

Irving Elementary PTO Meeting 09/17/2018 – 7:00pm

Board Members: Danielle Burrows – President, Jason Cross – Vice President,
Stacia Kleene – Treasurer, Jill Whitson – Secretary, Natalie Metzger – Member At-Large

Welcome

PTO President Danielle Burrows called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, 17 people attended. Danielle announced that Irving Spirit Gear has arrived and if you ordered any gear please see her afterwards to pick-up.

Approval of August Meeting Minutes

Danielle Burrows presented the August 2018 PTO Meeting Minutes. Susan Krisko made a motion to approve the August Meeting Minutes and Nicole Padgett seconded the motion.

Treasurers Report

Treasurer Stacia Kleene reported that she purchased new checks at for \$26.99. She reported that the Back to School Bash made just under \$4,000. \$98 goes to Special Education. Susan Krisko made a motion to approve the budget and Lisa Anderson seconded the motion.

Principals Report

Mr. Morris reported that things going well. Irving is in the middle of the fall testing and is currently finishing READING FAST testing. They will begin MATH FAST testing next week. He will be hiring a new Health Associate with an anticipated start date October 1, 2018.

Back to School Bash

Susan Krisko reported that the Back to School Bash brought in \$3962. However, there are two outstanding bills from FUSCO for the thank you sign, flayers and save the date. The goal was to raise \$2800, so we surpassed our goal.

Irving Strong Spirit Gear

Danielle Burrows reported that the Spirit Gear had arrived and that everything will go home with students this week. We are still waiting on the invoice. Danielle Burrows asked for feedback from the PTO on selling shirts from Embark Inc. Irving would get a portion of the sales back. This would give students the opportunity to get Irving shirts, as well as the special Be Kind shirts. It would be an online store with four different designs. Danielle Burrows said she would check with Embark Inc. if the store would be open throughout the year or in 2-week increments. Feedback from PTO was that this would be a great opportunity for student and teachers to get new Irving shirts. PTO Board Members will discuss this further with Embark Inc.

Supply Closet

Natalie Metzger reported that additional supplies were purchased and that the closet it open. She will re-stock as needed.

Homecoming Week (September 27-28)

Danielle Burrows announced that Homecoming week is next week. Themes for the week: Monday: Candyland – wear PJ's; Tuesday: Scrabble – wear the first letter of your first name and make words with friends. This is also the District Wide Pediatric Cancer Awareness Day, each student will be given a gold a ribbon. Students are encouraged to wear Gold on this day; Wednesday: Cranium – dress like a Brainiac; Thursday: Class color Day– each grade will have a color (K – yellow, 1st – Green, 2nd – Blue, 3rd – Pink, 4th – Red, 5th – Orange); Friday: Indians Spirit Day – wear Purple and Gold, Irving or Indianola Gear.

Ms. Darsee announced that Irving plans to paint the Country Financial windows for Homecoming week. It will be Sunday from 1-3pm. Parents and students are invited to help.

Danielle Burrow announced that a school assembly is being held on Friday morning at 10am. The High School JV Dance team will be coming, and she is working on getting the football players and cheerleaders there as well. There will be a kid relay and then the teachers will do an activity.

Danielle Burrows announced that Irving is participating in the Homecoming Parade this year. It will be Thursday with line-up starting at Irving at 5pm. We are still looking for two trailers with trucks and hay. Leftover candy from the Back to School Bash will be thrown out at the parade.

Football Concession

Danielle Burrows announced that Irving will be volunteering at the Indianola football concession stand on October 12 from 6:15pm until close, which is around 10pm. The shift has been split into two-hour shifts. We need 16 volunteers in the home concession stand and 6 volunteers in the visitor. Volunteers have to be there the entire time. Danielle sent a sign-up sheet around and will be sending out an e-invite.

Volunteer Opportunity

Mr. Morris stated he spoke with a parent regarding volunteers. Irving is always open to volunteers. Irving follows the Districts procedures regarding volunteers and those volunteers need to have a specific purpose – not just walking around halls.

