

Canyon View Elementary PTA Meeting

September 7, 2018

Start time – 9:05 am

Attendees: Rayna Drago, Marcia Fuller Durkin, Heather Dance, Shannon Haley, Gwen Flickinger, Kurt Flickinger, Emily Weigel, Jesse Overton, Natalie Smart, Debi Florek Mendenhall, Krystle Irvin, LeeAnn Ehrhart, Julie Miller, Amber Morzelewski, Laurel Miller-Jones, Dan Mackintosh, Colleen Hancock, Marianne Zenger, Michelle Otto, Alex Lambert, Melissa Johnson, Kristin Roper, Shannan Erickson, Amber Wilkins, Lindsey Kraatz

President's Report:

- Welcome and Introductions – Rayna Drago is President, Emily Weigel is President-Elect, Marcia Fuller Durkin is Secretary, Shannon Haley is Treasurer. Feel free to contact or text anyone who is listed on the PTA Board with any questions.
- Bylaws - Bylaws need to be renewed every 3 years. The bylaws list the PTA membership charges (\$5.00) and number of members to make a quorum (10) and other information about the running of the Canyon View PTA. The bylaws need to be posted before they are voted on to renew or change. Mrs. Draper will post the bylaws on the Canyon View website. All are invited to review bylaws and propose any changes at the next PTA meeting. We will vote on the bylaws during next month's meeting.
- Minutes from August PTA meeting - LeeAnn Ehrhart moved to approve the minutes. Heather Dance seconded the motion. Minutes from the August PTA meeting were unanimously approved.
- Cultural Night - This event is held in April. Each grade picks a country they will study about. Typically, each grade creates displays and artwork to decorate their hallway. The school invites the whole community. Each grade usually has some small food to taste unique to each country. Additionally, the students put on a talent show held in the gym during Cultural Night. The past several years we have also invited various food trucks to sell food at the event. In the past the PTA has waited a few months into the school year to pick the countries but this year the art teacher wants to incorporate the art each grade's chosen country into her curriculum. April 30th is the date for Cultural Night. We usually have several hundred people attending this event – perhaps as many as 600 in the past.
 - We are still looking for a volunteer to oversee Cultural Night. We have a couple of people who are considering being in charge but if you are still interested please contact the PTA. The person in charge of cultural night really just needs to coordinate the different grades and organize the talent show.
 - The PTA/Parent volunteers come into the class room and teach a lesson on the different countries. Teachers don't teach the lesson. The following countries were tentatively selected:
 - Kindergarten – Madagascar

- 1 - Peru
 - 2 - India
 - 3 - Germany
 - 4 - Italy
 - 5 - Brazil
- Head Grade Parents – Head grade parents come to PTA meetings and then disseminate the information to the room parents regarding class parties and other events. Mostly the head grade parents delegate to the room parents and parent volunteers. The following individuals agreed to serve as head grade parents.
 - K – Gwen Flickinger
 - 1 – Natalie Smart
 - 2 – Shannan Erickson
 - 3 – Melissa Johnson
 - 4 – Heather Dance
 - 5 – Dan Mackintosh
- PTA is holding a pot luck lunch for teachers on September 18th. We will be using SignUp Genius to have volunteers sign up to bring food for this event. This was started because the PTA wanted to do something fun for the teachers. We probably will not have a potluck every month but plan on doing it several months this year.*
- PTA has a great turnout for our Boo Hoo to Woo Hoo. There were lots of kindergarten parents who attended. More parents for morning kindergarten than afternoon kindergarten but still good experience that we are planning on continuing next year.

Principal Draper:

- The school staff are being very attentive in sanitizing the building (doors, classrooms, etc.) as there has been a problem with norovirus going through schools in West Valley and in Utah county. Staff is being asked to watch carefully and Principal Draper will be including in her Cub Chronicle a note to parents to keep their students' home if they have been sick to their stomach. Mrs. Draper was asked if she can report to the parents if there has been an instance of norovirus at the school, but she explained that the school staff are not allowed to ask what a student is sick with and this is also difficult since not all stomach bugs are norovirus. Teachers are being extra vigilant since the norovirus can make people pretty sick.
- Safety – The school is working closely with the new crossing guard. Cottonwood Heights police have been notified that there is some reckless driving and Mrs. Draper is hopeful that they will help keep an eye out for this. Shirley, the prior crossing guard, went above and beyond what she was required to do so this new crossing guard is an adjustment, but she has been instructed that she is not just responsible for crossing students but also regulating the flow of the traffic around the school.

* After the September 7th PTA meeting it was determined that the PTA would postpone the potluck luncheon for the teachers due to the dinners that the PTA is providing at the end of September in conjunction with Parent/Teachers conferences.

