

Mills River Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization
PTO Meeting Agenda
April 18th, 2024 @ 1:00 p.m.

Meeting Called to Order/Attendance:

- Beth Jacquez, Mary Lou Socha, Lauren Klocko, Tracy Klaes, Jessica Lucas, Kevin Ensley, Jennifer Stallings, Katie Foley, Amy McKinstry, Leah Pollack, Katherine Dare, Kacie Tilley, Betsy Casebolt

President's Greeting

Jessica Lucas

Reminder for all members to send in their responsibilities ASAP

MRB Spirit Night

- Reminder to all Board and Committee Chairs: May 9th position information is due to Jessica. Please be as detailed as possible. Per Lauren, can be a bulleted list. School store is included.
- Mills River Brewery Spirit Night: May 14th 5 – 8 p.m. Family Theme Trivia. MRS PTO earns 10% of all sales from food & drinks; alcohol sales are included.

Treasurer's Report

Tracy Klaes

Blue Ridge Bicycle Club \$ Tracy will go after the funds once we have an invoice/paid for the bikes.

- Notable Revenue: Fall Fundraiser: \$33,033.20 – Spring Fundraiser: \$33,408.37 – T-shirt Sponsors: \$10,085 – Fast Pass: \$4,06018.86
- Notable Expenses: Teacher Supplies/Requests: \$9,518.86 – Bike Program: \$10,279.31 – Fundraising (incomplete): \$8,187.30 – Computer Resources: \$6,898.16
- Above is incomplete and does not include all sections of Revenue (i.e. Spiritwear, Holiday Events, or the Rock) or Expenses (i.e. not all line items, and playground, plus end of year expenses for Staff Appreciation, PE, Field Day & 5th Grade Party)
- Off by \$1,000 because Tracy ran out of time to reconcile. It will be fixed shortly.
- PTO has paid for the bikes now.

Vice President's Report

Lauren Klocko

- Report in other sections.

Secretary's Report

Katherine Dare

- Katherine emailed the February minutes to the listserv after the Board approval.

Dads Group

Kevin Ensley

- No report.

Fundraising Committee (The Rock & Fast Pass)

Campbell, Dare, Dacey, Klaes

Spring Fundraiser wrap-up of prizes

- FYI: Fresh Market, July 1st
- Ms. Barber's Class – tomorrow, Amy & Betsy to help with this one. Katherine finished the rest of the parties, except Mr. Will. Katherine will take care of that party next week.
- In school massage reward for Top 2 Classes (Ms. Bader, Ms. Robinson, Ms. Barber, Ms. Kimsey) – Betsy to ask their preference.
- Duty Free lunch for All: PTO promised this as a reward. Yes, we want to schedule this before the end of school. Betsy will be asking Ms. Fletcher for dates.
- \$ in from the Spring Fundraiser came in.

Playground Committee

Tracy Klaes & Lauren Klocko

- Shipping Container: Should be delivered in a week or 2. We need to get a group together to build bikes. Volunteers can get the job done pretty quickly.
 - o Volunteer List: Tom Pollock (Fox), Seth and Daniel (Berm Peak), Allen Klaes, Kevin Ensley.
 - o Build Bike Scheduled Time: TBD by Tracy and communicated to the Volunteer List
 - o Google Form requested that Tracy sends out to Dad's Group for sign up.
 - o Jimmy & John were voluntold/added to the Volunteer List
- Rubber mulch for playground was delivered. Cub Scout group scheduled to spread it this evening.
- Asked Callie about the playground drawings/plan and nothing back yet. (Landscape Architect)
- Grant writing: Dogwood – good base needs to be cleaned up. Great American Trail grant – not started. Others – to start pulling more together over the summer or when there is time.
 - o Grant Writing Workshop: Scheduling to be decided today, per Lauren. Workshop will be April 23rd, Tracy's House, 9:00 a.m. (tentative time)
- Playground: Stage – getting designs from Burke. Lauren contacted for posts to attempt to get a better price.
- Playground: Shade – getting quote from Burke for shade toppers.
- Need to write up another update for the playground and fundraising page on the website. Yes, to do week of April 22nd.

Purchase Request Committee

Ensley, Klaes, Klepp, Klocko, Lucas, Tilley

- No new requests to note.
- Lauren: will put page on website for teachers to access easily.
- Ms. Hogan wants to apply for funds.
- Lauren asked Tracy to make a cardstock bookmark to put in teachers' boxes to remind of PD reimbursement.

School Store

Amanda Ledbetter & Kacie Tilley

- Next Wednesday, April 24th, is the last day for the year.
- Goal was reached. \$3,486.82, will be a little over, waiting on finalized budget.
- Need parents from 4th Grade to take over – Kevin cannot head it up. Kevin does too much.
- Kacie contacted the 4th Grade Teachers to find someone to take it over. Request that it goes to certain parents, not the entire grade.
- Kacie to update Jessica.

SIT (School Improvement Team)

Jessica Lucas

- Successful STEAM Night and the Volunteer Breakfast is coming up next week.
- Discussed at meeting: End of Year and then Beginning of Year topics.

