

PTO Minutes
Thursday, March 5, 2015
6:30pm, ERS Library

President: Meeting brought to order at 6:34pm; February minutes approved.

Guest Speakers: Peter Bakker spoke about the upcoming tax and bond issue. Previous issues passed in 2000, 2004, and 2009, and the District is hoping to pass Prop S and Prop W this year. He encouraged people to talk to community members about the issues and the importance of the schools. Saturday is a canvassing day; people are teamed up with a teacher and sometimes a student to raise awareness in the community about the issues.

- Prop S is a \$.65 tax levy to keep salaries at county medium, stop class sizes from increasing, and to fund full-day kindergarten.
- Prop W is a \$.28 bond issue for changes to the building space and the Hixson Middle Center.

If the Props don't pass, then there will be cuts (staff/support staff layoffs), the building budgets will be cut, and class sizes may increase.

Vice Presidents:

- Campbell's labels raised \$643, which was spent on PE materials.
- There are 14 commitments for 2015-2016 committee chairs.
- Enrichment ended on 3/5, but the last Baking session is being rescheduled for 3/23. Feedback is largely positive, although some changes will be made next year based on suggestions received.
- Trivia Night/Auction (4/11) – Class baskets are due by the end of March, so if people haven't heard from room parents, please get in touch with them. Contact Theresa K. for any basket donations. All volunteers are set, but we are in need of tables.
- Spring Book Fair will be held the week of 3/9 during teacher conferences; evening hours are on Monday & Wednesday.
- Music Makers Cardinal Day at Busch Stadium is April 19. Tickets orders will be taken from Music Maker students the week of 3/9 and then will go out to the rest of the school the week of 3/23.
- Spirit Days will be scheduled for 3/27 and 4/27. Themes are to be determined, but a \$1 donation will be suggested or they may be tied to Penny Drive. One suggestion is a "Webster Day," dressed in orange/black on voting day.

Treasurer:

- The bank balance is around \$11,000. For the year, we're at a loss of \$16,000, but this is because the tablets were bought for the teachers. We are aiming for a \$10K income from the auction.

Principal:

- Dr. Retzlaff will be staffing a table at Hixon, and about 50 staff will be canvassing this weekend, with another group the following week.
- The principal search is finished. 13 applicants were screened, most of whom are sitting principals elsewhere, and 3 were interviewed. The nomination will be approved by the board on Tuesday, 3/10. Dr. Riss will notify the district of the decisions.
- Class lists will be done early this year! Because of the new principal arriving this summer, letters about student needs will be due May 1, and lists will be posted the last week of school.
- David Bates is the new custodian – he's wonderful!
- 45 kids are registered for kindergarten, 6 of whom are ½ day.

New Business:

- Board positions and 2015-2016 fundraising will be voted on at the April 2 meeting.
- The PTO was approached by two different companies for pre-ordering school supplies; one delivers to the home, the other delivers to school. The general feeling among attendees was that they would not use this.
- PTO will look into Chris' Cakes or other pancake company to do a breakfast after the 5K in place of the BBQ; the carnival will still happen, but the time will be pushed up to shortly after the 5K. The Boy Scouts have already contacted the PTO about volunteering to help with the carnival.
- Giving Studio next year plans to increase offerings in a variety of price ranges. It will also offer corporate gifts (customized) for parents who wish to purchase items for their businesses. ERS gets 20% of the sales.
- Potential fundraising ideas next year: Fun Pasta (40%-50% of sales to the school, depending on profit total)

Meeting adjourned at 7:23pm