

Defer PTO

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors and Officers

September 15, 2015

Defer Elementary School

7:00 PM

Attendance: Becca Ozar, Renee Palazzolo, Kim Rhodes, Emily Summerfield, Brian Summerfield, Christina Michaud, Mary Beth Coffey, Heather Wiegand, Karen Sullivan, Aaron Oestreich, Janette High, Megan Carpenter, Sandy Adams, Brooke Macusa, Lindy Holloway, Kelly Warnick, Dani

1. **Call to Order and Introductions:** 7:05pm by Renee Palazzolo
2. **Member Presentation/Request:** Defer wear presentation -- Megan Carpenter
Goal will be to make ordering more streamlined, online orders through the Defer website. There will be no inventory. School seal is something that will not/cannot change (Monteith calls it their "vintage design", but there will be other options (graphic/text/combo of two). Designs include initial with claws, "dragons" with tail, with or without claws. Proposal for fall: reusable shopping bags; baseball caps (embroidery); adult/youth hoodies, t-shirts (long & short sleeve), adult ¼ zip sweatshirt (embroidery). Proposals for winter: fall items, ornament, fleece hats. Online/order form ordering; orders will be delivered to school. Prices will be set at cost -- this is not a fundraiser. We will have to cover the cost of credit card transactions (3%) online, though. Suggestion was made to allow parents to select "gift" so that items may be discretely delivered. \$500 budget was confirmed for start up.
3. **Review of August Minutes** - Motion to approve as written K Ozar, seconded by C Michaud, motion carried.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** Emily Summerfield - August ending balance \$54,399.51. Total reserve funds \$39,547.59. Motion to approve by K Ozar, second by R Palazzolo, motion carried.
 - a. Budget: Review of 2015-2016 budget. Total proposed income: \$15,300/total proposed expenses: \$15,300. Amendment proposed to change Art/Field Day back to \$400, taken out of Teacher Enrichment, which drops to \$4725. Motion to approve by K Ozar, second by C Michaud, motion carried.
 - b. Tax exempt status forms are in the school office with the rest of the PTO financial information.
5. **Vice President's Report:** Becca Ozar - attended informal council meeting on the 1st. District goal is to have a preschool in each elementary school. It will be tuition based, so children from outside of GP will be allowed to enroll. Some discussion even of opening one or two preschools this year. District is asking people to use #oneGP to promote district unity.
6. **Committee Reports:**
 - a. Volunteers – Heather Weigand - all standing chairs have been emailed a list of volunteers. Chairs are to contact everyone to acknowledge and welcome them, and give information as to when more information is coming. There was a bit of glitch with names, so chairs will also need to ask with email to use. Open positions: beautification, disability workshop, co-chairs needed for lunchtime enrichment.

Shadow for Pumpkin Patch & BINGO is needed. K Rhodes will help Heather find a shadow for Spring Social.

- b. Fundraising – Aaron & Dana Oestreich - Electronic invitations will be sent out instead of doing an email blast. Banners for fun run are being made so that they can be used in the future. Kick off Thurs Sept 24 with an assembly, information will be send home that day. Recommendation from Let’s Move organization to keep the online donations option open for a week after the event. Run is Oct 22, donation deadline is now Fri Oct 30. Two heats during the day (k-2, 3-5); 20 minutes each. C Michaud will let media know that this event is going on. Pierce fun run will be the week earlier. Discussion about making a connection between the two fun runs to create excitement about our own (have 4th/5th graders cheer on the “big kids”, invite Pierce band to play while our kids run) Rewards: signing up/participation, top winners (breakfast at Cornwall, Cabbage Patch, possibly Red Crown), party for biggest collection of donations at Robot Garage. Everyone has an opportunity to win a reward. A business has approached Aaron to sponsor the fun run; discussion about using the money for snacks, etc instead of more t-shirts. Dani (works for Pepsi) has offered to get together 400 units of water for the fun run. She and Aaron will connect to iron out details.
 - c. Membership – Kevin & Becca Ozar - 109 families have joined PTO.
 - i. A to Z Directories: Directions to join as a new family through A to Z Directories will go home in Thurs folders. An email will be going out families soon to explain the new directories. People will be able to join the PTO any time and still have their information added to the the online directories. A to Z has guaranteed that the ad prices will not change for our vendors.
 - ii. Welcome Back Picnic will be by the playground. PTO Board members will bring desserts.
 - d. Hospitality – Kim Rhodes - no report
 - e. School Board Observer – Vacant - B Summerfield is temporarily filling in for us. Superintendent goals have been tabled until they can be written in a way to be voted upon. Board passed plan to put in place Crisis 1 planning to keep the schools safe. Discussion of class sizes and projections; lighter than we’ve been in years past at elementary school level. Defer came off Focus School list. Residency was also discussed; verification happens with new students and at 6th and 9th grades. Collections investigations will be started against students/families who are non-residents.
 - f. Communications - Christina Michaud - Next due date for newsletter: Wed., Sept. 30 and published Oct 8. FB and Yahoo having lots of new member requests and directions to join will go out in this week’s newsletter. Asst communication moderator is Heather Wiegand.
7. **Teachers Report:** Mrs. High - 21 teachers have joined PTO with more coming. Staff is asking us to re-name the Muffins with Mom/Donuts with Dad to make it more inclusive.
8. **Principal’s Report:** Karen Sullivan -
- a. Enrollment as of 9/15 is 300. Largest class is 29 students (4/5 magnet), smallest is 15 (2nd grade), average classroom size is 21. 74 new students this year. 14 classrooms. Staffing is complete.

- b. Seems as though everyone is reading along with the One School, One Book. A parent will be in the library every day starting 9/16 to read to those who did not get a chance to read the night before. Thanks to B Summerfield for donating his Board of Ed earnings toward the program.
- c. Green Squad starts Friday: students who have volunteered to keep the school green. Lunchroom recycling will start Monday.
- d. Carol Cross is in charge of Student Council; goal is to connect with the organization Warm Hearts in Africa and make this the one big project for Student Council. Organization buys lanterns for families in Malawi.
- e. Chrome books arrived last Friday; teachers are starting to work through how to use them.
- f. Mrs. Raab and two school custodians painted the games on to the blacktop; she'd like reimbursement for the paint.
- g. \$1250.12 of \$2000 was used to buy classroom books, remaining will be used for birthday books. No more birthday treats for classrooms for the safety of all kids. Food can be allowed for classroom parties (like Halloween, etc.).
- h. Minutes need to be sent to Karen Sullivan and Linda Lynch.

President's Report: Renee Palazzolo - No report

9. Old Business -

- a. Class Shirts: Because we did not order the quantity we anticipated (we're low), the prices will go up. B Ozar is in talks with Albatross to negotiate a standing rate given that this will be recurring order.

10. New Business - None

11. Member Comment - None

12. Adjourn - 9:00. Next meeting October 13.