

Werner Elementary School PTA
5400 Mail Creek Lane
Fort Collins CO 80525

Minutes of the PTA General Meeting
September 10, 2009

- Call to Order** The meeting was called to order by Julie Grillo at 6:30 pm.
- Attendance** See attendance sign in sheet.
- Review of Minutes** Kyra Geraghty moved to approve the minutes. Bridget Froelich seconded the motion.
- Treasurer's Report** Lisa Vicente McMahon presented the budget. The current balance is \$15,877. Cathy Lee mentioned Winter merchandise for Spirit Sales, i.e., jackets, fleece, beanies, etc. Katy Tychsen talked about what 5th graders did last year as part of the Environmental Education Program. Hayden Camp mentioned that the week is all planned for this year and that it takes 1 ½ weeks to complete. A vote was taken to approve on the 5th grade Environmental Education Field Trip request. Cathy Lee moved to approve the funding and Kyra Geraghty seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the funding was approved. Amy Reed asked about scholarships and Julie Grillo answered that it was already considered by the board and it will be considered as needed. A new Budget Request Form Process for the staff was presented. Amounts of less than \$100 will be approved by the PTA board and those exceeding \$100 will be presented to PTA membership and voted on during the general meetings. Audrey Tool moved to approve the process and Renee Cohn-Jones seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the process approved. Amy Reed asked "what is the maximum amount of money a classroom will receive from the PTA?" Last year it was \$200 plus other funding approved by PTA. This year the process might change and besides a designated amount of money, the profits from the Teacher & Me Baskets (as explained by Cathy Lee) might be split evenly among classrooms. Kris said that she would like to see money given in the fall instead of at the end of the year. Vicki Decker wanted to know what the teachers are using this funding for and Wanda Molinary-Knipp showed the results of a teachers' survey conducted by the PTA to last month. The money was used for scholastics memberships, books, classrooms supplies, manipulatives, quiz cards, etc.
- Principal's Update** 3rd grade is overcrowded with an average of 30 children per classroom. The school requested fund money from the district but it was denied. A new teacher will help by taking groups of

children out of the classrooms and creating centers with them. She will be with them 3 hours a day, 4 times a week. A paraprofessional will help with 4th grade where there are an average of 29 children per classroom. Amy Reed asked why was a school with an average of 27 students given funding from the district and not Werner. Mr. Camp didn't know the answer but will ask Dave Montoya, PSD Budget Manager, to come to Werner to discuss the budget process. Money is awarded to schools based on their student projections. If their actuals are below the projections school have to pay back money to the district to offset the difference. If the projections are below actuals schools might get money. Parents expressed that the school needs to control the School of Choice program and make sure that kindergarten stays within 18-20 students to avoid this issues in subsequent years. Amy Reed is concerned about what is going to happen to 4th graders next year. Last year 1st and 3rd grade teachers decided that an extra teacher was going to teach 1st grade instead of 3rd grade. Mr. Camp also mentioned that Werner Elementary was recognized by the Board of Education. Werner ranks among the top 161 schools statewide that achieved sustained academic growth over three consecutive years. Also, a parent portal was announced where parents will be able to see not only what the children are eating in the lunchroom but also academic information like grades and upcoming assignments.

Miscellaneous

Lisa Vicente McMahon was nominated as a PTA Co-Treasurer. Bridget Froelich moved to nominate and Katy Tyhsen seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11pm.

Speaker Series

Renee Cohn Jones presentation and handouts are available online