - This is also a great service opportunity for children of all ages to help out their friends/neighbors by assisting at New Hope Ministries (though this isn't required of anyone; it's nice to help out when able) Contact Rachel Beaver if you want to help
- **Holiday Store/Pancake Breakfast- Lesley Rogers**
 - This event will be taking place of the school store this year; since there still is no committee chair to run it.
 - This event would take place, more than likely on a Saturday morning, at Allen Middle School. There will be pancake breakfast available, and in a separate area there will be a mini shop set up to purchase gifts or make simple crafts for the parents, grandparents, aunts/uncles, etc.
 - We're still in a planning stage on when this will occur; trying to coordinate with Allen Middle School's availability. Stay tuned for more info! Contact Lesley Rogers if you want to help
- **Kindness Program- Lesley Rogers**
 - We will be in need of volunteers, in order for this to happen.
 - Mrs Fuller has agreed to help with this at Rossmoyne. We're still looking for a teacher to help assist from at Lower Allen.
 - There is a kindness curriculum; we would also try to get the students involved with Acts of Kindness.
 - Again, this is in a 'planning stage'; so look for more information once it's available. Contact Lesley Rogers if you want to help

Committee Reports:

- **Book Fair:**
 - Rossmoyne is set for September 19th- 23rd, 2016. Dara Bogovic is the chair.
 - Lower Allen is set for October 24th- 28th, 2016. Faith Reinard is the chair.
 - There will be a post made through Signup Genius in order to get volunteers to help run these sales!
- **Fall Family Picnic- Lesley Rogers:**
 - Scheduled for Friday, September 23rd, 2016 at 5pm at Rossmoyne Elementary.
 - Flyers have been sent out. PTO will provide: hot dogs, drinks, prizes, and a hay ride. Parents are asked to please bring along a side dish, so this can be a sit-down/pot-luck type of event.
 - We're in need of someone with a pickup truck, to help assist with moving a Gaga Pit; this is a new event for the Family Picnic that we're excited for!
 - We also are going to have a Plinko game; which can be re-used for when we have Spring Fair in May. The cost for this is \$50 plus \$25 towards prizes; totaling \$75.

Open Discussion:

- Elise Buchanan was talking about the Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) Book Bash event. This program is available to our school as a literacy event since we're a Title I school.
 - This event is for the 3rd-5th graders at Rossmoyne.
 - Cost would be \$206 for each student at Rossmoyne to have a copy of the book.
- Dara Bogovic has been working on setting up mini-fundraisers through local restaurants/businesses. The theory is that each month there will be a local restaurant/business that we may go and eat (or shop) at during a specific date. If we show them the advertised flyer, they will give a percentage (i.e. 10%) of the total cost back to our school(s).
 - Chili's is scheduled for on Tuesday, October 4th, 2016.
 - Arooga's is scheduled for Tuesday, November 8th, 2016.
- **If you have any other ideas or suggestions please let the PTO know!**

Voting:

For those who paid their PTO dues, we had voted on 15 separate topics... though a couple of the items didn't need to be voted on since they were pre-approved/budgeted. Regardless, each item had passed with a majority vote. Here are the exact results for each item:

of "yes" out of 13 total voting members:

"A": Fall Fundraiser with "Great American Opportunities"
as well as having it in Fall and Bulldog Trot in Spring..... 13/13
"1": External Disc Drives \$25/ea. X4= \$100 12/13
"2": Lapel Pins \$30 (1 dozen = \$10)..... 13/13
"3": Scholastic magazine for K-2 at LA \$1,000..... 11/13

"4": Ice cream for the "summer reading packet" participants (\$__amount?__)..... 13/13
"5": Philadelphia Field Trip 5th Grade..... (DON'T VOTE FOR)
"6": RS Assembly with Traveling Trunks 5th Grade \$180..... 13/13
"7": RS Assembly with Traveling Trunks 4th Grade \$180..... 13/13
"8": Senators Trip \$1,000 (DON'T VOTE FOR)
"9": RS Scholastic Magazine 5th Grade \$542.25.....11/13
"10": RS Scholastic Magazine 3rd/4th Grade(or something in lieu of) not to exceed \$1,000 11/13
"11": WEC \$100 for Naturalist and \$25 Giftcard for Kathy..... 13/13
"12": Non-Profit Status change from Private to Public \$400..... 13/13
"13" PowerPac back pack cost between \$300-500.....11/13 (1 was left blank)
"14" Plinko game (cost \$50 plus \$25 prizes) \$75..... 12/13
"15" Authorize to spend scholastic money or PTO money for RIF ("Book Bash") book \$206..... 13/13

Meeting adjournment: was motioned at 8:22pm by Jade Ogundere and seconded by Carey DeJesus.