Dighton PTO Meeting Minutes – February 2019

Date: February 5, 2019

Meeting called to order by Jennifer Cabral @ 7:00pm

Location: DES Cafeteria

Attendance: 8

* **Call To Order**
* **Officer Reports**
  + President – Jennifer Cabral
  + Vice President – Erin Weafer
  + Secretary – Tiffiny Beaulieu – NOT PRESENT
    - January Minutes Approval-motion was made to approve, motion approved.
  + Treasurer – Julie James – NOT PRESENT
    - January Treasurer Reports Approval-motion was made to approve, motion approved.
    - Teacher Requests:
      * Kim Furness - 5th grade – requests funds for Quizlet – online quizzes, kids can download codes, great study guide – for $34.99. Motion made to approve, motion approved.
      * Heather Fernandes – 3rd grade – requests $25 for holiday party. Previously approved, no motion made.
      * Debra Mason – 3rd grade – requesting classroom area/multiplication rug for $174.99. Motion made to approve, motion approved.
      * Heather Fernandes – 3rd grade – forgot about shipping cost for magnetic cart that was previously approved. Looking for reimbursement for $22.00. Motion made to approve, motion approved.
      * Mr. Wheeler – he set up a gift card incentive program for attendance. Diane Remy has receipt for $100 which Mr. Wheeler paid out of pocket, and district said he was not allowed to give gift cards. Motion was made to give Mr. Wheeler $100 for the program, motion approved.
    - Communications Secretary – Kathryn DeAmaral

* + - * **Principal Reports**
        + Mr. Wheeler – Dighton Middle School

Presentation on vaping on 2/4 - 51 parents showed up - very happy with the attendance (usually only 4 people). Parents were very surprised at the statistics. Mr Wheeler gave power point & packet for parents info. It’s starting with kids as young as 3rd & 4th grade. Flavors and color very attractive to kids. Becomes a social thing as they get to the middle school. Can get addicted very quickly - one puff is worth 20 cigarettes. Working out a date for pharmacist to come in and talk to the kids about the dangers of vaping.

Attendee asked: Would you bring in students speaking from personal experience? Yes, would be allowed but this is fairly new. Until about 8 weeks ago, Wheeler didn’t even realize it was going on. Can smoke pot through them too - when mixed with fruit, can not detect.

* + - * + Mrs. Dessert – Dighton Elementary School – NOT PRESENT
      * **Guest Speakers**
* **Accomplishments**
* Nothing in January.
* **Upcoming Events**
  + - DES Night at Fenway – deadline reminder sent out with PTO agenda today but Kathryn will send another reminder prior to date. Terri has not seen sales yet.
    - 4th Grade Yearbook – Planning meeting is Monday February 25th. Erin, Karen, Cheryl & Kathryn will be there. All welcome to attend if interested.
    - UNO Dine Out – Erin set up for Wednesday February 27th. Teacher delivery? Erin will send spreadsheet to Elementary and Middle School. Kathryn will send out reminder. Paper forms will be going home with Elementary students. Tiffiny made copies.
    - Sweetheart Dance – forms just went out. Deadline is 2/15 – hard deadline for flowers but usually accept forms for tix after the date. We have a Minion (special guest) but still looking for a DJ. Sonia says she may know someone.
    - Book Fair – reading challenge for the whole month of March. Each grade - boy and girl top readers get a medal and $10 to shop at book fair - March 28th is when the award will be given out. Big event is March 29th. Reading is Dino-mite. Dinosaur theme. LOTS OF VOLUNTEERS - at least 30 for the entire week. Jen plans on starting a committee right after February vacation, she will be sending out emails asking for help with ideas. Usually have different stations & activities — looking for ideas and volunteers. During the week, we are not sure if it will be in library due to the modular delay. Tentative right now. Schedule to visit during the week, can make a wish list. Family event is Friday. STEAM has $200 for classrooms, Scholastic News is paid for, each grade got $500. Teachers have a wish list. All for books donations go to books that weren’t purchased for teachers. Last year every teacher got 3 books in their bin that weren’t purchased. We currently have no library. Terri - would it be worth pushing that you can purchase for teacher’s library? Jenn says that you can’t necessarily say that. But we can promote more but need to be careful what we say. Maybe we can put on the flyer? Mr Wheeler said that at his last school, they had a giving tree that worked well - hang up wish list items and parents can come in, grab and pay for them.
    - Harlem Globetrotters - in conjunction with Mr Haynes at DMS, we are not sure about Mr. Michaud at DES - Terri said she thought that Mr Michaud didn’t plan on doing it. No one else had heard that from Mr. Michaud. We thought it was every other year. Terri talked to him at the beginning of the year and his schedule didn’t allow for it. Jenn is going to double check with him. Terri said things may have changed. Jenn will let us know. Terri is waiting to hear back from Mr Haynes.
* **Parent and Teacher Ideas**
* Mr. Wheeler – 2 things to mention:
  + If you want to move the PTO meetings to the middle school library, you may want to do that because it’s more comfortable.
  + Issue with how PTO emails are sent out — Superintendent said he believes that as long as it doesn’t have anything political or supports a business, its fine. Issue came up because there was a political event in Somerset, and they had to put “this was sent out by mistake, this was sent by the PTO” — Wheeler is waiting to officially hear back from the Superintendent as to what is okay. We can send hard copy information home as long as its not printed on school copy paper or using the school copier. He thinks we’ll hear more about it in the next couple of weeks — but we should start thinking about it. Kathryn asked if she should stop sending emails to office to send out. Mr. Wheeler said to continue doing it for now and he will find out more information.
  + Attendee: Comment to Mr Wheeler - Emails should have school name as FROM line - She didn’t realize who was sending it - it just says Diane Remy - it would be good if it said WHO it was coming from - Dighton Middle School. Beckwith has it that way.

* **Adjourn @ 7:43pm**

President (Jennifer Cabral) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Vice President (Erin Weafer) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer (Julie James) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Secretary (Tiffiny Beaulieu) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Communication Secretary (Kathryn DeAmaral) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_