- The new parking lot sign Mrs. Draper ordered last school year finally arrived and she is hopeful this will help parents better understand how the flow of the parking lot works and that they are not permitted to drop off students from the back parking lot.
- We had a discussion with Mrs. Draper about how afternoon pick up is working. Some parents mentioned that it seems much slower this year than in years past as students are not permitted to get into vehicles unless those vehicles are the first two or three in line. Mrs. Draper noted this and indicated the training for the teachers this year has been the same as in years past.
- It was also pointed out that there are still problems with traffic at the back parking lot and Mrs. Draper will make sure that the safety patrol is placing cones in the back to prevent traffic problems back there.
- The issue of all day kindergarten pick up was addressed. Mrs. Draper will speak with the supplemental kindergarten teacher to see if they can figure something out but it still remains that if a parent wants to get out of the car to pick up their child afterschool they must park instead of using the pick-up line.

Treasurer's Report: Shannon Haley

- Shannon passed around the new budget for the PTA's review.
- Shannon pointed out some of the significant changes from last year's budget
 - Want to keep track of how much Apex is charging. Hoping to bring in more from the fundraiser but should equal out since Apex is taking cut. Need to make at least \$40,000 from this fundraiser in order to raise what we have made in the past. There is some skepticism regarding how much we will be able to raise.
 - Took out corporate donations and sponsors from the current budget. PTA is still hoping to obtain corporate sponsors but not counting on it in the current version of the budget.
 - The revised budget includes a Savers drive that would provide additional money for the PTA. The details of the Savers drive will be discussed during the next meeting and will likely occur in the spring.
 - This new budget also includes expenses related to the t-shirts.
 - Another addition is \$50.00 to run a Chess club for the year.
 - The 2018-2019 budget also includes money for popsicles and a tent for field day.
 - We also added \$100 to use for appreciate/bereavement for the school staff.
 - One final change is Insurance. After significant discussion with the insurance carrier it was determined that we need bond insurance since we are taking credit card donations. This change caused insurance costs to be greater than prior years.
 - Budget was circulated for review.
- Vote on new budget – Motion to approve the budget – Maryanne Zenger moved – Jesse Overton seconded the motion. No nays – proposed budget is unanimously approved.
- Proposed budget may need to be amended after we determine how much we raise in the Apex fundraiser.

- One possible addition to the budget, based on how much is raised, would be folding tables and pop up tent – seems like we always need this and are trying to find someone who has one for the PTA to use.

Hospitality

- Parent/Teachers Conferences are on September 26th & 27th – Dinner time is at 5:00 usually set up around 4:30 – doing soup one night and lasagna the next night. Hospitality will send out requests for these items through SignUp Genius closer to the event.

Fundraiser – APEX Representative – Chris (Captain Chris) from APEX presented at the PTA meeting.

- Fun Run Fundraiser has begun - Actual run is September 14th
- Gone through two of the lessons with the students so far. The first lesson was on being selfless. Yesterday APEX took out to recess some of the items the kids can earn. The students really took the selfless lesson to heart and demonstrated selflessness with the APEX prizes. Everyday the kids are demonstrating the skills APEX is teaching.
- Each day each teacher selects a student who has demonstrated the skill APEX is teaching. This really builds confidence in the students selected.
- Through the APEX program, students are rewarded both individually and as a class.
- APEX is really working with the students and pushing them to go home and log in – encouraging them to log their shirt sizes into the APEX system. Students will wear the t-shirts for the fun run. The shirts show how many laps they ran and are marked off with sharpies. Need some parent volunteers for marking laps on each student's t-shirt.
- Each lap is 1/16th of a mile – students run for 30 minutes. APEX representatives and parent volunteers will make sure students are staying hydrated during the race. Cap for 36 laps for the fundraising purposes.
- Kids keep their shirts as a trophy. APEX provides music, tunnels, and the APEX staff to run with the kids during the fun run.
- APEX will need 12 parent volunteers per race. The volunteers will cover the start line and help distribute water.
- APEX takes a percentage – end up taking about 15% after buying the prizes and the shirts. Students and PTA are encouraged to share on social media the APEX link.
- Various PTA members expressed concerned about how much the PTA will earn after APEX takes its cut. APEX claimed that they have never made anyone less than what they made on their own.
- Almost \$7,000 raised during the first 2 days of the APEX program.
- Mrs. Draper said at her prior school, Oakdale Elementary, they previously had raised around \$10,000 and made \$8,000 more when they used APEX (even after APEX's cut).
- Mrs. Draper also emphasized that the school is also getting leadership lessons in addition to APEX's help with the fundraiser.

