

Ainsworth PTA Meeting 1/19/18 at 1pm in the Library

Attendees:

Librarian Kirsten Capcart, Kara Stone, Lynn Brown, Simone Goldfeder, Anna Short, Jen Mills-Perov, Jill Kulas Andi, Teresa Sullivan, Heather Kochs

1:05pm Approval of previous meeting's minutes - APPROVED

1:06pm Librarian's Update

Librarian is only part-time, 2.5 days/week. 24 classes pass through the library. Currently it's every other week because she's part-time. Molly is an aide, she's here full time, but can't run classes. Teachers CAN choose to bring their classes here and use their class time if they like.

Each child gets only 40 minutes a month in the library.

Parent involvement in the library is extremely helpful. Kids get direct help and involvement when the librarian doesn't have to be checking books in/out

2 asks:

1. Scholastic Dollars - Needs review. Who is the decision maker? Can we allocate a larger amt of \$ to the library and make the library the decision maker about who gets funds from Scholastic?

Scholastic is not our favorite. Their selection is limited. The Scholastic Dollars can't be used with sales and promotions. It takes forever to look through their catalog.

Would the teachers be okay with having a reduced amount of money to spend?

2. Common Classroom Facelift - The common classrooms re the library, gym, art room, i.e. Rooms that all the children use. It's very hard to make these large spaces look beautiful.

Ask the specialist teachers how they would like their spaces to be decorated. For the library: auction art could be displayed here. She would like the library to be repainted this year. The murals look very dated. Could paint on Thursdays and Fridays when the library is not in continuous use.

Would like to remodel the old circulation desk area to be a reading nook: drop the counter.

House plants! Anyone have some extra at home they would like to donate?

Archives are being taken over by retired teachers: former yearbooks.

1:31pm Family Dance/calendaring with Foundation

Foundation is also reporting volunteer fatigue among their contributors.

Coin Drive can move to the second half of the year.

After Red Ball is over, we can meet with the Foundation team to work together on the calendar.

Foundation does not consider Fiesta to be a Foundation event. They ran it last year because they had the funds. But don't necessarily want to own it.

Family Dance - proposal to move it to May. Sell the tickets at Red Ball and do it in May.

Further question - do we even want to continue to do all of these events? We don't HAVE to continue doing this.

Kara proposing that it not be a fundraiser but just a community event. Lower the cost per kid. PTA would run this event?

Decision: we don't have to add Family Dance to the Red Ball docket. We can continue the conversation on whether to have it and other events in the future.

Garden Tour - Needs a leader/committee. Current plan was to have next year's Garden Tour in September 9th. There is one garden lined up for that date, but we're behind in recruiting gardens for the tour.

Much discussion about possibly moving Garden Tour to spring. June is not possible because school is almost out. May is difficult because of Memorial Day and Fiesta.

But it is possible. Want to do an experiment to move Garden Tour to spring for the 2018-2019 school year and see how it performs. Much of the revenue from Garden Tour is from ads. Can we count on this money continuing?

If it's going to happen in September, we need to finalize at the NEXT MEETING.

1:55pm Late Starts

1 adult per 15 children. Can use the gym and library. Previously, we got 80-100 students to sign up for the Late Starts. Natalie will continue to run this from now until the end of year.

THERE WON'T BE ANY LATE STARTS NEXT YEAR.

Why are we continuing this? There's only 3 late starts left this year. There's some ramp up work to get aftercare people running it.

Decision: We are dropping this activity for this year.

2:00pm Reader Board

Everything is ready, but we need to pay the 50% deposit to the sign group. Need a check from Tonka.

2:03pm Volunteer Update

All positions for this year are filled except for the Art Fair in May.

At what point should we start recruiting for next year? Feb/Mar ask the board members whether they are continuing for the next year.