

**Peterson PTA Minutes**  
**11/09/17**

Meeting called to order at 9:18am

**Allison Landstrom, Principal**

- Mrs. Landstrom is excited to start the Peterson Parent Diversity Advisory Council (PPDAC). The mission is to advance Peterson's commitment to equity and educational excellence. A small group of people have meant to brainstorm events that would benefit our community. The 4 events that the council would like to have this school year are a Multicultural Night which is scheduled for May 25<sup>th</sup>. The other events are a Book Study and/or Article Discussion, a World Café and a Read-in for students to come into the library and have parents come in and read a book about the holiday/culture/event etc.
- A World Café' is a structured conversational process for knowledge sharing in which groups of people discuss a topic at several tables, with individuals switching tables periodically and getting introduced to the previous discussion at their new table by a "table host".
- We will need people to volunteer to help with these events. A Connect ED will be coming out tonight at 5:00pm asking for volunteers. Please consider getting involved.
- Mrs. Landstrom has been getting requests for school tours from families that have come to Peterson from private schools. She has explained that tours are not something we do here at Peterson.
- Soon, it will be time again for the 5 Essentials survey. Peterson needs 20% of families to complete the survey.

**Sarah Siffer - Vice President**

- Christine, Julie and Jessica couldn't be here today.
- We need to review and approve the meeting minutes from September and October. Asked everyone to review the minutes from the last 2 meetings.
- Asked for a motion to be made to approve the September meeting minutes. Leslie Shepherd made a motion to approve the September minutes. Jen Tedrow seconded the motion. The September meeting minutes were approved.
- Asked for a motion to be made to approve the October meeting minutes. Val Gremillion made a motion to approve the October minutes. Kavita Arora seconded the motion. The October meeting minutes were approved.
- At the last meeting we discussed having a write a check/membership drive in November. After talking about it with the board and other parents, we have decided to move the drive to early Spring.
- We will use the money raised with the write a check drive to fund the Spring PTA activities.

**Sarah Siffer, Vice President - School Supply Kits**

- Julie Sassano is working on this. We will be using the same company as we used last year. Last year there were a few problems but we usually there are no issues.

**Sarah Siffer, Vice President - Brick Sale**

- More information to come on this. It was suggested to open the sale for parents who might want to get a brick for their kids as a gift over the holidays.
- We will work on getting a flyer out with all the details on how to order a brick.
- Any bricks ordered will be placed in the walk way in the Spring. Usually we would like to have 30 bricks to place at once due to costs.

**Sarah Siffer, Vice President - Budget**

- Jessica couldn't be here today.
- Sarah asked for everyone to review the budget.
- Sarah asked for a motion to be made to approve the budget. Prasad Athanikar made a motion to approve the budget. Claire Evans seconded the motion. The budget was approved.

### **Val Gremillion - Hospitality Committee**

- We will be providing lunch for the teachers on November 13<sup>th</sup>. We are catering everything from Sam's Club. The teachers will be having wraps, fruit & cheese trays, cookie trays, chips, water and tea.
- We are also purchasing a few snack items for the teachers for later in the day.
- The Holiday Lunch will be in December and we will be doing a sign-up genius to ask for donations.

### **Leslie Shepherd - Watchdogs**

- The program is good.

### **Sarah Siffer, Vice President - After School Activities**

- Neha Patodia couldn't be here today. Nothing new to report.

### **Emily Brosnahan, Spirit Wear**

- Emily couldn't be here today. Spirit Day is tomorrow.

### **Sarah Siffer, Vice President - Dinner Nights**

- Beth Sessa & Hannah Niziolek couldn't be here today. The next dinner night is November 15<sup>th</sup> at Chipotle.

### **Joann Frisby, Ink Recycling & Box Tops**

- Keep turning any ink cartridges that you have.
- Congratulations to Mr. Slick's 5<sup>th</sup> Grade class for coming in first for collecting the most box tops. Mrs. Quinn's 2nd class came in second. Both classes have won an extra recess or extra PE time.
- Overall, Peterson students collected 6,850 box tops, which is \$685.00 for our school. Great job!!
- There are 2 submission dates for Box Tops, one in November and one in March, so keep collecting and sending in those box tops!

### **Sarah Siffer, Vice President - Online & Print Directories**

- We have the data and are currently working on getting all the information gathered to get the print directory going. We have one sponsor this year.
- For the online directory, the data has been sent to Membership Toolkit and we are working on getting the data in the correct format. Once the directory is ready, we will let PTA members know.

### **Jen Tedrow - IPPC**

- The district is starting a new community project called Engage 204. The district wants feedback on what is important to parents when it comes their kids' education knowing there will be difficult budget decisions to be made.
- The first Engage meeting is on Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at Still Middle School, from 7:00pm to 9:00pm.
- The coat drive was an incredible success. Peterson alone had 13 large boxes full of donations. It was quite impressive.
- Some other Elementary schools have started doing Spelling Bees. Maybe this is something Peterson can consider doing. The other schools are looking for different schools to compete against.
- Neuqua Valley won the National Blue-Ribbon Award. This is a great honor and a very difficult award to win.
- District 204 helps support the program 360 Youth Services in Naperville. They have programs to help families with topics like substance abuse and peer pressure.

### **Sarah Siffer, Vice President - PDAC**

- Neha Patodia couldn't be here today. We discussed Peterson starting their own PPDAC during Mrs. Landstrom's executive report.

### **Jen Tedrow - Holiday Shop**

- Kim Wightkin is once again running the Holiday Shop for Peterson. Jen is helping out as liaison.
- The Holiday Shop this year is on December 6<sup>th</sup>. There will be daytime and evening shopping hours.
- Envelopes will be coming home soon if you choose to send money in with your kids to shop.
- There will be volunteers to help the kids shop and to wrap presents.
- The Monday after Thanksgiving we will have the class schedule of when each class will shop.
- If anyone knows of any crafters who would like to buy a table to join the shop, please let us know.
- If anyone has any bows, bags, name tags or any other wrapping they would like to donate, all is welcomed.

### **Sarah Siffer, Vice President - Unfinished Business**

- There was concern expressed over how long the kids wait outside in the car rider line when it is cold out. Mrs. Landstrom assured everyone that the school does it best to make sure the kids aren't outside too long when it is cold and when it does get colder, less kids will be called outside at time to minimum their time outside.
- Mrs. Landstrom also reminded everyone to please not be on their cell phone when picking up their kids in the car rider line.

### **Sarah Siffer, Vice President - New Business**

- Jen Tedrow wanted to let everyone know that Peterson will once again be partnering with Fry Elementary in a Toiletry Drive to help local families. Flyers will be coming home soon. The drive will be 1 week.
- The PTA will look into if we have an Amazon Smile account and get back to everyone with the details.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55am