

Emerson Elementary PTO Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2013

Regular Monthly Meeting (6:00-8:00 p.m.)

1) Welcome (6:00-6:05)

- a) Welcome to new participants; introductions; sign-in sheet
- b) Review of agenda; handouts; questions

2) Vista Update - Kristin Armstrong (6:20-6:30)

- Will be interviewing new Vista candidates next week – Kristin's last day will be July 26th – will have one week of overlap with the new Vista to help train
- Need to recruit and train someone on PTO news blast
- Tuesday Nights Lights – two remaining events: Multicultural Family Night (May 28th) and a summer reading send off (June 4th)
- May 2nd at 6 pm - Action Team Meeting to help plan Tuesday Night lights for next year

3) Officer and Principal Reports (6:30-6:50)

- a) Treasurer (Patty Richardson) -
- b) Principal (Karen Kepler) –
 - School will be getting a new shed – the location will be changed in order to gain two more handicap parking spaces
 - Playtime productions of the Red Shoes will be on May 8th
 - Superintendent Cheatham visited Emerson the Thursday before spring break – met with staff, attended leadership meeting
 - Emerson school's newsletter will be used as a model for other schools
 - Fresh fruit and veggie grant application for next year was submitted
 - Looking for benches for the front entrance – by the auditorium
 - In the process of selecting about 10 photos of Emerson events to be displayed as you come up the stairs from door 3A
 - Would like for the Emerson bumper sticker to be blown up to be displayed in the atrium
 - School will provide cupcakes and cookies for the picnic/elevator dedication through food service, along with fruits and veggies –will have Yogurt parfaits for the 5th grade and kindergarten graduations
 - Outdoor stage to be built May 15-19th – thank you to Ms. Schraam's uncle for taking the construction lead on this project

4) Committee Reports and Volunteer Opportunities (6:50 – 7:15)

- a) Fundraising – Square One Report – still waiting on a final total - Amy Maurer offered to help organize Square 1 fundraiser for next year
- b) Events
 - Science Night April 23 -(Thank you to Anne Gassere, Cathy Perry, UW Slow Food and Kiwanis for organizing, etc. – still looking for some volunteers to help – Willy St Co-op can provide some fruit)
 - School Dance May 3 (school will provide fruits/veggies with grant) – still looking for some help with set up, etc.
 - Thank you to Keith Pollock and Shaili Pfeiffer for being willing to organize beautification days going forward
 - Next Tuesday there will be an Events Meeting at 6 pm

5) Staff Grants/Appreciation

- Approved a \$160 staff grant to Ms. Grindrod for new sand toys, along with a storage chest to keep them
- Approved a \$35 staff grant to Ms. Gallagher for second graders to have the UW Entomology Dept., bring in their bug collection on May 10th at 1:30 pm
- Approved a \$105.50 staff grant to Ms. Gallagher to take her students to the UW Engineering Expo, which is held every other year. Depending on how well that goes, they may look to expand this to all the second grade classrooms.
- Motion approved that remainder of any unused staff grant money gets allocated for end of year teacher classroom needs
- Will have a staff appreciation lunch on May 6th – Kristin will explore Emerson neighborhood restaurants about catering

6) Preparation for next year (7:15 – 7:45)

- a) Interest forms for next year's officers will be circulated via backpack mail – plan to vote on officers at the May meeting
- b) Fundraising goals/ methods
 - Discussed having boxes ready at registration to collect used shoes – An organization has offered to pay Emerson \$.50 per pound of every recycled shoe that will be donated around the globe.

7) New Business (7:45-7:55)

8) Review of Minutes for approval – Amy Kasper (7:55-8:00)

9) Adjournment

Thanks for Coming!

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 14, Meeting 6:00 - 8:00

Questions or comments? Please call or write Amy Maurer (513-1397, asmaurer@gmail.com) or Melanie Smith (brendonandmelanie@tds.net).