

**Parents and Teachers of Eagle Elementary
Monthly Meeting
September 17, 2015**

Two meetings were held in September – a 4:00 meeting and 7:00 meeting.

The early meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. on Thursday, September 17, 2015.

New Business

Building Update – Principal Dottie Heusman provided an update on the building renovation progress. Furniture will be in the office by next week, kindergarten classes are in their rooms but some wall boards and cabinets still need to be installed. The early childhood room still needs a wall and cabinets, as well. The 5th grade rooms need to be finished. All cabinets are being delivered this week.

Early Childhood Program – Dottie and Delanie McMillan, the Special Education Director, spoke about Eagle Elementary's new Early Childhood program. Delanie explained that the program is district-funded and is an extension of our school. The teachers are district employees and the students are Eagle students. Our school is now considered a Pre-K – 5th grade building.

23 children are currently enrolled in the Pre-K and many of them have siblings that already attend Eagle Elementary, but the Pre-K can encourage the parents to participate in the PTE. If the PTE would like to provide information such as event flyers and fundraising information, it can be distributed to Pre-K parents. Pre-K students will be invited to PTE's events (Fun Night, Fun Run, etc). Dottie said that the shirts the PTE funds for students will not be given to Pre-K, since it is a special thing for students to start getting in Kindergarten. The PTE will provide an "introduction to the PTE" flyer and the Pre-K teacher can distribute to parents. A PTE rep can also attend an upcoming open house for the class.

Additionally, Delanie said that the grant the district received for the program stipulates educational events, such as parenting and early literacy classes, must be organized for the families. These events will be open to all Eagle Elementary families.

Assemblies – Dottie would like to use \$400 of the PTE's \$500 assembly budget to bring author Julia Cook to the district. Julia will spend an hour here and an hour at Hamlow for K-2. Then Julia will meet with all 3rd-5th graders at WIS for an hour. There will be a short break, then she'll meet with 3rd-5th for another hour. The cost will be split between the schools, and \$400 is Eagle's share. The date will be January 22nd.

Parents are invited to attend and an autographed book will be available to purchase prior to the event.

Ideas for additional assemblies were briefly discussed. Sarah Kupke said that the Nebraska Arts Council has good programs. Sara Martin said that artists can be contracted on a weekly basis for \$2,500-\$3,000.

Old Business

Market to Market Relay – Tom Erlandson, PTE President, said that 4-5 volunteers are still needed for the race on October 3rd. If enough people volunteer, the 12:30-5:30 shift can be split into shorter amounts of time.

IBM Grant – With the \$2,000 grant from IBM (thanks to Brandie Humphrey) and the \$1,200 from last year's Box Tops, Dottie said that she is \$1,100 short to get one Chromebook for each classroom. The Chromebooks are about \$300 each, which includes the touchscreen and an insurance plan. Discussion was held on the additional \$1,100 that is needed. Two ideas were to designate the 2015-2016 Box Top money to go for the Chromebooks or use the Schwan's campaign funds. More discussion and a vote will take place at the 7:00 meeting.

Schwan's Campaign – Kelli Hepburn reported that Schwan's has changed their policy, but it will be more beneficial to the PTE. The campaign will run from November 2nd to March 16th. The PTE will now receive 20% of sales from PTE customers for the first 45 days and then 5% for the next 90 days (then the cycle starts over). Also, for the first 45 days, when someone orders a \$25 gift card, we will get 40% (\$10) of that.

Mill Coffee Fundraiser – Kelli gave an update about the coffee fundraiser. There will be 8 coffees and 8 specialty items like tea, cider, and hot chocolate. The prices that we will ask for specialty items will need to be determined, as they cost more but are smaller bags.

T-Shirts – Dottie responded to questions from last month's meeting about the number of additional Eagle Elementary t-shirts that the PTE will need to provide this year. Extra shirts from last year were used as much as they could be (there are about 20 shirts left now, but they are in sizes that aren't needed). There were 51-52 kindergarten students plus 20 new kids and staff, so more shirts needed to be ordered. New shirts will be given out to all students and teachers every couple of years.

Other

The group held discussion on ways to reach out to parents – Mysi Girdlestone offered to include PTE information and events in her weekly Eagle e-newsletter. Current members can call friends to invite them to meetings. Students could create a "What is PTE?" art project in class for their parents. A PTE membership sign-up can be included on next year's online student directory form. Dottie said that teachers can include PTE information in newsletters sent home to parents. Grade levels could be "in charge" of volunteering/finding volunteers for a specific event per year (for example, upper grade parents can focus on volunteering for Fun Night).

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

The second meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. on Thursday, September 17, 2015.

Approval of Minutes

Dottie made a request to change one item in the August 25th meeting minutes. Regarding the Janet's Jungle fundraiser, Hamlow was interested in hosting their own fundraiser with Janet, not holding the fundraiser with the PTE. Jenny will make the change to the minutes.

Teri Rounds made a motion to accept the minutes from the May 14th and August 25th meetings, seconded by Kelly Dewing. Motion passed.

New Business

Early Childhood Program – Dottie spoke about the new program and shared the information that had been discussed at the 4:00 meeting.

Assemblies – In addition to the information presented at the earlier meeting, Dottie mentioned that a parent night could also be set up with the author for an additional \$250. Tom moved to use \$400 of the assembly budget for the day with author Julia Cook. Teri Rounds seconded. All approved.

Old Business

Market to Market Relay – The names of all 10 volunteers have to be submitted by September 23rd. Tom said that 5 or 6 people have signed up to help. There will be at least 8 people working at a time to help with parking, calling out runners' numbers, and monitoring exchanges. Volunteers must be 18 and shifts can be split.

IBM Grant – Everyone was updated on the discussion from the 4:00 meeting. Further discussion was held on what would be useful for the students in the classrooms (Chromebooks, maybe I-pads for teachers that don't have one yet). If Box Top money from this year is used, the PTE will pay for the Chromebooks now and settle up with the school at the end of the year when the Box Top funds are received. Jessie Zuniga moved to earmark this year's Box Tops, at least \$1,200, for Chromebooks. Jenny Johnson seconded. All approved.

Committee Reports

Fundraising – The Pizza Ranch dine-out night raised \$473.64, which was about \$100 more than last year. There was a large group in the Pizza Ranch meeting room that donated generous tips to the kids.

School Skate – At the most recent skate, 88 people from Eagle attended and the PTE was given \$45.

Fun Run – Kelly Dewing reported on the Fun Run, to be held on October 31st with a Halloween and costume theme. There will be a 1-mile run starting at 8:00 a.m. and a 5K starting at 9:00 a.m. The focus will be on family involvement and fun. There will be prizes for the top three men and women 5K runners. There will also be prizes for best costumes.

Fun Run registration fees for students were discussed. Kelly would like all students to be able to participate in the 1-mile run, so registration options were discussed. Final information will be available soon.

Other

Ann Rieker, first grade teacher, asked what the teachers can do to help get the PTE information out to parents and hopefully get more volunteer participation. Different options were discussed, including having the teachers email PTE information to parents in their weekly newsletters. Dottie can email the PTE info out to teachers the week before. She also invites teachers to PTE meetings.

Financial Reports

Teri Rounds reported on the current accounts -
Main checking account at American Exchange Bank: \$9,044.37
Money market at Eagle State Bank: \$20,631.74

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 22nd at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jenny Johnson, Secretary.