

September 12, 2011

Oak Hill PTA Projects and Goals Meeting

Introductions of those present (there is a list somewhere of all attendees). D'Ann Welch will serve as secretary. Geeta reminded us that we must attend five of the seven meetings this year. We're missing representatives in Kindergarten and 5th grade.

CAC rep will be assigned to committee today at 3:00. We have a checklist of items to review this year. If something is in the technology area, we will deny it because PTA will set money aside for technology. Technology committee will set money aside for entire school. All submissions go to the team leader and Dr. Mitchel to avoid overlap.

Last year \$16,791 was spent; \$33K on long-term items. A budget of \$11K was set this year with 70% for short-term items and 30% for long-term items. \$3300 was spent on Dyslexia training last year; \$550 for sensory desks. If we need to save up for something that is a long-term item, we can do that.

Encourage friends, family to make requests for the school.

Casie Wenmohs spoke briefly about the PTA strategic planning committee. My notes are not clear here.

We have a new rating system for reviewing requests. It has a few categories and everyone received a copy of the criteria/checklist. We're looking at whether a request meets most of these criteria. The requests are originally made through an online form. Teachers, anyone can make a request. The teachers who request an item must make sure to include a date the item was approved in a team meeting or by Dr. Mitchel. The requests should be made the Thursday before the monthly, Monday meetings. Once we review a request, it will fall under one of these categories:

1. Approve
2. Deny
3. Put on hold for more information.
4. Approve until funding is available.

Geeta asked for a volunteer to get feedback from P&G beneficiaries and Ann Gass took the job. She will follow-up with each after a few months.

Stacy Underwood requested Bluebonnet Books. The price is \$900. She's requested this for many years in the past and Dr. Mitchel says it's great. We need to get a kid quote for this to show how much the kids love it. One of the PTA goals is for a program to affect as many kids as possible and this one meets that criteria. This goes toward the 70% short-term budget. This request was approved.

Staci Nowakowski-Grimm requested 17 white board stations on wheels. These are on an easel with a rack underneath for storage. It's a good design on wheels and it's tall. Seventeen teachers want one of these. There are some white boards in Kindergarten that have been used for 12 years. Many teachers are still using worn out chalk boards. The white boards are good for diversified instruction and for small groups, but mostly for lower grades. Dr. Mitchel says she can split this cost with P&G. She says she can pay for 9 and we would pay for 8. Kierstan Schwab asked why we don't use the interactive white boards. Dr. Mitchel thinks there is more versatility with the white boards. There was much discussion about this request; including exactly how many will be needed considering teachers could, realistically share them, and whether it meets the P&G criteria. We decided to put this on hold until we know exactly how much money we will need to spend. Dr. Mitchel said she can pay for this entire request if we decide not to. Dr. Mitchel will discuss with teachers at their next team meeting exactly how many will be needed. If we spend \$4840.96 on this, we will have that much less to spend on other technology.