

PTO General Minutes

January 27, 2011

Called to order at 5:03pm

Held in MS Science Room at ACS

- **Board Attendance:** Misty O'Leary, Allyson Ford, Janet White, Stephanie Weeber, Michelle Barrette, Laura Heese and Jeannie Reddan. Proxies attached for Bonnie Buckley and Meredith Jacob (a quorum of at least 10 members [board and parent] was present).
- **Additional Attendees:** Dean Persichina, Dennis Desormeaux (Dad's Club), Shaneen Karren (SAC), Anglea Krautz and various members of STUCO (see attached sign in sheet).
- ***Minutes from the November General Meeting were unanimously approved.***
- **President's Report:** Misty O' Leary reported that the King Sooper's reloadable gift cards must be purchased through the PTO. These can be used to purchase your everyday groceries and then reloaded at King Sooper's.

It was discussed to clarify the budget item descriptions from the previous budget meeting. Both Dean Brown and the Board agreed that it would be beneficial to use broader more general terms when discussing the items needing approval on the budget. The new categories will be Technology, Curriculum, Spirit, and General/Other. This will allow for some leniency when needing to add on additional items as they become necessary. The Deans will still have to provide a general list of items needed and the costs to the Board at the September Budget Meeting. This will give the PTO a basis for fundraising goals. The Deans will still have the discretion to purchase necessary items up to \$2,000.00 without Board approval; however, the Deans will need to discuss the purchases with the Board to ensure proper funding is available. Anything above that amount will require Board and Parent approval. All monies spent must be announced to the school at the April Budget Meeting. New votes can be held if money needs to be transferred from one account to another to help cover costs, i.e. from Technology to Curriculum.

A unanimous vote was recorded to approve the broadening of the Fundraising Budget to include the categories of Technology, Curriculum, Spirit, and Other; with any request up to \$2,000.00 not requiring Board or parent approval and specific items purchased announced and voted on at the April Budget Meeting.

- **President's Report, cont'd:** Misty announced that the PTO Board Elections will be held in April. A Majority of the Board will be turning over. At meeting time, only the Treasurer, Communications Rep, Social Rep and the Class Coordinator have running candidates. Misty asked the attendees to please consider serving as a member on the PTO. In order for ACS to remain in control of the monies raised by the PTO, the PTO must have a full and working board. If not, all monies will be remanded to the district.
- **Communications Report:** Janet White reported that the new PTO website is still under construction and had no new info to report.
- **Social Report:** Laura Heese reported that the 4th grade hosted teacher breakfast was a success and that the 3rd grade will be hosting the next breakfast.
- **Enrichment Report:** Meredith Jacobs was unable to attend the meeting (proxy attached) and reported via email. The 80's Dance Class was cancelled due to lack of interest/participation.

Meredith is currently in talks with Odette Springer from "Cooking with Odette at the Grange" to possibly host a cooking class for ACS. It will most likely be held at the Grange.

Meredith is also looking into the possibility of hosting a babysitting certification course for the Middle School.

- **Fundraising Report:** Allyson Ford reported that the 80's Dance planning is well under way. The presale of tickets will begin the first week of February. Most class projects/baskets have been decided upon and are nearing completion. Many volunteers are needed for this event.

Katherine Mason, guest speaker, gave a presentation on hosting a Cotillion. Ms. Mason's group, the Jon D. Williams Cotillions, was established in Colorado in 1949. These Cotillions are social education programs, where students learn the application of social skills and the art of social dance. The students are taught dining and table manners, self respect, respect of others, the art of conversation, introductions, and first impressions. At the end of the course, usually 5 weeks, a large social gathering (dance) is held with the parents in attendance. Currently there are no Cotillion courses being taught in Castle Rock. The nearest course would be in Parker at the Wildlife Experience beginning at the end of March. Scholarships will be granted to students of faculty. Grades 4

- **Fundraising Report, cont'd:** through 8 are invited to attend. The cost is \$180 for grades 4-5 and \$215 for grades 6-8.
- **SAC Report:** Shaneen Karren reported that the next SAC meeting will be held on February 15th from 5:30-8pm. An email will go out to all SAC members requesting volunteers for the 80's Dance.
- **Teacher Representatives Report:** Stephanie Weeber, Elementary School Rep, reported that at meeting time 16 teachers had signed up to bring in desserts to be used as give away treats for the Cake Walk at the 80's Dance. It was decided to have teachers include a reference to the 80's Dance and Silent Auction in their class newsletters.

Michelle Barrette, Middle School Rep, reported that the MS is benefiting from the new security cameras. Several previously unknown actions were caught via these new cameras and were dealt with accordingly.

Michelle stated that the MS Boys and Girls were playing for the Basketball Championship. It was reported that the Girls team won, however, the Boys team lost.

It was mentioned that the MS Teachers are being asked to sign up as volunteers for the 80's Dance. They are also being asked to promote the Flash Mob dance that will take place during the 80's Fundraising Dance.