- It was mentioned that the APEX program currently focuses APEX rather than Canyon View. It was proposed that we try to get more focus on Canyon View Cubs as opposed to just APEX.
- One PTA member mentioned that the APEX text message doesn't list the date of the fun run until the very end of the message. It was proposed that the date be moved to the top of the text/email message in order to help show an urgency. Messages are automatically sent out to those who signed up right before the race. APEX was able to change the text message to move the date to the top of the message.
- APEX explained that if a student is absent the day of the fun run and has per lap donations, APEX will just assign a lap number based on what the middle of the range of the possible laps run.
- Deadline for the money is the same as the fun run – September 14th.
- Can either do a per lap donation or a flat donation. \$30 flat donation will come to a dollar per lap. In order to earn the scooters, students must raise \$50.00 per lap. APEX usually gives away about 1 scooter per school. Canyon View already has one student who has raised over \$30.00 per lap. Any donation above \$3.00 per lap APEX calls to confirm that they intend to donate that much.
- Weather looks good for the fun run – trying to have two tracks for safety purposes. Schedule should be posted in the cub chronicle today. Mrs. Draper was able to figure out a schedule for the fun run so that no one is running during the lunch recess.
- Lindsey Kraatz has put together a bulletin board at the front of the school which shows which class is in the lead.
- Sponsorship – Students are encouraged to see if they have an in with any particular company that might be interested in serving as a sponsor for this year. Understand that the process of getting a sponsor may take some time. It is important to note that this is a healthy activity fundraiser and as a result will be tax deductible for any companies that agree to be a sponsor.
- As part of the APEX fundraiser, the school will have a door decorating contest. Each room parent is responsible for decorating their classroom's door. September 12th is the date for finishing the classroom doors. There are a ton of door ideas on Pinterest. The class with the best door will win a popsicle party. APEX and Rayna will determine who will judge the doors.
- There was a discussion about where the fundraising money goes. It was explained that this is PTA specific money and all the money stays in the school. The money is used for field trips, gifting \$200 per teacher for various classroom needs, and the other items discussed in the budget. Each year PTA keeps \$5,000 for the following year and any additional money left at the end of the school year is donated back to the school for technology.
- There was a discussion regarding whether there are other ways to donate to the PTA if someone is not convinced about the fundraiser. It might be possible to use the donate button from the t-shirts website or donate directly to the school through the Canyon View School District website.

- PTA has also drafted a corporate sponsorship letter that can be sent out.
- It was explained that the character-building piece of the APEX program was part of the decision to use APEX. It would be expensive to purchase a social/emotional curriculum (\$5,000-\$15,000) so the school is getting something out of the percentage that APEX is taking, which made this program seem like a good option. Every year APEX comes up with a different theme. This year's theme is APEX STRONG. It is possible that the school could use this curriculum a different year if we don't choose to use APEX again.
- One parent raised the issue of too much focus on APEX and not enough focus on Canyon View. She asked whether the APEX T-shirts could say Canyon View in the future? Mrs. Draper indicated that she wasn't sure, she knows that APEX tries keep the costs low but we can ask if we use them next year.
- APEX staff are here from the time school starts until the time school ends. With the students the whole time – in classrooms and at recess.

Membership

- Contest has started – Jenkins and Joko class in the lead.

Reflections

- Packet went out after assembly. Submissions are due Oct. 12th

Box Tops

- Contest has begun – Shannon made mailbox for the box tops. The mailbox will replace the bin at the front office.
- Need someone to take this over from Shannon since she is now doing the Chess Club. Box tops are a great option for someone who can't be in the school during school hours.

Other

- T-shirts – deadline today but order will go in on Tuesday
- Directory – Michelle Otto is taking charge of this. She will coordinate with Alex Lambert who has done it the past several years
- Vision Screening on Monday, Sept. 24th at 8:45am and the school needs 7 volunteers.
- Amazon Smile is another way to donations to the school. Mrs. Draper will mention this is the Cub Chronicle and **will include the link with the picture, after the Fun Run is over.**
- Chess club- Jesse Overton and Shannon Haley taking charge of this – not sure how many people will sign up. If interested in helping, please give **Jesse** and Shannon your email. They are planning on sending out a flyer and a registration form. Will likely either Tuesday or Friday morning but Chess Club is still trying to figure out when the best time will be.
- Kristen and Natalie Smart doing Chorus this year. Plan is to start at the end of September or beginning of October. Will likely be on Mondays and Wednesday mornings.
- Thanks for those who helped with the teacher breakfast.

Next Meeting Friday, October 5, 2018 at 9:00 am.

Adjourn time – 10:29 am