PAW MEETING NOTES

November 7, 2022

PAW OFFICERS: Melissa Feeney (President), Amber Rud (Treasurer), Heidi Ness (Secretary)

Attendees: Melissa Feeney, Amanda Lengyel, Molly Penk, Jen Och, Derek Branton, Heidi Ness, Amber Rud

1. Robotics Budget Discussion
   a. Many kids signed up for robotics this year – 22 applicants!
   b. Program will have 12 total kids, split into four teams of 3
      i. Kids that don’t get to be on team can still go to camp in winter
   c. Currently program is only for 5th grade, but school is looking to purchase some more things (through school funding) to introduce kids to robotics at younger grade levels
   d. $1,200 of $1,400 budget has been spent already
   e. May want to increase budget for next year - at end of year we can see what a realistic budget would look like
   f. PAW or parents could do a special fundraiser specifically for robotics
   g. Parents currently pay registration fee and costs for tournaments. Tournament registration is only about $75 per team, but cost increases significantly if teams do well and get to travel
   h. Coach gets paid a stipend, but several volunteers are also assisting, and it would be nice if they were compensated also

2. Believe fundraiser update
   a. Generated $10,077 in sales
   b. Westwood gets 40% of proceeds
   c. Still some paper orders trickling in – Melissa will collect up until Friday and then mail them in
   d. Stragglers can be faxed if needed
   e. Prizes yet to be drawn – suction cup critters this year

3. Playground news
   a. Derek has call with Bill Johnson from Northland (the original designer) on Friday
   b. Some existing equipment has been deemed unsafe and was taken down
      i. Bridge and swings
      ii. Bridge replacement was $5,000 not including installation
         1. Will find out after inspection if this would need to be professionally installed
   c. District hired a playground consultant – certified in playground safety – needs to come out and be inspected
   d. Current bid is around 100K, give or take 20K for underground support
   e. There are a couple pools of money that district can potentially go with, and funding will likely come from multiple sources
      i. Grants
         1. Derek will look into grant resources
         2. Osseo Elementary School – playground was installed in one day, funded by MN Vikings
ii. Donations
   1. Liberty Bank sponsored playground previously
   2. Donation process
      a. Donation form signed off by superintendent and earmarked for WW Elementary playground
      b. Check goes to district office then signed back over to Westwood
      c. Anyone interested in donating can talk to Derek

iii. City Funding – would city be willing to fund anything because adjacent grass and splash pad are a public park?

iv. Warranty - Is there a warranty? No, it is long expired.

v. PAW fundraiser
   1. Could do another fundraiser this summer too specific for playground
      a. 5K fun run maybe

f. Playground update would not happen till summer at least
   i. Swings can probably be fixed in the interim

   g. This is a priority for Westwood and the district

4. Invoices and teacher requests
   a. Bins – estimated shipping week of Oct 31st, no update
      i. Amber to follow up
      ii. Ordered from school specialty
   b. Mystery science curriculum
      i. Staff happy and energized to have this resource
      ii. Subscription is for one year, will evaluate renewal based on staff feedback
      iii. Nov 21st training session
      iv. Mystery science put into technology budget – taking from fall party
   c. Sara Martini
      i. Library books - $895.95
      ii. Approved and will be taken from $1,000 budget
   d. 4th Grade Misc Items
      i. Sticker, poster, star student wristbands
      ii. Pending field trip budget
         1. Derek updated staff – once we have a better idea of field trips, we will have better idea of what can be funded by PAW
         2. Derek can share budget info at leadership meeting, and connect individually with EL so teachers know what money is to be used for
         3. Unsure if orchestra hall trip will be happening – doubtful because lack of transportation
      iii. Do we have a plan B if there are no field trips?
         1. PAW money should be used for experiences
         2. Grade level money can be for supplies
         3. Get ideas from teachers
   e. Nurse Karen
      i. Need sweatpants with elastic bands, socks, underwear (new)
      ii. Should be able to do donation drive
      iii. Often clothing goes home with a child but does not return. Maybe a note could be sent home requesting return

5. Apparel order for parents and kids
   a. Felicia put together a sample order form for review
      i. Several tshirt and sweatshirt options available
      ii. Other items to potentially add - sweat pants, socks, stocking hats, Tshits
b. Can't guarantee delivery by Christmas but would be ready early next year

c. This would likely not be a PAW fund raiser unless we increase price of each item

d. Maybe do in January since we have done so much fundraising already

6. Upcoming fundraisers

a. Coin Wars
   i. Targeting week of February 13th
      1. Could have PAW table for donations during conferences
   ii. Should we do by grade or by class?
      1. Look at how many students there are per grade. Is it fair to do by grade level?
      2. Could possibly calculate average money per student at each grade level, but this makes it harder to track
      3. PreK only has 27 students – might want to combine them with whatever grade has fewest students

b. Great theater in spring
   i. Need to start planning for this
   ii. Last year we had $1,500 LEAF Grant
      1. Not guaranteed two years in a row
      2. We should make our own plan to cover

c. Walkathon – we netted $9,200 this year!