Foothill PTO Meeting Notes – 12 May 2025 Meeting Minutes

The first order of business was to acknowledge that the land upon which we gathered is the occupied and seized territory of the Ute, Cheyenne and Arapaho Peoples.

Agenda items

- 📊 **Treasurer's Report and Budget Approval**
  - Review of proposed 2024–2025 budget
  - Discussion of current reserves and potential uses

- 📈 **Fundraising Updates**
  - Fund the Fox results and goals
  - Other fundraisers (e.g., Parkway Dines, herb sale, Spiritwear)

- 📅🤝 **Community & Events Planning**
  - Heritage Night costs and budgeting
  - Fifth Grade Continuation and Cabaret
  - Bike Bonanza & 75th Anniversary Planning
  - Water station and food truck logistics

- 📝 **Board Member Transitions**
  - Review of volunteer roles and approvals for incoming board members

- 💵 **Communications & Revenue Ideas**
  - Emphasis on advertising rebates (Safeway, Mabel's Labels, etc.)
  - Future monthly newsletters for promotion

- 💔 Funding Disparity: A $60,000 shortfall was highlighted, which means the PTO must work on a new approach to fundraising efforts.

- 🎓 **School Updates**
  - Enrollment projections and hiring
  - Kinder and First Grade staffing
  - Building upgrades (speaker system, entrance rug, whiteboards)

Key Insights

- 📊 **Budget Approved**:A nearly balanced budget with a $5,800 projected surplus was approved. The $98K request from the school was met through "Fund the Fox," with $11K allocated to PTO operations.

- 🛠️ **Use of Reserve Funds**: Members agreed not to rely on reserves annually but acknowledged their utility for occasional large expenses like new PA systems or entry rugs.

- 💸 **Fundraising Success**: Strong returns from Parkway Dines ($9,700 so far) and herb sales were noted. Spiritwear costs were reduced due to negotiated discounts.

- 💸 **Additional Revenue Avenues**: Recommendations included boosting visibility of passive fundraisers like grocery card rebates and exploring raffle baskets with leftover donations.

- 🙌 **School Outlook**: Enrollment is rising, with projections of 440 students next year, making Foothill the largest elementary school in Boulder. Staffing for Kinder and 1st grade is underway.

- 👥 **Board Restructuring**: New board roles were filled, with Morgan as incoming VP and other volunteers assuming key roles. All were unanimously approved.

Conclusion

The May 12 PTO meeting reflected a strong, organized close to the school year. Budgetary planning was finalized, fundraising exceeded expectations, and upcoming events were meticulously prepared. With a solid leadership team in place and growing community engagement, Foothill Elementary is well-positioned for a successful 2024–2025 school year.

Action Items & Follow-Ups for Next Meeting

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1. Reserve Funds Planning

- Revisit the discussion about how to allocate the $30K–$50K PTO reserve.
- Determine feasibility and structure of a potential school grant program (Spring launch if Fund the Fox meets targets).

2. "Fund the Fox" Communication Strategy

- Draft and distribute a year-end message thanking contributors.
- Include a summary of how funds were used this year (e.g., health room, equipment upgrades).
- Coordinate messaging with Principal and PTO newsletter.

6. T-Shirt Distribution & Photo Coordination

- Finalize teacher communication plan for shirt distribution and picture timing.
- Confirm Thursday after-lunch distribution and 3:00 PM group photo.
- Coordinate with drone operator for aerial photo.