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

Minutes of the PTA General Meeting

January 14, 2010

Call to Order The meeting was called to order by Tiffany Haag at 6:30 pm.

Attendance See attendance sign in sheet.

Review of Minutes Bridget Froelich moved to approve the minutes. Kim Schartow seconded the motion.

Treasurer's Report Bre Wells reported that the PTA account balance is $29,623.57. The net income for eBooks was $4,390, net income for Spirit Sales was $856.07 and $1,809.05 was donated to Werner Library as that was the Scholastic Book Fair net income.

Committees Reports Bingo Nite (Rebecca Creech) reported a big up-front expense (because it was the first Bingo Nite at Werner) and they needed to buy all the equipment. The net income was $1,294 and it is expected to be more for the March 5th Bingo Night because the expenses should be lower. The committee is looking for volunteers and their first meeting will be next Wednesday, January 20th.

Family Activity Nite (Kris Lee) reported that they will have a carnival theme, with beads, and a potluck style appetizers. The classroom baskets and the Teacher & Me baskets will be on display as well. The activity will be on February 5th and volunteers are needed to help during the event.

Yearbook (Amy Hazlett) reported that there will be a contest to select the yearbook's cover and the children will choose the finalist. The price of each yearbook will be between $15 to $20 and there will be an online ordering option. People with pictures should drop them off in the office (Werner).

Birthday Books (Chris Ellis) reported that the initiative has been a success. They are starting another round of collecting orders. A student bought a book for the teacher during her birthday. This is another way of participating in the program. More information is available on the PTA website.

Werner Restaurant Nights (Jenny Whetsell) reported that they were able to net $399 at Noodles and that they have already met their goal of $1,000 for the year! They will be having pizza nights on January 26th and 27th with Cozzola where proceeds of total sales will go to Werner.

Spirit Sales (Dedie Lotito) reported that although there were some issues with the distributors, the initiative has been accepted by the Werner community. The color options, especially pink for girls, was a success and there will be a sale in March of baseball hats with color options for boys and girls.

Ebooks (Lori Everhart) reported that their net income was $4,390. They had some issues with the timeliness of the distributors and they are also waiting for 25 eBooks that haven't been returned by some Werner families.

Book Fair (Elise Branson) reported a net income of $7,700 where some were given back to the school as book credits and some as cash to buy white boards and classroom supplies.

Outreach (Renee Cohn-Jones) reported that the Meals that Count initiative donated 21 full Thanksgiving meals to families in need, including Werner families. The Werner Cares and Shares initiative collected 4 boxes of toys that will go to a Navajo tribe, 8 boxes of crafts that will go to Russian orphanages and cards with jokes books that will go to the military. Also, 250 books were donated. There will be a food drive during Family Night on February 5th and in March they will be working directly with the Honor Flight organization. On January 24th there will be a joint effort with other organizations to go and play at Glow Golf at Foothills Mall where proceeds will go to relief efforts in Haiti.

Earth Day (Britt Kronkosky) reported that they met today to discuss the activities they will have on January 22nd.

Principal's Report New Enrichment Opportunities -

A Spanish class will be available again after school hours. Two teachers will be available and over 30 requests have been received.

A French Club will start in the next couple of weeks free of charge and for children in 4th and 5th grade. Shauna Anderson will be teaching the children about language and culture for 8 weeks.

A parent survey will go out in the next three weeks through Survey Monkey. Parents and staff will be asked about highest values and priorities and the results will be used to see where Werner will need to allocate the budget cuts declared by Gov. Ritter.

A $2.2 billion shortfall was announced for Colorado. 4.6% will hit grade levels from K-12. There is a video about the budget development process available on the PSD website. A total of between $8 to $12 million will affect PSD directly for the next three years and 75,000 will affect Werner and that is roughly the salary of a full time teacher. The projections for last year (including new Kindergarten students) looks good and that might minimize the impact of budget reductions for Werner. School consolidations have been discussed for other PSD schools and meetings are taking place to see what the options are within this alternative.

Old Business Report Werner didn't receive the “take your Family to School” grant but we will keep trying to get it next year.

The Classroom Baskets and Teacher & Me are fund raising events to raise money for each classroom and special teachers. Raffle tickets will be on sale and the winners will be selected randomly. Donations for the baskets will start on January, the baskets will be unveiled on February 5th during Family Activity Night, the baskets will be display in the Media Center for a week and the winners will be announced on Valentine's Day. Volunteers are needed to help the committee members.

New Business Report The new visitors/volunteer sign in procedure was implemented two days ago. Elise Branson explained that Bacon has been using it for two years, that it will give us better quality data, customized communication can be sent to all volunteers and you can get reports on who volunteered and how many hours were logged per classroom. School specific names tags are generated for those without one but Werner tags are not recognized in other schools and vice-versa. It is a function that might be available in the future. If a visitor is not on the PSD system no badge will be printed and they will have to ask a staff member to sign in. In case of an emergency, the staff can generate a report of where the volunteers are within the school. The Coloradoan had an article about the system. The PTA and school funded the initiative.

The PTA copy machine, in the teacher's lounge, might need to be replaced since the quality of the copies is not acceptable. It will be fixed for a while, until it needs to be replaced.

The Kindergarten teachers are requesting a document camera. Mrs. Johnston explained that since kindergarten does not use text books the camera facilitates teaching and there is no need for copies, or to do any laminates. There are only two

cameras for three teachers and it is hard to share because they teach the subjects at the same time. The cost is $550. A vote was taken to buy the camera for the teachers. Katy Tychsen moved to approve the motion and Teresa Hughey seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:16pm

Building Healthy Peer Relationships

Guiding children to utilize emotional intelligence and develop effective social skills by Dr. Nancy Smith, PhD, LPC, child and family therapist.