

## PTA Meeting Minutes

### May 5, 2022

1. Call Meeting to Order- 3:03pm; introductions
2. Review and Approval of April Meeting Minutes (Rachelle Dodge)- motion to approve by Andrea Thompson ; seconded by Christine Simpson
3. Staff Spotlight - Andrea Thompson- Paraprofessional and parent at PV; born and raised in Atlanta and moved to Denver in 2005. Has two daughters: 6th grader at Everitt and 3rd grader at PV. She's been working at PV for 3 years helping with lunch and recess. She also helps with academic support and is working with several grades at recess. She's the posture and apple police!
4. Treasurer Report (Laura Clase)- We have a lot of teachers turning in receipts and reimbursing expenses. All is good for funds to cover expenses for this year and we will have carryover for next year. Budget meeting will be occurring over the summer- reach out if you'd like to be part of that discussion.
5. President's Report (Laura Clase & Katie Critchfield)-
  - a. End of Year Celebration at Chester Portsmouth Park- After the kids get out on the last day of school, meet at the park.
  - b. THANK YOU- Thanks to Cara for Student Council this year and the StuCo Snack Shop. Big thanks to the Continuation Crew- the front hallway looks amazing.
6. Principal's Report (Andy Schrant)- All Mimeo boards have been delivered! Thank you to PTA for allocating/approving the expense. Next year's school calendar will be released before the last day of school. Thank you to Katie and Laura for being great leaders this year. And thank you to the PTA for being such a great group.

Accountability's last meeting was last week- we need to figure out what format the committee and meetings will have next year to encourage more participation. A la carte items, discipline, homework and ability grouping were all hot topics. **A la carte snack items** are offered district wide because they fundraise for cafeteria staffing across the district. There isn't too much we can do to get rid of them, but parents can put controls to set limits on School Cafe. **Discipline** concerns were also addressed- there was discussion around the fine line between making school safe, yet still joyful and a happy place. We have a BEST Committee to help guide this. **Homework** survey went out a few weeks ago. About 79% are in favor of the policy that less homework is better than more. In an elementary setting, is homework beneficial? Is homework being given to satisfy the needs of the family? This will be an ongoing discussion and we'll be addressing this more in the future. **Ability grouping** for math, reading, etc. is a double edged sword. One of the downsides is that lower level students don't have peers to mentor up with when above grade level students are in different groups, however students who need more of a challenge benefit from higher level work they get when grouped by ability. 5th

grade will have their math level guide their ability grouping next year. 4th grade will follow a similar model. They will watch this closely and make adjustments after the first semester. 5/12 will be a follow up meeting for Accountability to further discuss these issues.

## 7. Committee Reports

- a. School Dance & Continuation (Christina Rea & Moniquea Reef)- We need a Chair for next year's dance. They may need to use the stage for storage throughout the week prior to the dance. Looking for some volunteers to make balloon arches. Also she is trying to get a better headcount so she can order the soda and pizza, she will send another reminder to RSVP in next week's Monday folder. Katie Critchfield will help with getting these flyers printed/in teacher mailboxes tomorrow. Also, they need a few more volunteers for set-up, photo booth and food serving. All Continuation plans are moving along well. Memory books are almost finished. Events are all planned and the team has some fun things for the 5th graders this year.
- b. Summer Watering (Caitlin Gindi)- Need a Landscape Chair for next year. She will be sending out a Sign Up Genius to get people to help water the planters over the summer months.
- c. Book Fair/Summer Book Delivery (Amy O'Neill)- No Spring Book Fair this year due to the success of this year's Fun Run. They will have one Book Fair next year in the new library in the new school. It will most likely be in early March. There is a new reading program that will be delivered in the next few weeks. One pallet per grade level that will be delivered, unpackaged and sort/repackaged for grade levels. She will send out a last minute Sign Up Genius for volunteers to help as soon as we get the delivery notification. Devices- all kids with one-to-one devices will be going home with their school devices over the summer. They will have access to some of the school programs like Amplify.
- d. Committee Report (Leslie Weinstein)- We still have some openings for Committees for next year: Garden/Landscape; Social Media/Email Communications; Dance; Teacher Wishlist; Yearbook Marketing; WatchDOGS
- e. StuCo, Joi Club, Volunteer Appreciation (Cara Jakab)- Student Council had 18 students who did the hygiene drive, snack shop, recycling, staff appreciation flowers and cards. They made \$409 in the snack shop! Beyond the Bag recycling- we came in 2nd in the region and 28th in the nation! Student Council has also been doing the morning announcements. The JOI club started this year and this is a partnership with the Optimists Club. We had 19 kids in the club this year and we will continue it next year. They made cards for hospital patients, toys for pets and did an Earth Day clean up. Volunteer appreciation event is May 18th at 1:45pm. Thank you for the increased budget this year for helping kids with snacks. Lost and Found will soon be donated- check it out! Corporate Sponsorship will continue for next year. We will offer sponsorships to our returning sponsors first and then open it up to the rest of the community.

## 8. Adjourn Meeting

- a. See you next year!

**Attendance**

Rachelle Dodge

Katie Critchfield

Laura Clase

Andy Schrant

Amy O'Neill

Hillary Joseph

Moniquea Reef

Allison Grigel

Shannon Thomas

Leslie Weinstein

Renee McDermid

Christia Rea

Samantha Walker

Jenny Henderson

Jill Ketchum

Sara Shalioi-Hodge

Christina Heard

Andrea Thompson

Caitlin Gindi

Christine Simpson

Sara True

Cara Jakab

Kari Fragnoli