



Defer Elementary PTO

Wednesday, November 9, 2022

Defer Elementary School

7:00 PM

In attendance: Christy Sherding, Sophan Buffa, Steve Justin, JJ DeRosier, Erin Weakland, Lindy Holloway, Dr. Rheaume, Beth Lowe, Kelly Warnick, Kelly Mackinnon, Julia Miller, Michelle Shalhoub, Julie Etheridge, Patrice Arendt, Jane Nugent

1. **Call to Order and Introductions** – Christy Sherding @7:01 PM, Defer PTO Mission Statement, reminder to vote you must be a PTO member. If you purchased a directory, you are a member of the PTO. Introductions around the table.
2. **Review of the Previous Minutes** – Erin Weakland
 - a. Correction to LaKeytria's name. Correct time for Skate Night.
 - b. Lindy makes a motion to pass Oct meeting minutes, Kelly seconds – motion passed.
3. **Treasurer's Report** – Stephen Justin
 - a. Current available \$33k, reserve funds for green house (\$5k) and start up (\$4k).
 - b. Budget planned in August, balanced budget \$53k. Approved in October, additional \$19k in expenses
 - i. Literacy fund
 - ii. Hospitality
 - iii. Teacher led clubs
 - iv. Subscription for S'more
 - c. Income – YTD \$19k with another \$38k from Fun Run
 - d. Expenses – YTD \$28k spend with \$43k outstanding
 - i. Expenses for teacher enrichment
 - ii. Dragon Fun Run
 - iii. Cider and Donuts
 - iv. Literacy Fund
 - v. Staff conferences
 - vi. Literacy kits
 - e. Fun Run
 - i. Note the Get Moving Crew charges a service fee of 15%
 - ii. \$58k earned, \$48k realized due to fees
 1. \$450 set up fee and 15% of funds received online.
 2. People that donate online, are given an option to cover the 15% fee when they donate. But not all donors choose this option.
 3. This service has been reviewed, compared with other providers and Get Moving was used because its so user friendly. The Fun Run requires an enormous amount of work to manage and run.
 - f. Lindy motions to approve Oct Budget, Julie seconded, motion passes
4. **President's Report** – Christy Sherding – reminder for any requests or questions on PTO, please reach out to PTO directly. We are happy to help direct inquires, review budget items and help you get involved with the PTO.
5. **Vice President's Report** – Sophan Buffa – PTO Council Meeting was Nov 1st. Lindy covered the meeting and provided update.
 - a. Great to note, there are 6 young 5 classrooms this year – Ferry only school without
 - b. The GPPSS Community Diversity Meeting is at Pierce Nov 10th

6. Communications Report – JJ DeRosier

- a. Since the last meeting, Instagram page is up and running! Lots of positive feedback.

7. Committee Reports

- a. Committee Event Recaps – Christy to recap events below.
 - i. Fundraising/Fun Run (10/7) – Stacy Hutchcraft – Fun Run celebration for top fundraisers Nov 16th from 6 – 8PM at Coreander’s Children’s Bookshoppe.
 - ii. Defer Progressive Dinner (10/15) – Lindy Holloway
 - 1. 97 paid attendees. Budget broke even!
 - 2. Great event back after 3-year hiatus.
 - iii. Cider and Donuts (10/27) – Nicole Luyk
 - 1. Great event with the assistance of the Brownies
 - 2. Event powered by the Fun Run!
 - iv. Haunted Garage (10/28) – Erin Weakland
 - 1. We sold 251 tickets - 160 regular / 91 VIP. Last year, sales were ~150 total.
 - 2. Accounts will be finalized and shored up with the Defer PTO by the end of November
- b. Book Fair – Michelle Shalhoub
 - i. Scheduling book fair for the week of November 28th – Dec 3rd.
 - ii. Planning on during school event and after school sales offering, in addition to the Saturday Craft Fair
 - iii. Need assistance from the school (Dr. Rheume) on how we handle purchases for students in need and ensure funds are available.
- c. Holiday Craft Fair (12/3) – Christy Sherding
 - i. If you are interested in assisting in the Holiday Craft Fair, please reach out to Christy.
 - ii. Event will be held on Dec 3rd in the Defer gym – 9AM – 2PM
 - iii. Purchase crafts on PTO square site – sign up for craft by time slot
 - iv. There will also be a free craft available for all students
 - v. More information to come via social media
- d. Lunchtime Enrichment – Beth Lowe
 - i. Lunchtime enrichment will start in between Christmas Break and Midwinter Break (7 weeks).
 - ii. Volunteers are needed to volunteer for 1 hour a day. You will run the activity with kids during their lunch/recess.
 - 1. A lot of previous volunteers have no longer have children in the school
 - iii. Activities include: yoga, games, stem activities, gardening, board games, etc.
 - iv. Overall budget is \$500. If money is spent, submit receipts to PTO for reimbursement
- e. Directory – Sarah Coats and Kate Pierce – Steve Justin updating the group
 - i. Online access should be ready next week
 - ii. Request into the school for student/teacher listing
 - 1. Once completed, directory will go to printing
 - iii. When you registered for school at the end of August, you fill in information if you want to participate in the directory. If an email was not provided, your information will not be included in the directory. Please reach out to Steve, Sarah or Kate for any issues/resolution.