- **Dad's Club Report:** Dennis reported that the Dad's Club will hold its meeting tonight at ACS at 7pm and will cover the results from the Chili Cook-off and how best to spend the money raised. A vote will need to be brought before the PTO regarding how to spend the money. A trophy case will most likely be first on the agenda.

At meeting time, 2 members of the Dads Club had signed up to volunteer at the 80's Dance. We are currently in need of 3-4 Dads to help before the event starts, 3-4 Dads to help after the event ends and 1-2 Dads to help during the event. The Club is currently looking into facilitating the needs for the Mystery Key Game.

- **Dean's Report:** Dean Persichina reported that the District has a new webpage called "Tell Your Story", of which ACS is a part of. The site is to become active on January 31st. This new site will list points of interest about our school and will direct prospective parents to visit our website. This will hopefully encourage families to apply at ACS.

- **Dean's Report, cont'd:** CSAP testing begins February 15-16 for 3rd grade, with the remaining 3rd-8th grade testing the week of February 28th.

The 2011-2012 School Calendar has been approved. ACS will move to trimesters, like the District, with 3 grading periods and 12 weeks each period. Teacher Comp days will be added into the week of Thanksgiving instead of being added onto the beginning of Fall/Winter and Spring break. This will allow for the entire week of Thanksgiving to be off. We will still start later than the District but we will end before Memorial Day. Teacher conferences will be held before the end of the grading period to allow for student improvement.

The money needed to purchase the new Spanish Curriculum has been released to ACS by the PTO. However we are on hold with purchasing the current curriculum, Realides, as they have been non-communicative. Mrs. Barrette has repeatedly tried to contact them with no response. Mrs. Barrette will continue to work on this. If the lines of communication do not open up, we will have to look into another company.

We are currently waiting for the District to confirm the GLE's for next year before the new Social Studies Curriculum is purchased. We are in process of aligning with the Core Knowledge and researching Map Software that can be tied into the Smartboards.

Mr. Vick and Mr. Goody each received a tech grant which allows for 2 new Smartboards for the computer labs.

Important Dates:

1/28 Dress of Choice Day	2/14 GB meeting 6-8pm
2/14 Dress of Choice Day	2/15 SAC meeting 5:30-8pm
2/15-16 3 rd Grade CSAP testing	2/21 No School
2/24 PTO meeting 4pm	2/25 80's Dance 6-8pm
2/28 3 rd Grade Informances	Week of 2/28 CSAP testing 3-8 gr.

- **Treasurer's Report:** Bonnie Buckley was unable to attend the meeting; however, she submitted her report in writing (see attached sheet).

A unanimous vote was recorded to approve the allocation of the Fun Photo Pac funds, of \$2,290.00, to the Spirit Fund.

A unanimous vote was recorded to approve the reimbursement from the PTO Spirit Fund to ACS for the \$1,200.00 already spent on cheerleading mats.

- **Treasurer's Report, cont'd:** It was noted that Direct Donations are an ongoing way of supporting ACS and are accepted at anytime.

ACS has received 100 shares of stock from an ACS parent. When sold, the stock will be valued at \$5,500.00 and then matched by the company. The PTO will feel more comfortable if another entity, related to ACS, would manage this money. It was decided that the Castle Rock Lifelong Learning Center would hold and manage this money to be used as scholarship fund for graduating ACS students to use for college. The CRLLC is a not for profit organization.

Brief summary of financials (for itemized listings see attached worksheet):

\$14,494.00 total direct donations

\$57,855.77 total fundraiser income

\$72,349.77 total income

\$23,721.67 total fundraiser expenses

\$59,794.39 total non-recurring expenses (i.e. new curriculum)

\$1,059.56 total operating expenses

\$85,827.32 total expenses

\$13,474.94 net income

- **New Business:** It was discussed to possibly host a Kickboxing/Aerobics class at ACS potentially taught by Darlene Lang, ACS parent.
- **STUCO Presentation:** School Counselor, Angela Krautz and the Student Peer Counselors were in attendance and gave a moving presentation regarding bullying. Angela and her team would like to see the anti-bullying program "Challenge Day" brought to ACS. This program is geared towards 7-8th grades and will help break down the social walls to help prevent bullying. The program costs \$3,200.00 annually, which covers the program itself and the travel costs of the presenters. The travel costs could be offset some if other schools in the area purchase the program for use during the same time frame. ACS parents and staff would be needed to help facilitate this program with a 1-4 adult to student ratio. A mental health professional would also need to be on hand. Angela would like to have the program up and running before the end of the year, possibly by April to partner with Denver Schools. It was discussed to help fund this program by holding paid dress down days.

A unanimous vote was recorded for the PTO to support and promote the Challenge Day program.

- The meeting was adjourned at 6:40pm. End of meeting minutes. The next Working PTO meeting is scheduled for February 24th at 4pm in the Elementary Spanish Room.
- Minutes prepared by Jeannie Reddan, Secretary. Hard copies of all minutes and attachments are available for viewing in the PTO Minutes Book in the ACS office or on the PTO bulletin board.