**Creekview Elementary PTO**

**January 2017 Monthly Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, January 12, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. in the school cafeteria**

**Meeting called to order by: Cierra Buchwald at 9:35 a.m.**

**Minutes:** Minutes from December 2016 meeting accepted

**Officers’ Reports:**

**Principal:** Principal Aston

● Addressing “smell” that’s been reported in the building over the past few months. TISD Maintenance will be at the school on 1/13/2017 to try to determine the source and resolve the issue.

● The two largest “Wish List” items for 2016/17 Campus Improvements have been to add trees and a new running track. There have been setbacks in regard to planting the trees so Principal Aston has suggested that the money previously set aside for trees be used to purchase the concrete track that has been favored by parents (as opposed to crushed granite). While the PTO has not raised sufficient funds (approx. $28,000) the hope is that by delaying the purchase of the trees combined with the upcoming Spring Fundraiser we will be able to implement the track *and then hopefully address the tree/shade issue afterwards/next. ???*

● The State of Texas has instituted a new attendance/accountability policy. Our school’s grade will be directly impacted by student attendance, or lack thereof.

**President’s Report:** given by Cierra Buchwald

● There will be slight changes to this year’s Spring Fundraiser. The “Rodeo Run” will be held on Thursday, April 6th and the “Country Fair” will be on Friday, April 7th, two separate days.

 1. Packets will be sent home in March asking for “sponsors” for the “Rodeo Run.” 100% of the proceeds go back to the PTO for school improvements/enrichment. Lori Ramsey is heading this event and she is looking for volunteers willing to help in the preparation as well as day-of assistance.

 2. The Silent Auction component will be outside so that parents have better access to that event while also overseeing their children enjoying the fair. A digital catalog of auction items will be compiled and distributed prior to the event for preview.

 3. WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!!! For these events to be successful we kindly request 30 minutes of volunteer time from each family (not necessarily each parent) over the course of the 2-day event. The PTO is a volunteer organization and without the help of our Creekview families it would be impossible to present these great events.

 4. Christina Sherstad is currently our Volunteer Coordinator, but she is also our Silent Auction Chair. We are looking for someone that would be interested in coordinating volunteers for the 2-day fundraiser.

 a. Ashley Babitt generously volunteered to fill this position for the event.

**Vice-President’s Report:** given by Joy Ryan

● The next newsletter should go out around January 15th

**Treasurer’s Report:** given by Jenny Brown

● Presentation of monthly budget

 1. Several items were purchased for the P.E. Department through a Kohl’s grant obtained in late 2016.

 2. The PTO will be presenting teachers with gift cards to purchase needed supplies this month. $100 per grade level teacher will be presented with the caveat that all teachers per that grade level agree on a course of spending. This expenditure was previously budgeted and approved.

**Committee Reports**

**Spirit Night:** Cierra Buchwald introduced Kari Roy as the new chairperson

● Russo’s fundraiser earned $363

● January’s combined fundraiser earned $331 (Crust $148, Artrageous $158, U-Swirl $25)

● NEXT Spirit Event will be Spring Creek BBQ on Tuesday, January 31st

**Spirit Wear:** given by Cierra Buchwald for Catherine Campbell

● Selling remaining \*stock\* shirts at the Spring Fundraiser. Please contact Catherine Campbell @XXX to make purchases now.

**Sponsors/ Donations: given by Crista Nott**

● Crista and (other volunteers) have already secured at least 15 diverse donations for the action. She’s asking for volunteers to help her keep the momentum and get as many high-end donations as possible by the cut-off date of February 15th. If you own a company or know someone that does and they’d like to make a donation, please contact Crista @ XX. Donations are always tax deductible.

 **1. Expect a “catalog” of auction items prior to the event.**

 **2. “Teacher Experiences” have been revamped and are expected to be a lot of fun for students.**

 **3. Additional “Car Rider Priority/First-In-Line” spots will be offered at the action for the 2017/18 school year.**

 **4. Auction Numbers will be assigned this year so each family will bid with a number rather than their name. We hope that will facilitate a more comfortable atmosphere for bidding.**

**Membership/Directory:** given by Cierra Buchwald for Lisa Sellers

● Nothing new to report

**Room Mom:** given by Cindy Kettler

● Parents should have already received information regarding the Spring Fundraiser from their Room Parents and/or teachers.

● Planning individual class Valentine’s Parties: this is a “closed” party, parents and family members are not invited to attend.

**Creekview Cares:** given by Cindy Kettler

● Coordinating with CES Art Teacher, students making cards for local nursing homes for Valentine’s Day.

● Next project will be Pennies for Patients which benefits the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The kick-off will be on February 16th at Rise and Shine which also marks “Random Acts of Kindness Week.”

**Fundraiser Event:** given by Cierra Buchwald for Carolina Long

● Entertainment and Food has already been scheduled for the Spring fundraiser.

**Teacher Hospitality:** given by Cierra Buchwald for Missy Meeker

● Snack Bar for staff on Friday 1/13

● *Note from the President: We don’t often solicit for funds or donations for these monthly staff appreciation events as the PTO has a small monthly budget to cover general expenses.*

**Volunteer Coordinator:** given by Christina Sherstad

● New opportunities recently posted.

● Next Staff Appreciation day will be in honor of our campus counselor in mid-late February.

**Communications:** given by Cierra Buchwald for Heather Smith

● Nothing to report

**Old Business:**

● The next Spring Fundraiser Planning Meeting will be Wednesday, January 18th at 9:30am in the PTO Room. EVERYONE is welcome!

**New Business:**

● TISD is supporting “Jump Rope for Heart,” a fundraiser in February. Look for additional information from the school in the near future. Presented by Principal Aston

**● TISD is implementing “Limited Open Enrollment” for some of its schools starting in the fall of 2017. It will pertain to schools well under capacity and will be an option only for students outside our district. Transportation will not be provided for these students and they must meet certain criteria and be admitted (this is not open enrollment). Presented by Principal Aston**

**Questions:**

● A parent suggested that our CES Students be given an opportunity to design a school t-shirt, be it a fundraiser shirt or possibly the 2017/18 school year spirit shirt. The president will consider options and work with this parent and the CES Art Teacher to come to a conclusion.

**Next meeting is:** Thursday, February 9th, 2017 @ 9:30 a.m.

**Meeting adjourned:** 10:50 a.m.

**Minutes compiled by:** Ginger Snyder--PTO Parliamentarian

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**Attendance:**

Jennifer Brown, Leticia Holberg, Wendy Kovich, Crista Nott, Christina Sherstad, Cindy Kettler, Kari Roy, Monica Leon, Emily Mize, Lauren Graham, Ashley Babitt, Christine Zicarelli, Joy Ryan, Vira Rana, Arancha Lando, Karla Soto (CES Teacher Representative), Cathy Poselli, Kristen Lee (CES Vice Principal), Cierra Buchwald, Mr. Aston (CES Principal), Ginger Snyder