8. Teachers Report – Jane Nugent

- a. Leadership Loot store – does the PTO have anything they would like to donate to this?
 - i. We will be starting a signup genius for parents to help bring the Leadership Loot cart around
 - ii. PTO will look for extra items for donation
- b. Donuts and Cider was a huge hit, a really fun event! Thank you!

9. Principal’s Report – Lisa Rheume

- a. Thank you for all the support
- b. It is wonderful to get back to ‘normal’ celebrations, Halloween party, etc.

- c. Teacher run clubs have been going well, appreciate PTO support
- d. Open house went well last weekend. Lots of new families. 4th graders did an amazing job giving tours.
- e. Super excited – we will have our first assembly since 2019! Scheduled for Feb 3rd.
 - i. We have \$2k budgeted for assemblies for 2022/2023.
 - ii. More details from the school to decide if they are going to do 1 or 2 assemblies for the school year.
- f. Communities in Diversity meeting – December 6th at Monteith
- g. Thank you for everything you do for our families. Please reach out to Dr. Rheume directly with any questions or concerns, always happy to have direct conversations.

10. Old Business

- a. Purchases – Collaborative Library Tables
 - i. School received quote for \$7,744 for the library

Budget Discussion

Prior to this meeting, the PTO Board met to discuss current budget. Keeping needs/requests in mind, while we continue to be good stewards of the PTO funds. We must remain fiscally responsible.

- b. We are hoping to keep our reserve higher than the \$9k to get us through the first few months of the next school year
- c. We have allocated \$43k that has already been approve
 - i. We can also look to cut things that have already been approved – to free up funds.
- d. After this, we will have about \$5k available to spend
- e. This year, spending the money towards library tables feels like a stretch. Unless we want to cut other budget items.
- f. Budgeted for \$53k, currently showing total expenses at \$72k
 - i. Increased hospitality
 - ii. S'more
 - iii. Recess Equipment
 - iv. Literacy Funds
 - v. Teacher Clubs
- g. Other items that have been requested: Teacher lounges, playground equipment, etc.
- h. Jane Nugent suggests creating a top 10 lists / survey in the spring on items to fund for the next school year.
- i. We will circle back on this issue

11. New Business

- a. JJ will work on publishing posts that highlight all the events/items funded by the Fun Run.
- b. Reminder that all our events are free of charge to all, because they are sponsored by the Fun Run
- c. A parent has reached out from a local Lion's club. They are doing a Jingle Bell Run and would like to donate funds to Defer as part of this event. When someone signs up for the event, if they indicate they are running for/with Defer – Defer will get a portion of the proceeds.
- d. Request to add Amazon Smile (and Kroger) back onto communications S'more
- e. Multicultural Festival – Jan 19th at Pierce, looking for volunteers from Defer to participate

12. Member Comment(s)

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

Pierce PTO meeting next Tuesday, Nov 15th

13. Adjournment 8:10 PM

Upcoming Meetings:

- Tuesday, 1/10/23, at 7:00 PM
- No meeting in December

Upcoming Events and Dates

- Skate Night (11/10) – Held at The Great Skate, from 6PM – 8PM
- Thanksgiving Break (11/23 – 11/27)
- Holiday Craft Fair (12/3)