

Blevins PTO Minutes September 1, 2009 Meeting

Attendees:

Blevins Staff: Mr. Linehan, Mr. Davis, Mr. Stone

Parent Representation: Heather Vesgaard(Sec), Tami Thomas, Laura Ryan, Penny Hahn, Jennifer Clark, Connii Rogers, Jennifer Buchanan, Gina Zachman, Debbie Mayer

- A. Welcome and Introductions:** Mr. Linehan greeted the group, thanked us for coming, and asked how the transition to Blevins was going for the new folks. The feedback was unanimously positive.
- B. School Start Up**
- a. Great Start: Mr. Linehan shared that it has been a smooth start for the kids at Blevins so far this year.
 - b. Rachel's Challenge: This event was a great success both at the Blevins presentation and also at the Fossil Ridge High School Community presentation. The kids were moved and motivated hearing Rachel's story. There will be follow up groups of youth forming to take and continue Rachel's Challenge. This is a great opportunity for student leadership and parent involvement in facilitating the follow up teams.
 - c. Teams of teachers- students teaching teams communicate closely to best support each student.
 - d. Back to School Night-well attended, positive feedback.
- C. PTO Mission-Build Community, Support Students, Teacher and Staff. Support and Organize Community Events, and Fund Raising.**
- D. Meeting Dates and Times:** PTO has decided to move future PTO meetings to the 2nd Tuesday of the month to accommodate schedules of parents who also attend PTO at the local elementary schools who have PTO on the first Tuesday of the month. The exception to this change will be the February meeting, which will remain on the first Tuesday due to Community Fair preparation needs. This leaves the meeting date schedule as follows: Oct 13, Nov 11, Dec 8, Jan 12, Feb 5, March 9, April 13, May 11.
- E. New Direction...New Ideas:** Mr Linehan shared that this year is a great time to hear and try new ideas and told the group he was open to suggestions. A brief discussion about ways to continue to communicate Blevins Middle School as an open environment to parents ensued. Mr Linehan, Mr Davis, and Mr Stone all communicated their desire to have parents involved and active in the school and in the students school lives. Overall, PTO feedback acknowledged this desire on the part of the staff and encouraged continued and varied types of communications and asks for involvement from the parent community.
- F. How we will organize**
- a. President/Vice President or By Committee- The group agreed to stick with having a Committee run PTO as opposed to elected President and Vice Presidents.
 - b. Secretary- This seat was presented as open. Heather Vesgaard volunteered to act as secretary and Debbie Mayer volunteered to be a "back-up".

- c. Treasurer-This seat was presented as open. The group threw out names of individuals who may be willing and agreed to have conversations with those people prior to the next meeting in hopes of getting this seat filled.

G. Budget

- a. Report: Mr. Linehan shared the financial report and the known planned expenses for the year.
- b. Goals for Fund Raiser
 - i. \$2000.00 from this year's magazine fund raiser revenue was approved to pay for the recent Rachel's Challenge expenses.
 - ii. Technology
 - iii. Recreation Equipment
 - iv. Mr. Davis requested, and the group agreed, that additional revenue from the magazine fundraiser be considered toward a scoreboard and new athletic uniforms for the Blevins sports teams.
- c. \$1600.00 for newsletters
- d. \$350.00 for staff appreciation
- e. \$320.00 Parent Teacher Conferences

H. DAB Representative: Parent representation from Blevins is needed on the District Accountability Board. Please contact Mr. Linehan if you are interested in this position.

I. Magazine Sale: The Magazine Fundraiser will kick off on September 2nd with turn in days of 9/9 through 9/17. The magazine Olympics will be held on 9/23. We are hopeful that this will be a very successful year with both 6th and 7th graders driving sales.

J. Pancake Breakfast-This is a fundraiser for Blevins Athletics. It will be held on September 19th from 8:00-10:00 and tickets are \$5.00. Some volunteers and also breakfast cooking equipment was expressed as a need.

K. Parent/Teacher Conferences: These will be held the evenings of Tuesday and Thursday September 22 and 24 from 4:30-7:30. It was agreed that the PTO would provide snack bags for staff members during this time and arrange volunteers to bring the food in.

L. Community Fair: This event is to be held January 15th and typically brings in 1000-2000 people. Conni Rogers volunteered to take the lead on the event planning this year. More details to come.

M. Calendar and Events:

- a. **Parent/Teacher Conferences-9/22 and 9/24**
- b. **Magazine Fundraiser-9/2-9/16**
- c. **Pancake Breakfast-9/19**
- d. **School Dances Scheduled-10/2, 2/5, 4/9**
- e. **Science Fair-12/3-12/4**
- f. **Vision and Hearing Screening-1/7**
- g. **Community Fair-1/15**
- h. **8th Grade Celebration-5/8**
- i. **Excellence in Education in Teacher Rec from Blevins**
- j. **Teacher Appreciation Week- May3-7**