



Condit Elementary PTO

Minutes of the September 27, 2016 PTO meeting

Call to Order: Peggy Chang called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. in the Condit Cafeteria.

Ms. Fowler asked members to review the April 4, 2016 meeting minutes distributed by Jennifer Medeiros, and asked for a motion to approve them into record. Peggy Chang made a motion to approve the minutes and Ali Septimus seconded this motion. There were no opposing hands raised in the audience.

Officer Reports

Treasurer

Melanie Carter distributed the current PTO Budget. She explained that the first portion of the budget lists those committees that generally make money for the PTO. The bottom portion lists those that we fund. The budget was passed with a verbal vote. She then clarified item 2050 stating that the PTO gives every teacher \$300 dollars to use in their classrooms. She also explained that item 1110 School Supplies looks like a bigger income than it actually is because we always front money to buy school supplies in the spring. A question was asked regarding the money marked for New School (3201). Ms. Carter explained that we have budgeted money to be spent this year on school improvements, possibly outdoor upgrades. She stated that no significant amount of money would be spent without a PTO vote.

Reach for the Stars Family

Terry Leavitt-Chavez reminded everyone that the RFTS campaign has begun. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and that funds raised pay for programs such AR, science box, Field Day, and ancillary classes. Pink fliers went home in Wednesday Folders. Donations can be made online or hardcopies can be turned into the office.

Committee Reports

Boosterthon: Ali Septimus reported that Boosterthon will take place on Nov.17th at the park across the street. It is our one student fundraiser of the year. Last year we had excellent participation and raised money for the benches in front of the new school. This year's funds will go towards improvements to our outdoor space.

Green Generations: Katherine Gratwick explained that the Beautification committee has reinvented itself and will now include a focus on environmental awareness and education. Plants have been added to classrooms that would like them and 3rd graders are going to start composting one day a week.

SDMC: Katherine Gratwick/Dan Greenberg/Sonu Mathew presented the HISD Recapture video. Officially HISD is not taking a position on the recapture proposition, but is encouraging everyone to watch the video <http://www.houstonisd.org/recapture>. For more information please talk to Ms. Gratwick or Ms. Mathew.

Gala: Jami Fowler stated that this year Condit will host a gala. Michal Lutfak will be chairing the event. They are forming a committee so please sign up if you'd like to get involved.

Snow Cone Friday Update: Jami Fowler said that we will be having them on the K-2 playground, but that we need to be mindful of the new landscaping so they may be cancelled if the ground is too wet.

Carnival: Meredith Vela and Heidi Dholakia stated the carnival will take place on October 22. They shared that this year tickets for the carnival and raffle will be available ahead of time. Presale notices went home in Wednesday folders. They also said that people will be able to pay for their presale tickets using Paypal.

Volunteer Positions: Jami Fowler stated that we are still looking for people to help chair the following PTO committees: Fun Run, Hospitality, and Condit Night Out. Please let her or Lauren Habiby know if you can lend your time.

Principal

Mr. Greenberg started by talking about recapture and what a yes vote or no vote could mean for HISD as a whole and Condit specifically. A yes vote would force HISD to start paying back the state attendance credits because we are property wealthy. A no vote would force the state to make good on their threat to take high value commercial properties and reallocate their taxes for other districts. He stated that a loss of funding would force him to look at everything that isn't a teacher to balance the budget. Mr. Greenberg reminded us that on Wednesday evening at 6pm there is an opportunity to hear the new Superintendent speak and answers questions at Bellaire High School. Mr. Greenberg told us that our attendance is a bit down from projected numbers. We won't know anything until October 28 when HISD does their attendance count. He also gave an update on construction completion around the school. The marquee is being built now and will be placed on South Rice. The 3rd-5th playground is almost complete. We are still waiting on fencing. The Condit arch needs to be reinforced. We may be able to use the parking lot next week. Half of the spaces will be for teachers and staff and half will be for parents. Mr. Greenberg also shared some good news about our accountability ranking. Condit was one of only 28 schools that received all 6 distinctions. Mr. Greenberg reminded us that every family needs to fill out their application for free and reduced lunch because that is how our Title One status is determined. Title One funding pays for lots of important things at our school.

Adjournment: 9:07 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jennifer Medeiros, 2016-2017 PTO VP of School Services / Support.