Box Tops

Jess Flatt announced that Irving will be having a Fall Box Tops contest. The flyer will be coming in the next couple of weeks and will run through October 19. She stated that she has to submit the box tops we have collected to Box Top by November 1. The classroom that brings in the most will have a board game party. The Box Top App. will also count and information on the app. will on flyer.

Hy-Vee Receipts

Jill Whitson reported that Hy-Vee receipts were submitted to Hy-Vee so within the next month we will be receiving a check for \$350.

Purple Palooza

Danielle Burrows stated that she is looking for a committee to meet with the past Purple Palooza volunteer, Leah Butler. If you are interested in being on the committee or if you

have an idea to share, please reach out to Danielle. Purple Palooza will be on March 8, 2019.

Fall Fundraiser

Jason Cross, Danielle Burrows and Mr. Morris met with Ray Coffey regarding Irving technology needs to assist with facilitating teacher interactivity with students. Last year the Fall Fundraiser raised \$30,342, after prize expenses it was \$28,357. We have 201 students participate last year.

Jason presented the 2018 Goal: Beyond the iPad Interactive Classroom Technology. Items PTO is considering this year include: Interactive Projection, Audio Amplification, and Voting Assessment System. The Interactive Whiteboard System is \$169 each. Jason showed a video on how these work. The classroom Voting Assessment System's price is still being determined. One of the Emerson Elementary teachers has a voting assessment system and uses it often. The Audio Amplification technology price is still be determined. Some of the Irving classrooms already have this but it is either not work or outdated. Jason and Ray are determining if it is better to replace/fix what we currently have or if it is better to get new. A parent stated that her husband uses the Voting Assessment System at Simpson and loves it.

The Fall Fundraiser goal is \$25,000, which equates to \$60 per student. We will not be selling items this year, we will be asking for donations. There will be donation tiers: Purple Tier - \$60/student; Gold Tier - \$120/student; Mega Tier - \$300/student. Each tier will have different prizes. In addition from October 1 – November 9 there will be daily and weekly prizes and at the end of the Fundraise a Mega Drawing.

Teachers will be given incentives to participate this year. Last year jean day, free breakfast, parking spot, free desert, free coffee were all popular incentives. Items that they were interested in this year include a pencil sharper, a new run, money that they can purchase for their classrooms, items from their wish list.

A parent asked about multi-level donations for families with multiple children. A concern from parents about families with more than one child, specifically with classroom contest. Concerns can be brought to Danielle Burrows and/or Jason Cross.

A parent questioned that we have \$33,000 in the Irving PTO fund and why aren't we using it? Danielle announced that Irving PTO has spent \$70,000. In addition, the District requires us to have a reserve. Also in a couple of years Irving is going to have to cycle in new iPads, which is a requirement – so we need a reserve for when that happens. Danielle Burrows also stated we are looking at providing every classroom, including specials, with an amount of money that they can use to purchase items for their classroom.

PTO was discussing Irving fundraiser and that there seemed to be several events through the year. Danielle Burrows reminded everyone that the Pancake Supper was not a fundraiser. She also stated the Fall Fundraiser was starting two weeks earlier than normal and that the Purple Palooza was moved a month later to help families and to spread out the fundraiser. The remaining fundraising activities were the MDA Penny Drive and the End of the Year Walkathon.

One idea to purchase with the fundraising efforts was a Buddy Bench. A parent announced that the Girls Scouts were already thinking of raising money and building these benches for one of their activities. There would be two benches on opposite sides of the playgrounds.

Open to Committee Leaders

Lisa Anderson made an announcement that if anyone wants to be on the Irving Garden Committee please sign-up. Clean up will be happening soon. Lisa stated that Simpson students and Boy Scouts would also be helping. Danielle Burrows stated that she has tomato cages to donate and that the Irving Garden was added to the budget this year. Lisa said that she was able to get a truckload of dirt donated, that JV trucking donated a load of mulch and Lisa purchased a load of mulch. She is looking to expand and add a Pollinator Garden with native plants on the last 1/3 of the garden.

Susan Krisko reported that PTO is providing dinner one night during the first conference, which is around Halloween. She will be asking for food donations.

The next meeting is October 8, 2018 at 7pm. Meeting closed at 7:55pm.