

Banneker Elementary School

PTO Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2019 9:30am

Attendees: Tina Martin, Robert Carter, Katie Knox, Melanie Blankenship, Marti Bigley, Cy Acord, Megan Rafalski, Susan Strong

President's Report: Megan Rafalski

Upcoming Events:

- International Night - 1/16
 - Mr. Carter will send a reminder in his Sunday message to families.
- Family Fun Fair - 2/1 6-7:30PM
 - 7:30PM Pie eating contest (Carter, Cornell, 5th grade students).
 - Free event, 10 tickets per student.
 - \$1 per cake walk (cash).
 - Only popcorn and water this year.
 - Linda Krone already sent out Sign Up Genius to high school students.
 - Marti will follow-up to see if Foxcroft is able to offer volunteers from 5:30 – 8:00.
- Magic Math Assembly
 - The PTO determined that the \$600 fee was excessive. Unless the provider is willing to negotiate a lower fee (not to exceed \$400), the assembly will be canceled and other less expensive options will be considered.
 - Mr. Carter will follow-up with the assembly provider.

Future Spirit Nights

- Social at King Street Oyster Bar on 1/25 5:30 – 7:30. Not a Spirit Night.
- Chipotle - Requires that we spend \$300 before we get a percentage of the sales. As a small school, we may not be able to meet the threshold.
- Katie Knox will work with Chris Suarez from Bear Chase Brewing to see if we can arrange a Spirit Night and cornhole competition on a Friday or Sunday afternoon in the spring.

Community Outreach Letter Campaign

- Without enough volunteers to run the letter campaign, the PTO is unable to undertake this fundraiser this winter/spring.
- This does leave the PTO with a \$1000-\$1500 deficit for 2018-2019.
- Katie Knox and Melanie Blankenship offered to chair a sponsorship committee summer. They will target local businesses and offer sponsorship levels.
- Discounted postage should be available because the PTO is a charitable organization

Giving Tree

- Feedback from teachers very positive.

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- For next year, the PTO needs to consider a way for parents to sign-up for gifts that doesn't involve them having to come to school. Many parents weren't able to come to school to participate this year. Need a public forum for communicating gifts on tree
- Parents want to know who is receiving the gifts so that they know that their classroom teachers are covered.

Volunteers

- Bring a more positive message to encourage volunteering at school.
- Use Facebook to advertise volunteers having fun "this wouldn't happen without you."

Banneker Blossoms

- Easy and inexpensive fundraiser. Find a way to diversify the flowers that are available for purchase next fall.

Sound System

- The PTO has budgeted to replace the outdated sound system in the Multipurpose Room.
- The PTO requires more information on the technology.
- Megan will follow-up with Mrs. Stevens to determine if there is preferred technology.
- Mr. Carter will see if Banneker is due for a system refresh in the near future.

After School Enrichment

- CMS/Flute Lessons – orientation is tomorrow.
- Hip Hop Dance Classes – Unable to coordinate the schedule with vendors.
 - o Alternatives could be Yoga (Tina Martin to provide point of contact) and Zumba with Kelly Nash. Possible Square Dancing as a family event.
 - o Meredith is currently checking with Marlena Beach to see if she is willing to offer an Art class this winter.
 - o Susan will provide feedback to Meredith.

Philomont Fire Department Assembly Feedback

- Community Partnership/Career Day on Monday April 8th 2019 time TBD
- Focus on community involvement and volunteerism.
- Parents are still interested in a First Aid type presentation, but it should include demonstrations to keep students engaged. The Powerpoint is currently very detailed and may be too detailed for younger students.
- Susan will follow-up with Philomont FD and facilitate communication with Mr. Carter regarding the presentation.

Treasurer's Report: Cy Acord

- Mrs. Bossi and Livesay – received checks for books from the Giving Tree.

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- Money has already been raised to cover the expenses of the Family Fun Fair.
- The following expenses were approved during the January meeting.

Description	Grade	Requestor	Status	Amount
January				
Family Fun Fair - Game Rental (Post Deposit)	All	Megan Rafalski	Approved	\$ 287.00
Family Fun Fair - Game Prizes	All	Megan Rafalski	Approved	\$ 300.00
Family Fun Fair - Balloon Artist	All	Megan Rafalski	Approved	\$ 180.00
Family Fun Fair - Popcorn	All	Megan Rafalski	Approved	\$ 50.00
Breakout EDU Program	Cornell	Cornell	Approved	\$ 75.00
TOTAL REQUESTED AMOUNT				\$ 892.00

Principal's Report: Robert Carter

- March 20th Kindergarten orientation. PTO should put together an informational flyer for kindergarten families to encourage their involvement.
- Currently no plans to change Banneker's staffing for 2019-2020.
- Deeper Learning Conference in California – Mr. Carter will be requesting reimbursement from the PTO for travel expenses to attend. Approximately \$600.00
- In order to create a positive working environment and retain Banneker's great teachers, Ms. Allen, Mrs. Brissing, and Ms. Lynch will all be attending the "Get your Teach On" conference.
- Room 12 has been cleaned and is now usable space. Possibly as an Innovation Lab/MakerSpace Lab.
- VDOE Survey Coming on 2/11. Parents are encouraged to participate in the survey.

New Business

- Katie Knox suggested a Mud Run for a spring fundraiser "Banneker Mudder." She has contacts for this type of event.