

McCarthy-Towne School PTSO
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday February 11, 2015

Shelley Cole, PTSO Sr. Chair
Julie Weir, Jr. Chair
David Krane, Principal
Matt McDowell, Asst Principal
Chris Hanlon, PTSO Treasurer

The meeting was called to order at 9:40 A.M.
January 9th meeting minutes were approved.
It was noted that we need to locate the PTSO charter

Principal's Report

It seems like we have had many more snow days this year as compared to last but in reality we have had 4 snow days while, to date, last year we had 3.

Kindergarten night went really well. There was a lot of interest from parents, great conversations and a lot of smart questions. The K-night video gets better every year through production. Student council spoke really well. Overall parents need to understand our community and realize that kindergarten is just the beginning.

Budget Saturday discussions presented a 4.89% increase in budget for next year. We are still being asked to cut more. ELL needs better support. The increase isn't sustainable. Regionalization is creating difficulties. A point will come where we will need an override. Certified staff may eventually be affected. We may need to reevaluate our community in terms of what our budget is paying for. Can other tasks be given to volunteers?

Homework committee will first be made up of faculty and then parents will be invited to join. This is not an either/or situation it is just a reevaluation of what homework is and should be. Ultimately we are looking out for the best interests of our kids, families and our teaching and learning. There were over 200 responses to the initial survey. About 40 families from each grade (2-5) shared opinions. A fairly even spread of ages/grades. McT wants to make sure that kids will be ready for Jr. high and that our school community should be reflective about our practices.

Treasurer's Report

January was a slow month.

Raffle tickets were sold and raised \$595. It was really cold!

The PTSO purchased 4 check out kiosks for the auction (\$260). An item that is more economical to purchase than rent year after year.

6th grade movie night was a huge success and raised \$1300 for the 6th grade Thompson Island trip.

We are still looking to find a way to spend the Parker Damon fund of \$1385. It might be a possibility to purchase books for the library. In Oct it was suggested we use some of the money for portfolios.

To date there are 34 acts signed up for the Lip Sync concert.

The online camp auction raised \$4275 to kick off the Spring auction fundraiser. 3 camps didn't sell and will be auctioned off on March 28th.

Meeting Adjourned.