

KORT Minutes
Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Attendance: Angela Hoeger, Maria Haugseth, Ashley Feagins, Drina Black, Jackie Andrews, Rick Stewart, Susie Clark, Sarah Kershner, Maribel Zill, Carolyn Loo, Lynda Malka, Lori Auteri – Tucker, Alicia Riley, Shelly Shaw, Dani Sigurdson

Thanks to everyone who came, there were really great ideas and information shared. :)

Discussion Items:

1. Teen Night:

A night for teens grades 6th and up to get together and have some social time.

2. Family Game Night:

A night for families to get together and have fun playing games and sharing each other's company.

3. Parent/teacher wish list:

What needs do we have this year? On the floor at this meeting was this issue of parents attending some of the staff seminars and donations for the vending machine to up our fundraising money.

4. Vending machine update:

We discussed what is working in the vending machine right now and what things people would like to have. We are going to make a suggestion box for Maribel if you have any requests or comments.

5. PACT fundraising report:

We discussed where our budget is at for this year and what we can do for extra fundraising this year.

6. Babysitting expenses:

Approval to pay for all babysitting expenses was discussed.

7. Online resources for parents and kids:

Great online tools for teaching and kids were discussed. The websites discussed were: www.brainpop.com and www.dreambox.com

8. Promotional items:

Items discussed at this meeting: t-shirts, online networking to promote the school, school supplies with logo and name, and codes for people to go to our website and enter it in to win a prize. These would be given away to people who were not enrolled to encourage them to go to our site and see what we are about.

9. A parents blog on our school website:

A parent's blog on our school website for parents to communicate with each other was discussed.

Action Items (items we took a vote on):

1. Teen Night: Approved!

Angela brought up having teen night again for grades 6th and up here at PACT. We

discussed what activities would go on, what food would be there, when, and who would be running it. The group voted that teen night would be every other month on the first Friday of that month. We would do pizza for the kids and then they can bring additional treats and snacks that they would like to share. Thanks to Angela we have a parent who will be running these nights with the help of a staff member. We also voted to pay this staff member for his or her time during the event.

2. **Family Game Night:** Approved!

Angela also brought up another thought about bringing back family game night this year since it was a hit last year. The group voted yes to bring back this fun family night. It will be held every other month on the first Friday of the month. Thanks to Ashley for volunteering to do this event with the help of a staff member that KORT will pay.

3. **Parents attending some staff seminars:** Approved!

Maribel brought to our attention the benefits of us as the teachers of our kids being able to attend some of the staff seminars that would be useful to us. A great example of that would be going to a seminar on a new workbook and the teacher's edition that is coming out. The group talked about all the benefits of us attending these seminars and voted yes to some of them being open to parents as well as having babysitting provided during the seminars if possible.

4. **Babysitting expenses:** Approved!

Lynda spoke about how it would be beneficial to have approved money to be able to be spent on babysitting beforehand so that babysitting can be offered when needed if there is no KORT meeting before the event. The group saw the many pluses to this and voted yes.

5. **Online resources:** Approved!

Jackie presented a wonderful resource today. It is online based and teaches lessons as well as provides educational games and quizzes based on grade level and subject. The grade levels it offers is from K – 12th. The website is www.brainpop.com. The group voted yes to spend \$1995.00 and purchase the combo school access and home access package. That way we as parents can use this tool at school or at home with the pass code to get in.

6. **Promotional item – t-shirt:** Approved!

The group discussed many different ways to promote the school. The one thing that got voted on in this session was doing a new t-shirt design for our school t-shirts. If you are interested in presenting a design idea please bring a copy of your design to the next KORT meeting.

7. **Parents Blog:** Approved!

With so many things being centered around the computer and Internet Lynda brought up a great idea for a parents blog on our website. The blog can be used to ask other parents questions about lessons, workbooks, teaching methods etc. The group talked about the pros of this type of communication and voted yes to have a parent's blog.