

Findley PTO Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2011

1. Call to Order

Ellen Bradley: Co-President

Angie Kelly: Co-President

Also in attendance:

Corinne Frechette: Vice President

Laura Rich: Treasurer

Teri Doherty: Secretary

Contact us at www.findleypto.com

2. Google Apps and Cyber Bullying - Terry Young

Google Apps:

Will be available to everyone in BSD, but will only be used with 3rd, 4th and 5th graders at Findley. For K-2nd graders, their parents can contact Mrs. Young and she can assist them with getting access. This will be a closed system within BSD, and passwords will expire 30 days after a person leaves BSD. It will be used to create and share documents and/or presentations with other students and teachers. It will have an email account associated with it, but students will not be able to use it at school unless it is for a specific use, i.e. to email an expert, and then the teacher will need to assist the student. If students have parental permission to do email at home, they should not use this email address to access other sites.

Cyber Bullying:

- Usually occurs when doing email
- Advise kids – if they cannot say something to someone face-to-face, then they should not be writing it in email
- It will be dealt with very harshly, up to and including expulsion
- If someone gets cyber bullied, they should:
 - Print out the email and keep it for evidence
 - Send a message back stating their parents won't let them email each other anymore if bullying messages are going to be sent
- When emailing:
 - Only serious emails should be sent
 - No forwarding
 - Do not bug people
 - Parents should set appropriate expectations with their kids
- Link for Parents on BSD website: **“How to Protect Your Kids from Cyber-Bullying”**
 - http://www.beaverton.k12.or.us/ed_links/class_resources/safe_internet/index.html (Scroll down to find article.)

3. Minutes Approval

June 2011 Minutes: Approval pending receipt of minutes

September 2011 Minutes: Approved

4. Board Member Reports

Treasurer – Laura Rich:

Laura reviewed Budget Report.

5. Findley Staff Reports

Teacher Representative – Michelle Lockhart:

- Conferences next Thurs. & Friday, Oct. 20 & 21 (Some Wed. evening, Oct. 19)
- Scholastic Book Fair next week
- 1st Grade starting 5 week teacher trade
- 1st Grade had a fire safety presentation from a firefighter dad

Budget – Kathleen Skidmore:

- BSD has \$3-5M deficit to make up during this school year
 - Had deficit of ~\$1.2M, then brought back librarians, water polo and counselors at ~\$3.2M, so got to \$4.4M
 - Made up ~\$3.3M by: \$1.4M given back after April 1, 2011; \$1.9M back from insurance claims on Oct. 1, 2011
 - Net, in the hole ~\$900K, which can be made up during the year, so do not need to make cuts this year
- Not hiring a grant writer
- All schools giving back 15% over 2 years (8% & 7% respectively); Findley will be giving back entire 15% this school year.
- 17 schools lost teachers, some schools gained teachers
- Findley has enough paper to make it through April due to everyone donating two packages of paper

Introducing Carrie Kondor, Student Supervisor – Kathleen Skidmore

- Joining Findley as Student Supervisor, coming from McKinley
- Office is in Rhett's previous office
- Working with kids, covering discipline, kids crying, recess, café, reading groups, coverage for Mrs. Skidmore, etc.

6. Committee Reports

LSC (Local School Committee):

- LSC is currently an elected position, and is too expensive to put on the ballot.
- Thus, LSC is transitioning to a Community Involvement Group, which will be volunteer positions

- Involves monthly meetings on Mondays at 1:30pm and quarterly meetings with Superintendent, covering building use permits, school maintenance, etc.
- Current LSC members are staying on for the current school year unless others show interest.

Volunteer Coordinators:

- Still need Book Fair volunteers for take-down help
- Still need Party Parents for K & 2nd Grade
- Still need Box Top Coordinator

7. New Business

Levy (Miranda Johnson):

- Brochures, lawn and car signs available – contact Ms. Johnson to get them
- Will be canvassing the neighborhoods on two Saturdays – Oct. 15 & 22. For anyone that wants to join in and help go door-to-door, meet at Meadow Park at 9:30am.
- Money will go into the buildings to prevent additional cuts
- Levy will reduce the amount of the cuts, not do away with the cuts altogether
- Shortfall for next school year is approx. \$24M-\$37M, which is approx. 300 teachers or IAs, certified & classified... or... 24 days of school

Other New Business:

- Dragon Dash: Goal exceeded when including company matches. Laura Rich is following up on completion of corporate matching process. Prizes will be announced at assembly on Nov. 4th. Anyone donating \$100 or more (not including a company match) will receive a \$5 credit at the Book Fair.
- PSAs (Public Service Announcements): Ellen Bradley suggested developing PSAs for people new to the school during the year, i.e. transportation, parking lot guidelines, lunch money, notes from home, snow days protocol, lost & found, Dragon Dash, Carnival, Box Tops, escript, etc. Terry Young mentioned 2nd graders are creating some announcements on behavior, but they need more to do, so this may be a good fit.
- Badge Supplies: Stacey Marshall requested \$200 for badge supplies for (1) camera, card, and case to stay in front office and (2) new deeper boxes to put volunteer badges in to keep them better organized. Request approved.
- Laptop for Jon Onishi: \$1,000 requested for a laptop for Mr. Onishi as he does grading for all students in school. Request approved.
- Food Drive: Michelle Lockhart reported the Food Drive kick-off would occur during the Nov. 4th assembly. Requesting food to come in week of Nov. 14th.
- New computers in pods: Identify a subcommittee to include PTO, teachers and administrators to evaluate. FYI – laptops cannot be donated...they must come from BSD.
- December PTO meeting: There will be no PTO meeting in December.