



United Steele Workers PTA Meeting

Tuesday, October 8, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.
Steele Elementary School Library

Attendees

Jennifer Cooper
Alisha O'Connor
Ann Griner
Shanna Weaver
Floyd Helderman
Carrie Kalmanowitz
Anne Michelle Johnson
Megan Harris
Khristine Prickett Vadala
Cindy DeLoach
Ryan Capp

Governance

President Jennifer Cooper called the meeting to order at 6:06pm. A quorum was present.

Mary Coleman, District 11 School Board Member, gave a short address concerning goals for the school board, and how they are working to improve funding, student engagement, and student achievement.

Secretary Ann Griner requested approval for the 10 September 2019 PTA Meeting Minutes. Megan Harris moved and Alisha O'Connor seconded; motion carried.

Principal's Report

Principal Ryan Capp provided the Principal's Report.

- Mr. Capp recently held goals meetings with each teacher in which statistical and personal growth goals were set for the year personal. He said it is a good time to check in and see how the year is starting, and see what else the teachers need. Classroom observations have started. Long-term teachers get one formal observation, while teachers with three or fewer years' experience are observed twice a year.
- Went to a meeting last week where two organizations (SchoolMint and PowerSchool) presented a new registration system to adopt. These programs would replace the in-person choosing system currently in place. One of the systems was especially helpful with comparing different school options so parents can make good decisions.

- Our professional learning community is meeting with a professional learning coach with a big focus on math, especially writing in math (story problems).
- Teachers are studying two books – a math workshop book, and one covering visible learning to assist with teaching methodologies.
- Field day was really fun and really cold. Mrs. Alden came back to lend her expertise and was a great help.
- Mr. Marchiani has been ill with a ruptured appendix.
- The Random Acts of Kindness social-emotional education program began, and will continue with one lesson per week.
- We will look at Galileo testing students are doing this week (2nd -5th grade). Kindergarten and 1st grade will look at reading progress.
- Jasmine Marchman asked if we can request the DBLS testing for Kindergarten and 1st grade conferences. Mr. Capp said they will be available.
- Anne Michelle Johnson asked if we could do conferences after Halloween. Mr. Capp said that it's a calendar committee question, and also involves union questions.
- Alisha asked why Field Day is always the first week of October. Mr. Capp said spring field days always get snowed out. Also, Colorado College allows us to use their soccer field for free, so we have to work around the women's soccer schedule.

Budget

Treasurer Alisha O'Connor gave the budget report for the period of July 1 through September 30. October transactions will be available during the November meeting.

- Paid out PTA membership dues.
- T-shirt sales actually made a small profit of \$32. We actually predicted a loss.
- Used book sale profit was not as high as last year.
- Pictures in the Park profit will be presented at the November meeting in.
- The check for Bleating Heart Night at Goat Patch will come later in October.
- Teacher accounts have been paid out.
- The quarterly King Soopers account payout will arrive soon.
- We should continue to push passive fundraising activities like Amazon Smile and King Soopers.
- Megan asked about the Shoot for the Stars fundraising effort. Jennifer said it's ongoing.
- Cindy DeLoach said having the actual account balance listed in the Treasurer Report would be useful. Alisha said she can provide that in future reports.
- Khristine Prickett Vadala moved to approve the October 8, 2019 Budget Report; Jasmine Marchman seconded. Motion carried.

Calendar Review

Ann provided a calendar review.

- Digital images from the Pictures in the Park fundraiser will be delivered soon.
- Monster Mash is October 23rd.– keeping same format, 10/23

- Pizza station, baked goods, popcorn, root beer floats.
- Social media and other parent communications will go out soon, along with a save the date flyer.
- Tickets will sell before and after school on the 18th, 21st & 22nd.
- Anyone who would like to help contact Carrie Kalmanowitz.
- Megan suggested pushing reusable cups for coffee pop-ups.
- Shanna – are the pop-ups coordinated with Mr. Capp’s coffee talks? Jennifer said the idea has been suggested, but the parents coordinating the pop-up coffee shops are setting the schedule.
- Stars Gymnastics will host an open house/fundraiser on November 10th. Steele parent Josh West has created a PTA Google calendar. Instructions for accessing and subscribing are posted on the Steele PTA site (<https://www.d11.org/domain/1738>).

Old Business

Thanks to Carrie for a great Walk/Bike to School Day!

New Business

- Khristine provided an overview of 5th grade fundraising.
 - Shakespeare – cost \$3800 that has to be absorbed by the parents. Depending on the kids participating, it costs \$70-80 per kid, then do fundraising. Chipotle fundraiser, ads in the programs. April 24th.
 - Estes – capstone program – 3-day trip to Estes funded by school and parents. Per-student fee, bus fee, scholarships for kids who can’t afford ~\$150/kid.
 - Polar Express movie fundraiser 13 Dec. K-2 semi supervised.
 - FYI – one parent looking into bringing back the yearbook.
- Khristine is also chairing Focus Day, which will have an Olympic theme this year. There will be discussion on exact dates later, and Khristine will work on securing commitments for room themes.
- Skate City has offered a fundraising opportunity; if anyone is interested in volunteering to lead the effort, please contact someone on the PTA board. There should little work involved; Skate City provides a bus and takes care of most things at the rink. Jasmine said that PE teachers usually coordinate Skate City events, though parent volunteers are still needed.
- Allison Kelly is taking care of the box tops program. You can download a box top app and your class can get twice the points. The class with most box tops gets extra recess.
- Steele Star mom Chelise Foster started the Waldo Waldo 5k, which is no longer being held. This year, she is starting the Gallop 5k through Garden of the Gods, where entrants race on stick horses. The event is October 19th, and we are hoping to offer a discounted entry fee to Steele families.
- Anne Michelle had questions concerning validation of fundraising - have we talked about a bottom line balance to maintain in the PTA account, or a top

amount we are shooting for? What are we doing for the kids, is there a specific project?

- Jennifer explained the \$25,000 raised at Sips for Steele last year was earmarked for 21st Century Library project. As the term came to an end in May, the PTA recognized that it didn't have enough money in the account to sustain the next school year's activity. The PTA voted to sustain \$12,000 in the account to pay for our teacher accounts, membership fee, insurance premium, etc. The PTA planned to recoup the \$12k this year and finish the 21st Century Library project in order to keep the PTA solvent. That decision was made at the end of the 2018-2019 school year.
- Shanna Weaver said that last year, when the library numbers were coming together, we had a hard time getting concrete prices, so we may not have understood solid fundraising goals.
- We are not identifying a single fundraising goal for the year; we may identify one for Sips, but right now we are focusing on our commitments from last year.
- A request was made to post the budget prior to the next meeting so members have time to review and ask questions during the meeting.
- Floyd had questions about fundraising – Jen explained. It was suggested that the PTA provide a summary to help explain the fundraising situation.
- Lisa Dewil will be the guest speaker at the November meeting. She created a program in Evergreen, CO, called [Green Team Superheroes](#). 4th & 5th graders apply for the program and teach the rest of the students about green initiatives. She will talk about what it would take to launch a similar program at Steele. We plan to record the presentation so teachers can learn about it, too.

Jennifer adjourned the meeting at 7:47pm.