

**Southern Bluff's PTO Meeting
December 20, 2021**

Attendees: Alex Powell, Kristin Damstra, Stephanie Umberger, Walt Smanski, John Parkyn, Alicia Place, Kara Seifert, Lisa Schreiner

Meeting called to order by John Parkyn at 6:34 pm

Treasurer's Report: The holiday fair online silent auction went really well. The auction brought in \$7682. For future analysis, Walt has auction stats for analytics, views/bids etc. Our current PTO balance is \$14,794.67. We have allocated \$1000 for PBIS and \$400 for prairie restoration. \$13,394.67 is our available balance. We discussed giving something to Dan (the auctioneer) for donating his time for the auction and for absorbing the credit card fees. Without him, we wouldn't have been able to do the auction. He thought the auction was really well received. Dan is fully on board with helping us next year. He was very available for questions and responsive. We had a tremendous experience with him. We decided to donate a \$150 gift card to Dan from Downtown Mainstreet. We would like to treat the school staff for donating their time and money to the Holiday Fair. We discussed pizza or an taco/fajita bar from Fiesta Mexicana on January 13th. Alex will give them a call. We discussed credit card surcharge and how it is preferred for people to pay with cash or check for the Holiday Fair. None of the grants that were submitted this round were accepted by LPEF. They can be resubmitted in February.

Motion to approve Treasurer's Report: 1st: Alex Powell , 2nd: John Parkyn

Motion to approve gift from Downtown Mainstreet: 1st: John Parkyn, 2nd: Lisa Schreiner

Motion to approve Teachers Luncheon: 1st: Alex Powell, 2nd:John Parkyn

Principals Report: Southern Bluffs did a lockdown drill. We work with the kids/classroom teachers and have a conversation during a dedicated time. They read I'm not scared, I'm prepared. We drive home that it is important to listen to the adults in the room. We are required to do the lockdown drill twice a year. In celebration of earning 6,000 bobcat bucks, Mrs. Schreiner brought popcorn to all the students. The kids were so excited. Typically on the last day before break we gather in the cafeteria as a family and sing songs. We are going to bring together each grade level and separate the classes so they can be in the same space as their grade level peers, so we get a little holiday cheer before Wednesday. Jan. 7th Mrs. Schreiner is giving away her job for the day. She is very excited to spend the day with Abby Frost.

Monday, March 7th & Thursday, March 10th 4-8pm are Parent-Teacher Conferences

John will cater one of the days, and PTO will take care of the 2nd one.

Spring Picnic & Fundraiser: getmovingfunhub.com is the website for the walkathon. Alex's vision is doing a month long celebration for this event and use the money raised for the swings. We need to provide half the money up front to order the swings. The price tag is 35k on the swings including installation. We could reach out to the community for help. We can discuss that moving forward. For the actual picnic, If we have a successful fundraiser, we could do the food free for Spring Picnic. We can include Spring Picnic as a celebration of a successful fundraiser and have a great time as a family. We would set the fundraising goal at \$36k. Building and Maintenance will do the prep for the location. Kara, Angie and Alex will work together on the swing project. We could schedule a meeting with Joe Lombina from buildings and grounds prior to the next meeting. We discussed having corporate sponsors to partner with for the walk or grant writing for the swings. We discussed grant opportunities with the Amy Mathy Foundation, LHI, Trane, Gundersen, Mayo etc.

DWP Report: In Sept/Oct we discussed bussing transportation. In November, Brita Rotering discussed partnerships with agencies. Last week Curt Teff gave a presentation about the whole child and how we are meeting mental wellness and social emotional learning as well as physical and academic well being. We have a therapist partner with Gundersen. We received a 20k grant from Mayo to go towards programming. With the COVID pandemic, addressing the social emotional needs of the children are as important as ever.

Open Discussion: If you have any additional thoughts regarding the holiday fair, shoot Alex an email. He will compile the information. The holiday fair did create excitement even without being together.

Motion to approve December's minutes: 1st: Lisa Schreiner 2nd: Kara Seiffert

Next meeting is January 24th @ 6:30pm