

Clinton Elementary PTA
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2016

Present:

Andrea Beck, Ann Bodnar, Eileen Campos, Jennifer Cudmore, Candice Davenport, Jonelle Delk, Paul Gaykowski, Liz Gordon, Kathleen Hong, Michael Mack, April Mason, Jess Murphy, Katie Rumley, Ambra Teague, Norman Villatoro

Absent:

Timothy Beaumont, Arden Canecchi, Sharon Geraghty, Anne Harding, Donna Herley, Annie Horcasitas, Verna Jackson, Maureen Jones, James Lehman, Margy Nolan, Renata O'Beirne

Jonelle Delk moved and Eileen Campos seconded the motion to open the meeting.

Eileen Campos moved and Jonelle Delk seconded the motion to approve the October 2016 meeting minutes.

Ann Bodnar provided the **Principal's** Report:

Clinton Elementary School will be recognized at a Board of Education meeting this fall (probably December 19th) for receiving an award from the state. Clinton is a focus school and has been working with the state to close the achievement gap; Clinton was the only school recognized in 2016 for making significant progress towards closing the achievement gap. In addition, Ms. Bodnar will attend a state meeting to represent Clinton and the work that has been done as a focus school.

Nov 8th was a Professional Development Day for the staff. The district selected social-emotional development as the focus topic this year for elementary schools. Clinton utilized the Leader in Me program to facilitate the training in this area. Ms. Bodnar shared that last year the specialists focused on "Leader in Me" in their PLC group. They also visited Leader in Me schools and reported back. The PD program on the 8th was really well received and the plan is to move forward with implementing the Leader in Me program throughout the school. A representative of a firm that helps schools implement the Leader in Me program will work with Clinton to implement the program.

Mr. Mack and Mrs. Cudmore provided an overview of the implementation that has occurred so far:

- The 5th grade is using leadership binders and learning the seven habits of highly effective people.
- A job board is being created to allow students to take leadership roles in the school.
- The staff set 3 overall school goals for the year
 - read 10,000 books
 - collect 30,000 box tops
 - reach 1 million minutes of motion

- The staff set a mission statement for themselves:
 - Listen to Understand
 - Empower Everyone
 - Achieve Goals
 - Develop Leaders

- The staff created hall behavior goals:
 - Be proactive
 - Eyes forward
 - **Always Quiet**
 - Right is polite

- The staff created recess behavior goals:
 - Proactive
 - Always think
 - Win win
 - Sharpen the saw

The goal of the Leader in Me program will be to develop a common language throughout the school and community to support the development of students' leadership qualities.

Ms. Bodnar also shared that the 5th grade will be fundraising to pay for a field trip to the Liberty Science Center. It will be a 50/50 raffle and the tickets will be \$5. They hope to distribute 20 tickets to each 5th grade student next week.

Liz Gordon provided the **President's** Report:

Teacher Grants: The PTA was able to award several grants based on the proposals submitted by the teachers this fall. Awards included a kinesthetic carpet, a breakout box, a standing desk, and funding attendance at an education conference. The next deadline for applications is December 12th. The focus of grant requests should be on innovation and play.

PTA Holiday Party: The Holiday Party will be at Liz's house on December 2nd at 7:30pm. Please RSVP so Liz has a headcount for the event.

Cafeteria Staff Breakfast - The holiday breakfast honoring the cafeteria staff will be December 12th. A sign-up sheet for donations will be sent out soon. In addition, Kimmberly will prepare a job posting to request student volunteers to design a thank you poster for presentation at the event.

Teacher Holiday Lunch – The lunch will be on December 20th.

Holiday Cookie Exchange – The cookie exchange for the teachers will be December 20th. We will need volunteers and donations for the event.

Jess Murphy provided the **Vice President's** report:

Presidents Council: Dr. Ramos said there have not been any post-election incidents. The BOE candidate fair was well attended. There will also be a delay in the building utilization plan (e.g. re-districting) and no recommendations will be made until the spring. There will be a heat mapping program in the buildings to improve energy efficiency. Paul Roth reviewed the guidelines for managing donations and facilities improvement. Also, with Ms. Adamson's election to the Board of Education there will be a secretary position open on the President's council. If you know any past or current PTA presidents who would be interested please let them know of the opening.

Halloween/Harvest Fest: Thank you to all who helped to make Halloween/Harvest Fest a success. The stations at Harvest Fest included cookie decorating, leaf art, making playdough with autumn colors and scents and pumpkin ring toss. Approximately 40 students attended the event.

Andrea Beck provided the **President Emeritus** report:

The main office renovation should be approved today. The goal is to get everything installed before the winter term begins. . The projected cost for the project was \$14,000 but the actual cost was \$6,500.

The Thanksgiving Food Drive still needs turkey and mashed potato donations. The rest of the donations are in good shape. Ms. Bodnar would like to have a monthly food drive and the sign up genius will be sent out soon.

The Elementors program is underway with the 3rd and 4th graders and is going well.

Jonelle Delk provided the **Treasurer's** report:

\$54,233.09 bank balance

We have the D&O insurance in place now.

The tax exempt status on Amazon is now set up. If you need to purchase supplies on behalf of the PTA contact Jonelle to learn the new process.

We have round and rectangular tablecloths in the closet for events.

The No-Frills fundraiser exceeded the \$4000 goal. We have \$4,777 to date.

Eileen Campos provided the **Fundraising** report:

We will make about \$2,000 with Charleston Wrap orders.

We make about \$250 a month from Amazon.

Election Day Meals to Go & Bake Sale as held on November 8th. We made about \$1,500 dollars. Thank you to all who donated goods especially the teachers.

Display My Art - magnets are in and you will be able to place orders in time for the holidays.

The Tricky Tray will be on January 20th at St. Joseph's and advertising will be sent out soon.

We are on track for fundraising.

Liz Gordon provided the **Membership** report on behalf of **Verna Jackson**:

287 members to date. Thank you to all the teachers that recently signed up.

Liz Gordon provided the **Community Events** report on behalf of **Renata O'Bierne**:

The flyers for the Craft Fair will go out tomorrow. On November 28th Renata will have a meeting to prepare the crafts. More volunteers are needed for the event. Julia is preparing a cutout for the craft fair. Spirit wear will be sold as well.

Candice Davenport provided the **Cultural Arts** and **Achieve** reports:

The laser assembly will be in the morning on November 22nd. There will be an assembly at 8:30 and another one at 9:30.

Katie Rumley provided the **SEPAC/PTO** report:

A focus group is in place to discuss the upcoming Director of Special Services role. Ann Bodnar will be on the search committee. SEPAC/PTO is trying to increase membership. There are currently 300 members but the number of families served by special services is much higher. Efforts are underway to increase awareness.

Liz Gordon provided the **Garden** and **Courier** reports on behalf of **Anne Harding**:

The courier deadline is November 18th.

There were no Public Relations, ELL, Teachers or Members at Large reports.

Jonelle Delk moved to close the meeting and Eileen seconded the motion. The meeting was closed at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Bulkley

