

Columbia Middle School PTSO
Meeting Minutes
November 20th from 6:03 pm till 6:57pm

Present:

Steve Hamilton, Jeff Hoff, Jennifer LaRochelle, and Terry Foxworthy

Minutes:

Approval of minutes: Steve motioned, Jennifer seconded and all approved.

Treasures Report:

Total \$9834.76

Treasures report filed for audit.

Old Business:

Budget meeting – Many items cut from the budget.

New Business:

Budget going forward - Considering keeping the following items:

1. Parent Involvement
2. Cougar Lunches
3. Honors Breakfast
4. Pride gift cards
5. Charges for bank account
 - a. Software \$150.00 per year
 - b. Possibly move to spreadsheet
6. Focus on fundraising to center on students

Question posed to PTSO – Can the spring fundraiser sustain the fundraising effort each year? What does a successful minimum budget look like to achieve student engagement?

Request for Funds:

None

Committee Chair Reports:

Hospitality - None

Principal Report and Accountability

Last spring the park testing in 7th grade social studies and 8th grade science took place and revealed the following information.

1. 7th grade social studies state proficiency at 17%
 - a. Columbia proficiency at 6%
2. 8th grade science state proficiency at 31%
 - a. Columbia proficiency at 11%
3. The testing was all done on-line and prompted the following discussions
 - a. Motor movements
 - i. not a bubble test required students to drag answers to location
 - b. Aligning standards
 - c. Provide structure to learning experiences
 - d. Content and information
 - e. Testing is only in English
 - f. Exempt students
 - i. In country less than 18 months
 - ii. Severe needs students

Technology is still good at Columbia because Mr. Hamilton envisioned early that it would be needed and required in today's society.

Partnership with Metro Center on December 3rd to meet with Columbia MS engagement team of 15 members to discuss the following topics:

1. Connect students with school
2. Share strategies w/teacher on late start day

Tech bond removal lessened to only \$28,000 left at Columbia

APS district created a visitor login for Columbia to help limit traffic on classroom internet connections.

Barnes and Nobel/Atlanta Bread/Honey Baked Ham company donations were received.

Non-Profit organizations like APS schools must be accountable for actions and proper spends of donations given to school.

Upcoming dates:

Thanksgiving break Nov 27th and 28th

December 2nd Parent teach conferences 2nd quarter

Winter Break Dec 22nd thru Jan 3rd

Next meeting: January 8, 2015 at 6:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned: 6:57 p.m.