



THE ANDERSON SCHOOL (P.S. 334)
PTA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Approved minutes – 12/2/13

Meeting commenced 6:15pm

Attendees: 18 Executive Board Members

I. President's Report – Joy Heinze (Co-President) reported:

A. Minutes: The November Executive Board minutes were approved unanimously with a change to the 8th grade paying for the graduation.

B. 6 half days: For the first half-day, 48 kids signed up and 60 kids showed up. The cost was \$300.

C. Teacher Holiday Gifts: The teacher gift cards have been ordered. Grade reps. should remind parents they can give a token, such as a handmade item, but they are not to start a collection.

D. Votes for next PTA meeting: The afterschool bridge program and budget for half-days will be voted on at the next PTA meeting.

E. Bylaw Changes: Suzanne Kerr (Co-President) will forward link to latest bylaws. We will add a codicil “to the best of our ability” to meet. And we will change the language about confidentiality. Send changes by 1/8/14.

F. Bridge: 12 kids signed up, and the cost is \$3,500. We need to negotiate the contract, but need an out clause in case we don't have enough kids sign up.

G. President's Dues: \$150 is due to the District 3 President's Council.

H. Computers: The Administration is requesting computer replacements. The laptop cart computers are not working due to battery life. We discussed options, including leasing, and needing an IT/academic strategy. Send questions to Joy Heinze and she will collect them.

1. A parent will be coming in to teach all students in “one hour of code”, starting with 8th grade and going down.

2. The school will be upgrading wifi for 2 days, in the next 2 weeks. It will be down for a half day. There will be a guest password.

3. Students are allowed to bring Kindles in for reading. No phones or laptops.

II. Community Affairs: Joli Golden (VP, Community Affairs) reported:

A. Greenflea: The Greenflea contract is coming up in June, when the person who runs it is retiring. Schools are trying to get a meeting with the DOE to get an extension, so can hire someone for a year.

B. Beacon Space: There is a proposal for a 6-12 school for the building. This would help with the need for middle school seats in the district.

III. Treasurer: Nick Winter (Co-Treasurer) said:

A. Auditor: The new Auditor has not returned calls and raised their price. We may investigate alternatives.

IV. Budget: Wil McCoy (Budget Committee Co-Chair) gave his report:

A. Budget: The Budget Committee allocated a line item for the show and drama electives. The Administration submitted budget plan.

B. Surplus: We will discuss the surplus with the Administration in January.

V. Fundraising: Jennie Thompson (VP, Fundraising) sent in a report:

A. Macy's Thanksgiving Day: We had bad weather for this event and incurred expenses of \$2K.

VI. Auction: Joli gave the auction update: There is a meeting tomorrow morning. We have an accelerated schedule. We have the venue and are well staffed. The event will be on March 15th at Riverside Church, which is at 100th Street and Riverside Ave.

VII. Direct Appeal: Amy Davidson (VP, Fundraising) reviewed the calendar for end-of-year fundraising and strategies to improve the e-mails. Also, all funds raised are for the collective, not for specific things.

VIII. SLT: Mindy Wigutow (SLT rep to the PTA) reported that the SLT meeting discussed:

A. CEP: The network reviewed the CEP.

B. Grade Report: In the grade report, parents complained about communication. Suggested all teachers use one website. The SLT is reviewing goals to address this.

B. Parent/Teacher Conferences: Teachers are scheduling their own conferences due to privacy. SLT volunteered to help coordinate and discussed some options.

C. Teacher Rankings: Mindy will send the teacher ranking rubric to the Executive Board.

D. Science Fair Committee: The 8th grade teacher has agreed to not restrict the 8th grade science fair to biology.

E. Safety: 2 undercover people came to schools as a test. Parents should not be insulted if a security agent asks for ID – it's for the safety of the school.

F. Handwriting: Handwriting has disintegrated, and the SLT is looking into addressing it.

G. Test Prep: A question was asked about whether Anderson could just skip test prep. We cannot because currently test scores predict funding and principal/teacher jobs.

IX: New Business:

A. Community Service: Joy Heinze announced that the Administration is vetting the Community Service contract, and tweaking it with their lawyers. The PTA does not need to do any further action on it.

Adjournment: We adjourned at 7:45pm.