

Foothill PTO Meeting Minutes

Wednesday September 14, 2022; Zoom, 5pm

1. Welcome (Haylie)

a. Attendees: Sennen Knauer, Haylie Lott, Monica Mount, William Hamilton, Ranjeet Pawar, Kristen Bendele, Lisa Coburn, Jessica Saidian and Suzanne Larson.

b. Vote to approve August 2022 meeting minutes: minutes were approved.

2. Officer Reports

a. Fundraising (Kristen)

- Fun Run:
 - Some Boulder schools have hired the Booster Fund program to put on a fun run as part of their school fundraiser. Kristen reached out to the Booster Fund program and will report back with details once she has them. She wants to share the information with everyone before taking a vote. The Booster director is happy to jump on a call to help give details.
 - Kristen is thinking of a fun run to replace the auction/gala that Foothill has done in the past for its spring fundraiser. The program not only orchestrates fun runs but also spirit wear (adults and kids) for schools throughout the year. Kristen suggested that if we went with the Booster Fund program for the fun run, perhaps we could use their platform to market Fund The Fox and sell spirit wear.
 - Kristen heard from various foothill parents who know the Booster Fund program that the program provides schools and teachers with the ability to rally before the event by bringing in the marketing tools to provide everything they need to promote the event, host the event and raise money. There are two different levels for options. Full Service is where Booster staff come into the school to pump up the kids. This results in more money to the Booster Program. 10% more would go to the school if teachers/staff take on the beginning part of the fun run. What if snow? There are indoor runs as an alternative in the school gyms that have been successful in raising money.
 - The Booster Fund has taken on 3-4 boulder schools on an annual basis. Kristen heard that a neighboring school (Heatherwood) raised roughly 20-25K last year with their fun run.
 - Kids are responsible for finding sponsors; they can offer a flat rate (sponsors say they will give \$50 total no matter what the outcome is).

They also do corporate matching and work with local and national brands; these things are built into the contract.

- Currently the PTO doesn't pay fees for Fund The Fox marketing; apparently, Booster is not requesting additional costs (additional marketing would be included).
- Haylie explained that Foothill's auctions/galas in the past required at least 2-3 people to run them and were extremely time consuming; they became a labor issue. Lisa thought that having kids take on the task of finding sponsors should help with the labor intensive piece of the fundraiser.
- Dine Outs:
 - Sweet Cow scheduled for Sept. 21. Kristen has the stickers and will make a banner to advertise this event.

b. Community (Lisa)

- Parent Parties:
 - Lisa is juggling different dates/grade levels. In the past, the parties have been typically held on Tuesdays and Thursdays through Oct. The majority of attendees feel it is ok to advertise for next Thursday earliest.
 - Kindergarten: Waiting to hear back from Kristin Finger and Kristin Nesbit for possibly Sept. 27 or Oct. 4
 - 1st Grade: The Procopios home on Sept. 20.
 - 2nd Grade: Ranjeet's home on Sept. 29.
 - 3rd Grade: The Hamiltons home on Oct. 6.
 - 4th Grade: The Procopios home on Oct. 11.
 - 5th Grade: The Procopios home on Sept. 22.
 - Eblast needed to promote parties.
- Bingo:
 - The first Bingo Night is scheduled for Oct. 14 but this is a long weekend when many families plan to be away. It was agreed that it be rescheduled to Oct. 21 at 5pm.
- Walk to School:
 - Scheduled for Oct. 12.
 - Eblast needed
- Feedback from Back to School is to continue with bubble lady and that 3 food trucks might not have been enough; perhaps add more trucks for next year.

c. Treasurer (Monica)

- Income:
 - Rebates, Spirit Wear and Bricks totalled \$3,573
- Expenses:

- Picnic and Bricks \$1,521
- Taxes have been filed.
- Fund the Fox:
 - Monica plans to meet with Sennen and Haylie next Friday to discuss how to market the fundraiser and to draft an email. The requested donation amount is higher this year because the school is 100% back in person. Because of this, we need big and small things (i.e. student meals, staff appreciation, maker faire, talent show, 5th grade musical, etc.).
 - Sennen reiterated that there will be some families who cannot contribute; we need to be sensitive to these situations.
 - Monica suggested that when the board members are talking with the community to remind everyone that it is helpful to get a corporate match from their employers.

d. Communications (Ranjeet)

- Ranjeet stated that he is so happy about how things are going and that the communication protocols are “way better than last year.”
- Sennen expressed how Peggy is dedicated to getting communications right between the school and PTO.
- Ranjeet will be updating the website wherever it is lagging. The stand alone emails will be scheduled for most upcoming events.

e. Principal’s Report (Sennen)

- Sennen expressed how well things have been gliding along at school. She has felt so welcomed by the board and is thankful for its patience and kindness while she gets her bearings into the PTO world.
- Crosswalk volunteers:
 - Garrett Savage is in charge; it’s been hard to get afternoon volunteers but she will follow up with Garrett.
- Open positions and status of school environment:
 - Evening custodians (still need a 2nd evening custodian).
 - Instructional para still needed.
 - Lunch coverage is still needed.
 - Community liaison is still needed.
 - 5th grade helper is still needed.
 - New literacy coordinator and literacy interventionist is Lisa Rice; still needing a half-time literacy tutor.
 - Para for ILC is still needed.
 - There is an awareness that we’re still having staffing issues.

- Kids are doing really well. Sennen sees a tremendous difference after a full year of school last year. The students seem to be handling expectations much better which is making the school environment feel calm and smooth. As a result of this, the teachers feel relieved.
- The school has so many great things in place so that nothing feels urgent.
- Bead jar is almost filled already. Sennen is planning a Mega Spirit Day at the end of next week to reward students for their hard work and amazing behavior.
- Sennen doesn't want to disrupt the routine of things with a school-wide movie so she plans for raffle prizes for each grade level that day. Haylie, Monica and William will check the PTO closet for possible items to use for the raffle.
- Picture day scheduled for the 20th.
- Recruit volunteers; use help at schools for signing up for events.
- The first SAC meeting is tomorrow. Sennen is happy to include anything from SAC meetings in her PTO updates if there are areas that the board wants updates on.
- When Bricks to Grow bricks arrive she will get facility staff to install them.
- Sennen is happy to provide slides to the board about the bond that the school district has on the ballot for November. The slides would help in understanding the facts around why BVSD is asking for what it is and how it would help Foothill and the other district schools.
- The nearby construction will be six town homes. Foothill knew about the construction but was never given the timeline. It was a bit startling when the construction started. The BVSD Director of Operations came right out to assess the situation out of concern. The construction team said that they use extra water, are using Broadway to get trucks in and will continuously use chain link fences and a tighter mesh to reduce dust on the playground. Sennen has warned kids to stay away from the fence and to be extra safe.

f. President's Report (Haylie)

- Check - In Day and Back To School Picnic review:
 - Both were successful.
- Teacher Appreciation:
 - Haylie will be meeting with the teacher appreciation committee around how to market families and their businesses.
 - Maybe reach out to the parent community in the eblasts for an informal directory of Foothill owned businesses. This could be a way of partnering with these families. Perhaps the directory could have a link to their businesses.

- The goal of the directory would be that the school benefits from the expertise found within its parent community.
- Sennen has noticed that kindergarten families are so eager to help.
- It was decided that the school will ask for this information from the families and then send this info to the PTO.

g. Teacher Report (no teacher present)

3. Conclusion

a. Comments from Attendees- None.

4. Adjournment -

a. Time of adjournment

6:23pm

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday October 12, 2022; ZOOM, 5pm

PTO MEETINGS HELD 2ND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH, WHEN SCHOOL IS IN SESSION, FROM 5:00PM - 6:00PM VIA ZOOM.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2186167512>

Meeting ID: 218 616 7512