

Spirit Lake Elementary PIE
January 15, 2020 12:00p
Elementary Office Conference Room

Meeting called to order by PIE President Nicole Evans at 12:02p.

Board members present: Nicole Evans, Greta Gruys, Kelly Muetting, Kate Mendenhall, Kristen Boe
Guests: None

Purpose Statement: PIE provides the students of the Spirit Lake Elementary School activities and opportunities that support and extend their education above and beyond the classroom.

Principal Report

Mr Huebner provided report.

Winter weather can bring on the “blahs” and “winter blues” and teachers and staff try to get creative in combating this with brain-boost activities and other interesting ways to keep learning from getting stale. School sickness has been relatively low thus far. FAST testing is going on currently. Connecting Kids program is going well (pairing local businesses with classrooms). Goal of Connecting Kids is to engage and promote community businesses and partnership with learning within the classroom. Presented to school board on Monday evening. Many high school J-term students are doing internships at SL Elementary also this month (those that are thinking of going into Education). Hy-Vee has chosen SL Elementary PIE as their February beneficiary for all of the red reusable bags sold. Discussion in regards to selling the reusable bags in the Foyer or taking orders for bags in the classroom. Kindergarten has been busy packing meals for those in need as a community project. Mr Huebner shared some minor changes to the playground logistics; considering options of adding Pre-K playground to the elementary playground or add Pre-K playground to share a fence and be directly next to the K-1st playground (next to). Would still have cement path border. PIE group discussed both options felt it was best to have just 1 larger playground for Pre-K-1st graders. Funds for the relocation of the Pre-K playground will be transferred to this playground as well (not to be added to PIE costs and commitment to funding playground enhancements and additions). There would be no changes made to the PIE budget with these playground location changes.

Review/Approve December Meeting Minutes

Motion made by to approve Kelly; second Kristen. Ayes all, motion carried.

Review/Approve Treasurer’s Report

Motion made by Greta; Kate second. Ayes all, motion carried.

Fundraising totals shared and reviewed by Nicole. Additional donations received and so total now is \$32,739.43 in playground account. Getting close to goal of \$50,000

Winter Blast receipts and requests are being submitted and paid.

Budget Discussion with Mr. Huebner

School Finance can be challenging to understand, and so Mr Huebner was asked last month to share aspects of the Elementary budget with members of PIE so that we may better understand (as we are planning our own budget). General Fund account is where the majority of funding comes from for the school. 83% of the General Fund goes towards salaries and benefits. Remainder of General Fund (27%) account goes towards transportation and Elem, MS, and HS budgets. The addition of the Early Childhood

Center comes from the SAVE account. Things such as curriculum and curriculum enhancements (i.e. Lexia is ~\$12,000 annually for a yearly subscription for Tk-4th grade), Accelerated Reader for 3rd-4th grade, transportation for field trips, furniture and supplies for classroom and building also all come from General Fund. Requests for additional funds (i.e. need for updates to curriculum) are brought to Superintendent Dr Smith and it was stated that there have always found ways to fund these requests. Request made to Mr Huebner to let the PIE group know if there are needs in the building that are not being met and so that PIE might be able to assist/fulfill (if the funds are available and if it meets the mission of the SL Elementary PIE group).

Family Fun Night

- Friday, February 28th
- Co-Chaired by Amanda Smith and Donna Doxtad
- Theme of LEAP into Family Fun; bounce houses, musician in the library or cafeteria, and ask DC kids if they'd like to sell food and beverage items again.
- Will likely do a free will donation to help with playground (as opposed to charging admission)
- Idea of each class putting together a basket for a silent auction

Silly String Fundraiser

- Idea of selling cans of silly string for \$5 bottle (order form sent home) and then list what staff member they wanted to spray with silly string! Consider doing sometime this winter. Teachers wore ponchos, goggles, etc. More details forthcoming!

Kindergarten Round-up

- Date pending
- PIE representative to speak (Kelly Mueting)
- Tours by 4th graders/ parents or teachers discussed

STEM Fair

- Tuesday, March 24th. K-4th grades invited to walk through 2:00-2:30; Community invited to walk through 6:00-7:00 (?).
- Co-chaired by Greta Gruys and other PIE members to assist with set up and take down
- Applied for donation from Wal-Mart for poster boards
- Greta to speak to students in early February and hand out STEM information packets, permission slips, and poster boards
- Playground information table staffed by PIE with donation jars for playground

Misc.

- Holiday concert- playground fundraiser
- Kiwanis meeting
- Friend of Education nomination (Mrs. Nancy Kriener nominated the Spirit Lake PIE group to the State of Iowa). Nicole read the letter of nomination submitted to the Iowa Friend of Education committee. Warm fuzzies!

Motion made by Greta to adjourn; second Kelly. Ayes all. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:22p. Next meeting: Monday, February 10th at 12:00p in Mrs. Hagedorn's classroom.

Meeting adjourned at 1:22p by President Nicole Evans.

Respectfully submitted,
Greta Gruys, PIE Secretary