



# United Steele Workers PTA Meeting

Tuesday, January 14, 2019 at 8:10 a.m.  
Steele Elementary School Library

## Attendees

Jennifer Cooper  
Trudi Jackson  
Ann Griner  
Amber Anderson  
Khristine Vadala  
Courtney Hertner  
Chelise Foster  
Megan Harris  
Jasmine Marchman  
Alison Ogren  
Ryan Capp

## Governance

President Jennifer Cooper called the meeting to order at 8:12pm. A quorum was present.

Secretary Ann Griner presented the December meeting minutes for approval. Vice President Trudi Jackson moved to approve the December meeting minutes and Megan Harris seconded; motion carried.

## Principal's Report

Principal Ryan Capp provided the Principal's Report.

- The Random Acts of Kindness program began with a unit on respect in October. In January, they started the Caring unit. This program gives kids social-emotional problem solving skills.
- Teachers are continuing work on math education by forming small groups to teach in front of each other. We are figuring out how well can we plan and anticipate for a small group of students. Sometimes teachers work across grade levels.
- Submitted application for counselor position. We interviewed every teacher on staff about the kids in our classrooms and what we know about them. How many kids might have a family change that could be traumatic. We think we will get the counselor position, but we learned a lot about our kids along the way. We identified about 60 kids who have had some family trauma. Funding for this position is part of the Mill Levy that passed in 2017. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> phase. The new counselor has to be a Licensed School

Counselor, not a social worker. Lisa Korte's position will probably stay at .6 FTE, and the new counselor should be full time. Eventually all elementary schools will have a counselor via Mill Levy funding, we are just asking for one sooner. Free/reduced lunch students have doubled over the last 10 years.

## Budget

Treasurer Alisha O'Connor has stepped down from her duties after her son transferred to another school; in her absence, Amber Anderson gave the budget report. We are seeking a permanent replacement Treasurer.

- There are many outstanding checks.
- The library fund has been paid - \$1000 goes to the school, and it will be earmarked for library or classroom books.
- Alison Ogren said due to her approaching maternity leave, there will be no scholastic book fair in the spring, but we may have an online book fair.
- \$1650 in APEX funds from last year have been paid to the school for Mr. Marchiani's use.
- Mrs. Howard was granted money for a conference, but she's unable to attend, so she is writing the PTA a check directly.
- Courtney Hertner moved to approve budget and Megan seconded, motion carried.
- Waiting on non-contact and supply list for Art. That's the only outstanding enrichment expense we're waiting on receipts for.

## Calendar Review

Trudi provided a calendar review.

- The spring calendar is nearly finalized, we are just waiting on a few dates – hope to get out this week.
- Not a lot planned in January. Ryan said there will be no information night, so we'll concentrate on improving the Steele website to use as a recruitment tool.
- Enrichment starts in February 4th. Forms should come out soon.

## New Business

### • Sips for Steele

Jasmine Marchman updated the PTA on 2020 Sips for Steele planning.

- We have a changed date for Sips due to Ivywild double booking our space. The new date is Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, from 6-9pm.
- Khristine said that Sips for Steele fundraising in the past was great for big-ticket items, but the PTA used to do just fine when we had smaller fundraising projects. Amber said the difference is that now we've established these PTA-sponsored programs with our big fundraising efforts, and no one wants to give anything up.
- Khristine suggested that next year, the PTA should divide the funds for teachers half in one semester, half the second semester.
- Jasmine said she wanted to be very careful with our Sips for Steele goals. Our top three goals are:

- Add an item to the basket
  - Green Team Superheroes
  - PTA general fund
- Discussing a community garden – waiting for some district approval, but we have a backup plan if they don't approve.
- Maybe a technology package for the classroom (that's Mr. Capp's suggestion) – as he gets more details we can hash that out. This is a backup item in case the garden doesn't get approved.
- January 17th is first committee meeting.
- Khristine said the April date is great, because it's more time to get sponsors and auction items.
- Every three years we have to review our bylaws. The fiscal year isn't correct in the current bylaws –it should be August 1 – July 31. A 2018 amendment to the teacher rate for PTA membership needs to get corrected to \$6.25. For next 30 days, the bylaws are available on the Steele PTA website for review. In February, we will review comments, and in March we will vote on the suggestions.
- Amber suggested it would be prudent to specify the PTA treasurer uses Quickbooks (under article 13).
- **Focus Day**  
Khristine updated the PTA about Focus Day, which will be Friday, March 6, with an Olympics theme.
  - Working with TrueSport and parent contacts.
  - Assembly speaker is Kara Winger (javelin) – either closing or opening.
  - There will be an art station.
  - Mr. Capp said it sounds like we should consider not doing SteeleTV that day. Khristine said maybe we can use SteeleTV to show the Olympic Training Center movie as a kick-off. Mr. Capp says we can delay STV if you find you need that time. Mrs. Ogren says she finds it's hard to show long videos on STV because quality declines. The Olympic Training Center movie is only six minutes, so that's probably ok.
  - Will start looking for room volunteers soon.
- Khristine said the Chipotle fundraiser for Shakespeare is February 25<sup>th</sup>.
- The Polar Express fundraiser for the Estes Park trip made over \$1,000.

## Old Business

- **21<sup>st</sup> Century Library Funding**  
There was lengthy discussion during the January meeting regarding the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Library. Mr. Capp has updated numbers for outstanding wish list items.
  - Original \$6,000 estimate for graffiti wall was too much– we decided to put \$2500 aside for wall.
  - Jen said from Dec we discussed wanting a motion to give \$11,350 to the school to close out the 21st Century commitment.

- Amber said we can comfortably write that check and have enough money to be solvent, especially since we have several other fundraisers coming up.
- Amber moved to approve issuing \$11,350 to Steele to fund the remaining 21<sup>st</sup> Century Library project and Courtney seconded; motion carried.

Jennifer adjourned the meeting at 8:59am.