

Findley PTO Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2012

Contact us at www.findleypto.com

1. Call to Order

- Ellen Bradley, Co-President

Also in attendance:

- Corinne Frechette, Vice President
- Teri Doherty, Secretary
- Jason Caffery, Member at Large

2. Minutes Approval

- November 2011 Minutes: Approved

3. Board Member Reports

- Budget Reviewed
 - \$27K requested and approved from PTO funds for spending on Technology Lab (see Staff Report below by Terri Young for details)

4. Findley Staff Reports

- Michelle Lockhart – no updates
- Terri Young RE: Technology Survey & Request
 - Staff survey re: technology preferences split between laptops & iPads.
 - BSD IT Dept. – iPads so new they require a lot of teacher training to make them worthwhile, so more staff development required before iPads purchased. Thus, get laptops.
 - Requesting 22 iMacs to replace 8 yr old eMacs (eMacs to go to pods)
 - Requesting 15 Mac books, 3 to each 5th grade class
 - Cost: ~\$22K for 22 iMacs (~\$1,000 each) & ~ \$15K for Mac books (~\$950 each), totaling ~\$37K
 - **Motion approved to spend \$27K budgeted by PTO for technology lab purchases**
 - iMacs are first priority, then use remaining funds to get however many Mac books are possible
- Kathi Kennedy demonstrated a Science Activity utilizing household lids:
 - (1) Properties of Solids, (2) Classifying (fits the rule or doesn't), (3) Dichotomy (used in botany to classify trees & biology to classify species) whereby a "whole" is divided into exactly two non-overlapping parts, (4) Pi (3.1415, relationship of circumference to diameter)

- Kathleen Skidmore:
 - Held Mad Science assembly to kick-off Science Fair
 - One School One Book program – Where the Mountain Meets the Moon
 - Invitations to go home to families on Fri. Jan. 20
 - Big day planned on Mon. Jan. 23 to kick-off program with an assembly and kids visiting 10 stations and completing a passport
 - Coincides with Chinese New Year, display case set up and school decorated, kids to wear red
 - Assembly in Feb. to showcase Chinese puppetry
 - Read book over 4 weeks, with a huge surprise at end
 - Budget presentations to be held for staff and parents this spring, with evening presentation for parents.

5. Committee Reports

- Box Tops – Angie Kelly to coordinate a work party to trim and prep box tops for mailing. Marianne Higgins to do a display board. Teachers to collect box tops in their room and turn in at office.
- 5th Grade Celebration – Michelle Schleh & Kelly Hansen
 - Will be traditional – similar to what has been done in the past
 - Valentine Grams – pick one design from each 5th grade class, kids get to order and includes tootsie pop to other kids and flower to teachers
 - Maybe a move night just for 5th graders that would be a team builder, to possibly include 2-3 teambuilding activities, would be a small payment to participate, snacks included
 - Soc Hop – should really be a school wide activity, so 5th graders might only do food

6. New Business

- Soc Hop – SOS if we want a soc hop. Need coordinators, possibly from each grade. Scheduled for April 27.
- International food potluck for teachers to be held Feb. 2
- Movie Night – Need someone to shadow Mary Taylor to take over, especially to learn licensing. One Kinder parent volunteered at last movie night, so need to follow up w/ him. Jason can also help out.
- Day custodian, Zack, used \$300 gift card from PTO to buy tools, a few more tools could be used
- Findley Giving Tree assisted 11 families, sincere Thank You from families received
- Brainstormed future topics for PTO meetings
 - Bullying – Trudy Ludwig (local in Portend)
 - Cyber bullying
 - Positive Parenting