

**Southern Bluff's PTO Meeting
December 19, 2022**

Attendees: Alex Powell, Kristin Damstra, Walt Smanski, Alicia Place, Averi Kotnour
Jacqueline Weisse, Kate Smith, Stephanie Umberger

Meeting called to order by Alex Powell at 6:32pm

Treasurer's Report: Walt Smanski: It was our first time doing a live holiday fair after the pandemic. The holiday fair grossed over \$11,000 including the raffle, bake sale, auction, Kidland, ornaments, and teacher giving tree. We incurred \$1,000 of expenses. Our holiday fair net was \$8,893.06 which includes expenses for Santa, Kidland, postage mailings, etc. This was better than we expected after raising \$32,000 for swings. \$1,500 was raised for the giving tree. Thank you to everyone for helping. Our total actual balance is \$18,530.58. We have \$379.50 allocated for PBIS. Our total available balance is \$18,151.08. We have \$28,590.53 in our swings account.

Motion to approve Treasurer's Report: 1st: Kate Smith, 2nd Jacqueline Weisse

Swings Project: The estimate is now \$22,000 with Nicoletti Construction doing the construction and Buildings and Grounds prepping the groundwork. We acquired a savings of \$3,000 for wood chips. Gaga pit research has begun. Rough estimate will be around \$1,000. We are waiting to hear back from Maggie to have the Gaga pit approved. We hopefully will have it built by spring picnic or end of the school year. The staff is requesting funds for playground upgrades, snow toys etc.

Spring Picnic: We are projecting \$3,000 for a spring picnic We need a new entertainment idea for spring picnic, please think about this and bring ideas to the next meeting.

Principals Report: In November we hosted our Veteran's Program for the first time since 2019. Veteran's along with their families were invited in for breakfast supplied by our Nutrition Department. Ms. Schams conducted a fantastic program where all grade levels displayed their patriotism. After the program, Veteran's visited with our 5th grade students to share their stories. The week of Thanksgiving we hosted our family engagement event: Craft and Create Night. We had an amazing turn out and are looking forward to our next event in January focused on reading. Watch for more details to come. Our PBIS team focused on making it a December to remember. We created a calendar to celebrate the month and had many festivities. Some included students and some were fun just for staff.

Update for 2023-2024 School Year: Strawbridge Photography will be our new school photography company. The district has created a contract that will make picture packages more affordable for all families. I met with them at the beginning of the month to determine picture dates for next year. We are currently looking to schedule pictures the week of August 21st.

During the month of December I have been into all of our classrooms to observe all the amazing things happening by our teaching and support staff. I couldn't be more proud to be the principal of this school. I continue to learn so much from this school community. Thank you so much for all the hard work that went into the Holiday Fair. I have never been apart of something so spectacular. My family was able to take in the festivities as well and they were impressed. I look forward to continuing this tradition for years to come.

Yearbook: Due to a new photography contract, yearbooks are no longer included. We discussed ways to make yearbooks available to all. Some of the suggestions were as follows: buy a yearbook and donate a yearbook, raise the yearbook cost to \$10 to naturally cover some of the year books, pay \$10 for yearbook, pay 15 for 1.5 year books, have a box to check with “I need help purchasing a yearbook”.

Current Business

Sing-A Long: It was addressed at the staff meeting and due to sicknesses, it was decided to be just a school event. We focused on building school community with all of our school levels. The parents will have the spring concert to watch the performance of their student.

Valentine’s Dance: We are exploring the Valentine’s Dance. It was brought up by the staff in the meeting. We will need to monitor the bathrooms and hallways. Check with Maggie for Feb 17th date. We need to encourage parental supervision. It has always been a Parent-Child Dance.

Holiday Fair: We discussed improvements in all aspects of holiday fair. We discussed creating reserves for expensive auction items. We discussed adding more pictures per auction item. We discussed a limited in person auction - 10 items. It has been 3 years since we have done this, so now people know what to expect. We discussed the addition of the pancake breakfast. This would create a space/opportunity for people to get together and have a meal and relax. Discussed pancake breakfast pricing - pay as you can, kids eat free etc.

Motion to approve Secretary’s Report: 1st: Stephanie Umberger, 2nd: Walt Smanski

Motion to close at 7:42pm: 1st: Kate Smith, 2nd Walt Smanski