

October 17, 2011

Oak Hill PTA Projects and Goals Meeting

What is decided in this meeting will need to be approved in the first five minutes of the next PTA Executive Board meeting.

Playground equipment = red tape on AISD side. Kael is on the student council and he promised soccer nets and other playground equipment in his campaign. Geeta has a meeting with AISD landscape designer/vendor tomorrow at 10:00AM. She is going to request P&G money for this project at some point. A few years ago we looked into swings for the Kindergarten area and it was very expensive. Perhaps there are cheaper playground equipment options. How much can we do ourselves -- the installation? What can we do to save money?

Review of last month's minutes. Dr. Mitchell met with the teachers about last month's white board station on wheels request = yes, they want them. Eight of the carts = \$2270.10, which P&G will pay for. Dr. Mitchell will pay for 9 more. These have a shelf to turn book pages easily. They have large chart paper for shared writing and they have good storage. Pre-K, K, First, Second and Third grades can use these. This is considered long-term. Balance on long-term is \$3549.60 if this expense is approved. This is a high priority item – it's a teaching tool. It already comes in most new classrooms. This cannot be shared. Ms. Lagerquist and Ms. Conway say they use these items frequently. The purchase of eight of them is approved.

New Request #1: Timed math test ribbons. Lucy May requested them for second grade. These were already purchased and they want reimbursement for them. Two years ago parents paid for these. Are we setting a precedent if P&G pays for them now? There is already a PTA budgeted amount of \$750.00 per grade that could be used for this type of thing. There are 120 second graders. It's \$45.00/class. If the \$750.00 for second grade hasn't been spent, this item should come out of that amount. Or, they could increase the enrichment fee. P&G won't reimburse for this item: the ribbons have never been paid for by P&G in the past. This request is not approved.

Request #2: Bridget Brown. Reading Naturally – two more Spanish software levels needed. The levels are too simple and they need levels 2 and 3. Each level has 12 units, but Spanish has fewer units. This can be used in the classrooms for dyslexics and slow readers in third grade. This is a long-term item – it can be used for 5+ years. Dr. Mitchell does not consider this a technology item. With more volunteers this can be used more often. OHE purchased the English site license and the 1-3 units in Spanish only. Now, they need the next Spanish levels. How dedicated is PTA to continue funding Reading Naturally? Dr. Mitchell says 33% of the population is bilingual. This program helps all Spanish speakers. The second and third-grade teachers think it's beneficial. Geeta is supportive of it if Dr. Mitchell is supportive of it.

How many more units do we need to purchase to have all units up to fifth grade? If we're in this for the long haul, we need to buy it all. We need to talk to Bridget about how many more units are needed to complete the set up to fifth grade. This request is approved pending answered questions from Bridget Brown.

Request #3: Document Camera. Dr. Mitchell doesn't think this is needed if there is pre-planning. She thinks a projector will suffice. This is a technology budget item, but there isn't any money left in that budget. Geeta wants this item for the PTA. Where will it be stored? It needs to be in a safe place. Dr. Mitchell wants to see how much it would actually be used before it's purchased. This request is not approved.