

**Florence Community PTA
General Membership Meeting Minutes
19 January 2016
Siuslaw Elementary School Library**

Call to Order--The meeting was called to order by Diane McCalmont, President, at 4:03pm. Eight members and one guest were in attendance; a quorum was present.

Minutes--Jennifer Wilks moved and Mike Kilgore seconded to approve the December minutes; motion passed.

Financial Report--Jennifer reported a current balance of \$12,888.27.

Correspondence--PTA received a Christmas card from Police Chief Tom Turner; and a grant report from Kerri Tatum regarding visiting SWOCC for the exploration of the Titanic.

Program/ Guest Speaker-- Lynn Anderson, Director of the Indian Education program, presented a short history of the program and its current activities. The presentation included the challenges of supporting the Native American culture while also focusing on academics, e.g. teaching about raptors as part of a science lesson along with the cultural meanings of feathers. Indian Ed currently has 176 students registered across the three schools. The after school program is free and operates Monday-Thursdays from 3-6pm; homework support, a meal, and transportation is provided. The Indian Ed program also helps Native families with resource referrals, cultural and language assistance, and navigating the school system. Their 23rd Annual PowWow will be held on March 19th, beginning at 1pm, at SMS. The event is free and all community members are welcome.

Committee Reports

- **Box Tops:** Jennifer reported that the SES challenge will start March 7th and end two weeks later, just before spring break. The SMS challenge earned \$2,145; unfortunately, many expired box tops had to be discarded.
- **Membership:** Diane reported we have 95 members currently, with a goal of 150 members by March 1st. She noted that members don't need to volunteer additional time; simply being a dues-paying member helps the PTA to support students. It was suggested to submit a press release emphasizing that no additional time was required of members.

Unfinished Business--Diane reported no updates on the cotton candy machine. She spoke to Vanessa and the Wrestling Club was not interested in buying the machine.

New Business

- Carol Jolley made a request for the **SHS Career & Job Fair** to be held April 28th, at the Florence Events Center. She requested two Viking hoodies to be donated for use as raffle prizes during the Fair. Mike moved to donate the two hoodies and Jenny Velinty

seconded; motion passed. PTA will donate one Large and one XL, with a note that recipients can exchange for a different size if needed. Carol reported that the Fair has 24 different organizations committed to attend already, including LCC, Phagans' Beauty School, SWOCC, Oregon Coast Culinary Institute, OIT, Northwest College of Construction, USFS, Oregon Lodging Association, and others.

- **2015-2016 Teacher/Staff Grants:** Four applications were received and approved: \$250 to help recertify the culinary kitchen at SHS, when completed, this will allow LCC to hold classes there also; \$217 to Mr. Whistler for student workbooks on short nonfiction; \$250 to SMS for crisis supplies; \$250 to SMS for the PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention System) program.
- Tryouts for the **Talent Show** will be February 10-11th, in the SES music room. Selected participants will be announced February 17th. The Talent Show will be held March 10-11th at the FEC.
- Diane reported that the state **PTA Convention** will be held in Eugene this year, April 15-16th, at the Hilton. Registration is \$185 per person or \$295 for two people. There is also a \$100 one day registration option, or a \$150 student registration. Florence Community PTA has funds budgeted to send up to 6 people to the conference this year. Interested persons should contact Diane.
- Diane discussed preliminary plans for a **Multi-Cultural Event** to be held as part of the **School of Excellence** recognition. The event will be held in January 2017; plans are to include ethnic foods, music, entertainment, and demonstration booths. Diane welcomes volunteers who would like to work on this project.
- The spring Scholastic Book Fair will be held February 29- March 4th. Traditionally, PTA has organized a **Book Fair Diner** in conjunction with the Fair, to encourage families to come and shop at the Fair. If the Diner is to continue this year, a new coordinator and volunteers are needed to help with the event. Please contact Diane if interested.

Door Prize Drawing Winner: Bou Kilgore

Announcements-- Diane reported that PTA gave each School Board member a Vikings t-shirt in recognition of **School Board Appreciation Month**. She noted that PTA does not yet have 100% member participation by School Board Members this year.

Diane briefly explained the **Better Oregon Initiative** which is a ballot measure to increase Oregon corporate minimum taxes to support education, healthcare and senior services. Florence PTA is considering supporting the Initiative as an organization. Diane will send information to members and the item will be discussed and voted on at the February meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15pm. The next meeting will be February 16th, at 4:00pm; Becky Holbrook, volunteer Art teacher at SES, will be the speaker.

Submitted,
Susy Lacer, Florence PTA Secretary