

PTO Meeting - April 1, 2014 at Manhattan Middle School

Attendance: Kari Albright, Kristin Bixler, Libby Black, Diane Braun, Mary Dineen, Barbara Dyrmosse, Erica Johnson, Kristin Kusmierck, Peggy Livingston, Michele Marshall, Nathalie Pratt, John Riggs, Amanda Wember, Jamie Zimenoff, and Deana Zimenoff.

I. President's Report / Bylaws

Michele welcomed everyone. She mentioned that in February she had distributed a set of draft bylaws for the PTO to consider adopting. Erica Johnson, who had drafted them with Michele, said that the February draft had been developed using the PTO Today.com website and examples of bylaws from other schools, e.g., from PTOs for Douglas Elementary School in Boulder, Frances Harper Junior High School in California, Lake Forest Elementary School in California, and Nederland Elementary School in Nederland, Colorado. Copies of these bylaws were available for those interested. Michele turned the meeting over to Erica Johnson who is our SAC and DAC representative for Manhattan, for the discussion about the bylaws.

- a. The group generally discussed a number of issues, such as statements of the organization's purpose, how elections are handled, how money is handled, the qualifications for general membership and for the executive board, what constitutes a quorum, conflict of interest, what decisions are made by the executive board as distinguished from the general membership. For example, with reference to the question of whether there be a requirement that a certain number of teachers serve on the executive board, it was noted that many teachers do not live in Boulder and therefore would not find attending evening meetings convenient.
- b. After Michele and Erica wrote the draft bylaws in January, they found out that the minute book for the PTO has a set of bylaws dated 2005. A copy of these bylaws was also distributed to those interested.
- c. For further work on the bylaws, the following people volunteered, in addition to Erica and Michele, who have already been working on them: Diane Braun, Mary Dineen, Kristin Bixler, and, pending approval by her employer, Peggy Livingston.

II. Principal's Report: John Riggs

- a. John reported that of the Magic Phoenix fundraising receipts, \$16,629.48 has been spent. Michele will write an update for parents showing how their

contributions have been put to work in the classroom. A breakdown of funds spent is attached to these minutes.

- b. John also mentioned that Voices Out of Silence gave performances to the 8th graders. It was a very moving performance about suicide prevention, as the actors are reading letters from teens who had attempted suicide but weren't successful. Also, members of Colie's Closet were present to aid in the discussion at the end of the performance. The counselors were available to answer any questions that our students have, and will continue to be available.
- c. Manhattan is going to have an e-gallery, which is an electronic screen in the hallway showing announcements, displaying student work, etc. It will be installed on the 21st. PTO donated \$2,000 to this, and the remaining \$100 is from other funds John secured.

III. **Teachers' Report: Libby Black**

- a. Libby did not have any news this month.

IV. **Treasurer's Report: Barb Hoyt**

- a. Barb was not present, and there was no report.

V. **Committee Reports**

- a. **Community Night – Sara Knight**

- i. Sara was not present. The February event at California Pizza Kitchen raised \$148.42 for the Latino Leadership group.

- b. **Box Tops & School Store – Deana Zimenoff**

- c. Deana has raised \$223.60 from the boxtop program.

- d. **Grocery Cards & Longmont Dairy Caps – Kristin Kusmierck**

Kristin has been selling grocery cards for use at King Soopers and Safeway. She has 82 King Soopers and 69 Safeway cards on hand. So far, the money from King Soopers customers is \$3,955.66, meaning we are approaching the \$5,000 figure, when we start getting 5%.

For 1,110 milkcaps and 12 gold milkcaps that Kristin collected and gave back to Longmont Dairy, we received \$58.50 today.

- e. **International Festival – Diane Braun**

- f. Diane Braun is organizing this festival. This is the first time we are having this event. We are hoping it will be annual. It will be on Tuesday, April 8th, from 6 pm to 7:30 pm. There will be a performance in the auditorium and dinner afterwards, with parents signing up to bring food from various cultures. PTO will supply plates, napkins, utensils, and beverages, and will help cleanup. Next year it may involve food only, without performances.

Earth Day – Kari Albright

This will be on April 22nd. It will involve a Human-Powered Get to School Day. There will be an organizational meeting on April 2nd at noon at the school.

VI. PEN Event

- a. Over 100 people attended the February 6th event about autism (“Breaking Barriers” Embracing Inclusion and Acceptance”).

VII. Parent / Teacher Conferences

- a. The Bake Sale and Burrito Sale for Dance raised \$300 during the conferences. The Latino Leadership would like to be able to do a Bake Sale during the fall conferences.

VIII. Manhattan Palooza

- a. This event raised \$2,200 for Manhattan’s music program; Camille Hook was the organizer of this event.

IX. TCAP Snacks

- a. Michele and Paula researched snacks at Costco, looking for healthy snacks for all kids. Parents donated \$245 and snacks, and the additional snacks cost \$265 to fulfill the needs of the school. Most of the snacks were gluten-free and organic, including 24 boxes of Boulder chips, which were a hit with the kids.

X. Upcoming Events

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. April 8th b. April 16th c. April 17th – 21st d. April 21st – 25th e. May 5th – 9th f. May 21st | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Festival 360 Parent Meeting, 9 am – 10 am i. The 360 group and PTO work together to welcome new families. Tall Ships Trip 1 Tall Ships Trip 2 Teacher Appreciation Week Rise Ceremony – PTO provides snacks |
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XI. Next Scheduled PTO meetings

- a. Daytime PTO Retreat in May. We are looking into dates.