Staff Appreciation Committee

Jaquez, McKinstry & Rusert

May 6th – 10th : Staff Appreciation Week Plan – Amy McKinstry

- Baskets
 - o Everything is filled up, \$4 Walmart tubs, 4/29 items due to school. Lauren & Betsy will help to make the baskets pretty/staged. Amy needs little boxes (Jessica will provide 3 of those) for teachers to put their names in every time they visit the "PTO Room" (location TBD).
- Day By Day
 - o Monday, 5/6/24 – Lunch: "There's no Substitute for You"
 - Sandwich trays from Monte's (just the trays of sandwiches), 2 large Greek salads, Hot Dog World – would MRB add their chips to that as a side, if not, kettle chips
 - Need: plates, tables cloths
 - Cost: \$550

- Tuesday, 5/7/24 – Breakfast
 - Tracy is going to make scones & cinnamon rolls, 6 trays chicken minis and PTO will make hashbrowns, parents bring fruit – 90 biscuits from Bojangles OR Chick- fil-A & PTO set up a biscuit bar, meat would need to be heated
 - Decision: Choose – Bojangles or Chick-fil-a? Consensus Chick-fil-a mini’s – 3 trays, \$200 approx. each
 - Need – \$36 for hashbrowns, fresh fruit donated, 2 bottles of orange juice
 - Coffee – use Betsy’s percolator, Folgers is good, and Amy already has it
 - Tater tot rounds – in the air fryer, 2 fryers running at the same time
 - 7:00 – 9:00 a.m. for teachers, 6:30 a.m. for set up
 - Cost: \$294 for that day
- Wednesday, 5/8/24 – Admin Day – Pasta
- Thursday, 5/9/24 – Taco Fiesta Day
 - 3 containers of meat, 2 beans, 2 rice, chips & tortillas included
 - Guac donated from parents
 - Cost: Last year \$340, this year \$540 and it’s a lot less food. Last year \$70 sides, \$90 sides this year. Total with tip = \$1,000
- Friday, 5/10/24 – Sweet Treat Day
 - Bundt Cakes – Spoke to manager: they don’t give discounts, that is their biggest week of the year (Teacher Appreciation and Mother’s Day) – Each Cake = \$5.25
 - Crumble Cookies – “We’d Crumble Without You”
 - ◆ \$4.50 inside a nice pink box OR \$0.25 less per teacher without the box – No, the group loves the box.
 - ◆ Only option for Gluten Free: Rice crispy
 - ◆ Could be a discount
 - ◆ \$435 without discount
 - Dough Baby – 10% discount – Not worth the difference in price.
 - Hand deliver to teachers like last year – Yes. Amy to assemble the small group.
- Last year – too many drinks, teachers and staff liked pink lemonade from Sam’s (to get this year too)
- To ask Courtney Ball for donation from Biltmore Church
- Want to ask parents for donations? Consensus, yes
- Need to make sure cafeteria staff is included and don’t miss out because of their location in the school
- Right at \$2,300 & don’t want to go over
 - Is everyone good with the decisions above? Yes. Round of applause. Great job Amy.
- To consider for next year: \$100 over budget
 - Possibly doing every 9 week appreciation again
 - Apple cider donuts, Christmas cookie, 3rd week treat – this year’s treats
 - We talked before about a drink bar treat. We could we do this when school starts instead because we’re just at budget for this year.

Spiritwear

Tracy Klaes

Spiritwear (Car Rider line? Drop prices to \$10 per?)

- Still will make \$ if we drop the price to \$10, so yes, approved to drop the price
- Table at Field Day? Parents that tend to come are the volunteers – Yes, we can do this if we have the volunteer that doesn’t take away from Field Day.
- What about car rider line the last day? No decision yet
- Can we sell it at MRB? Tracy to find out
- Club Day – May 2nd – Tracy may want to sell then, no decision yet

- No meeting last month. Nothing to report.

Volunteer Coordinator

Betsy Casebolt

- Field Day
 - o Field Day Sign Up Sheet is out: Monday, April 29th K – 2nd & Tuesday, April 30th 3rd – 5th; 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. each day
 - o Coach Starling only needs 30 volunteers each day because she has older students (Rugby/West) coming to help each day.
- Volunteer Action Day
 - o April 27 (any time after 12:00 p.m.) or April 28th? – To Do: Plane and paint picnic tables; Pull posts and fill holes (Stacey’s husband, heavy machinery)
 - o Kevin wants to ask if Dad’s Group will come help – yes ask Dad’s Group
 - o Henderson County United Way Day of Action might be the same day – It’s not that day, we’re ok to keep going as planned
 - o Can the Cub Scouts do anything because they’re looking for projects – Yes, Tracy will find something for them to do
 - o April 27th or 28th – TBD – Stacey’s husband will have machinery & can’t have kids around during that time. To schedule kid volunteers or families with kids after he is done with machinery work.
- Thank You Volunteers Breakfast
 - o Teachers are hosting a Thank You Volunteer Breakfast on Wednesday, April 24th, 8-9:00 a.m. in the library

Leader In Me

Kacie Tilley

- At our last meeting it was announced that the school was not doing anything for the Showcase, but several had notice it was happening.
- It sounds like the school is holding an Open House that day and they’re inviting Community Members which could include parents. Still unclear.

New Business

Bounce Houses/Obstacles Courses OR Other Alternative Purchase/Fun for Students

- Alternative Ideas to Treat Students: basketball court into a chalk court & Gatorade station
 - o Add a station to Field Day – add a treat – Katherine to ask Ms. Fletcher & Coach Starling
 - o Foam Party section – Jessica’s idea
 - o Ms. Fletcher did not love the idea of the bounce house unless we rented several, which would raise the costs too high, otherwise each kid would only get a short amount of time to play. Suggested less \$ spent.
- Today is Kacie’s last meeting – She’s a 5th grade parent and won’t be at the May meeting. Lauren gave a very nice speech and everyone a “What Would Kacie Do” bracelet. Presents for Kacie from the Board as an appreciation for her years of service to PTO and Mills River.

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting: Last Meeting of the Year – Thursday, May 17th @ 1:00 p.m.

Workshop Meeting: Grant Writing Workshop: April 23rd, Tracy’s House, 9:00 a.m. (tentative time)