MINUTES

Asbury Elementary School PTSO

December 3, 2018 | 6:00 p.m. | Meeting called to order by Ann Garner

In Attendance

Lizzy Neufeld, Kim Nyhus, Maren Willins, Samantha Weiler, Kristi Leech, Shannon Durling, Kate Cihon, Leah Borsheim, Jennifer Carreiro, Ann Garner, Meredith Anderson, Kelly Bryant, Karen Hampel, Krystal Joscelyne, Desi Kennedy, Alicia FaJohn, Sarah Lintzenich, Sara Weneck, Stephanie Vieau, Esther Duke, Kevin Flynn, Erin Anglin, Lizzie Mussoline, Andrea Beatty, Greg Weiler.

Direct Give Status Update

- We are so excited about how much money we made with our Direct Give campaign!
- Lizzy Neufeld thanked everyone for their contributions and willingness to help brainstorm. It was beyond a group effort; incredible community members stepped up. The idea of a match really pushed the campaign over the edge and helped push people to the finish line.
- The campaign brought in \$91,000 excluding monthly pledges which we can only count each month as they come in (approximately \$500 per month). We will be sitting right around \$95,000 when everything is said and done.
- We received two \$10,000 gifts and two \$5,000 gifts.
- We received \$61,745 without taking into account large gifts (this number does not include monthly donations).
- The average donation was \$260 (last year it was \$100).
- Over 20 people gave \$900 or above.
- We had a total of 263 donors.
- Something to think about is the suggested donation amount and how to communicate it tactfully.
- It would be interesting to breakdown where the money is coming from (Asbury families, or their friends and family?).
- We need to provide receipts for corporate matching gifts.
- The Direct Give committee needs some help with thank you notes.
- In terms of feedback, please send any input to asbury.ptso@gmail.com.
- Alicia mentioned that there is feedback available from the CSC (Collaborative School Committee) and SLT (School Leadership Team)
- Thank you Lizzy for putting your heart into the campaign. Thank you for your leadership and for believing in it. Thank you to Meaghan and Andrea as well! Thank you to the people who hosted parties. Thank you to Meg Bartholomy for designing all our materials. Thank you to Alicia for showing up for multiple parties.

Principal's Report

Principal Alicia FaJohn reported:

- Thank you to this group of people and for your dedication to our Direct Give campaign. As a staff we come up with what we need and what we want. We are used to seeing it in our planning and in the kids' reactions but we got to see it come to fruition and come in the form of this support as the community embraced it.
- The CSC met today and we talked about SchoolChoice. The window is coming up so we shifted some of our priorities and updated them as a group. Here is the overview of the new updated priorities:
 - 1. Boundary
 - 2. Children of Asbury full-time employees (we value our staff; there have been cases of children of staff not getting a spot)

- 3. Sibling of a child who qualifies for FRL (to continue our vision around equity and excellence and having a diverse community)
- 4. Sibling of a child who does not qualify for FRL
- We are heading into budget season. We are planning on maintaining our current staff, with one exception: our Early Literacy Grant is ending this year so our MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) positions will go away. We are hoping to maintain our Literacy para, Mrs. Berge, at 5 hours, 5 days a week. We are working on building resource banks in lieu of the curriculum nights we are accustomed to.
- A sprinkler head broke in the attic. This was a contractor mistake and they will pay for the damage. Some areas had flooding but not any classrooms. Alicia will meet with a plumber in January. The hope is that if there is a problem we can replace it all and build a cafeteria. If that is the case Alicia will enlist our support and letter-writing. Thank you to Lonnie and DeShawn for all their hard work in cleaning up the school.

Teacher's Report

- Ditto! Thank you so much for your support through the Direct Give campaign.
- The staff is also thankful for the essential oils provided on the planning day before break.
- Desi Kennedy reported that the Expo is next Thursday, November 12th. Not all grades participate in each Expo. Please come whether your student is involved in this Expo or not! The kids are so excited to share.

Committee Updates

Backpack Program

Jenny Geyer jennygeyer09@gmail.com, Sarah Lintzenich sarahlintzenich@yahoo.com

- We are gearing up for the Holiday Giving Tree this year. It's a big need for some of our families. We've sent out letters to all the families who participate in the backpack program to gather holiday wish lists. We are going to send home a link to a Sign Up Genius and will also have a tree in the office. If you can help, it is a worthwhile cause. We will be sending this out tomorrow with the hope that in the next two weeks we can supply Christmas to these families.
- The program has been renamed the Asbury Backpack Program because of issues with Hands Up for the Children. We are teaming up with the Food Bank of the Rockies. We are hoping to have more food to send home. We need new bags we are hoping for Costco-style cooler bags. If anyone has any ideas please let us know. We need approximately 20 to 25 bags. A suggestion was to order bags through Thirty-One (Kim Magoffin is a Thirty-One consultant).
- We are hoping that the Food Bank of the Rockies opportunity will cover our food needs and that we will not need to rely on our community as much. The Holiday Giving Tree is a great opportunity for the community to get involved.

Community Ticketing

- We are still looking for someone to lead the Community Ticketing Committee.
- Leah Borsheim has set up our DU sports dates:
 - Men's Hockey Friday, January 31st (\$20/ticket)
 - Men's Basketball Thursday, February 20th (\$15/ticket)
 - Women's Gymnastics Sunday, March 8th (\$15/ticket)
- We are going to announce these dates before break in case people want to give as holiday gifts.

School Tours

Listy Lehman <u>listy.lehman@gmail.com</u>

- School tours are happening and we could use some volunteers.
- Kinder Jubilees will take place back-to-back in January.
- Alicia mentioned we have had lots of families on the tour so far.

Spring Wing & Silent Auction

Kim Nyhus kimpnyhus@gmail.com, Kristi Leech kristileech@gmail.com, Alison Strom alisonstrom27@gmail.com

- No news at this time. We are always looking for people to help. We will likely start asking for volunteers in January.
- The event will take place on Saturday, May 2, 2020 at the Galvanize location near the big REI. The space has an outdoor patio and it overlooks downtown Denver. Havana Nights is the theme.

Dining Out

Kim Nyhus kimpnyhus@gmail.com

- Our Brightmarten Dine Out brought in \$297.
- Our Mad Greens Dine Out brought in \$45.
- Kari Padilla is one of our paraprofessionals and her husband owns the McDonald's at Evans and Colorado. He would really like to do an event for Asbury.
- Dine Outs are in the works for Adelita's (January) and Spanky's (February pair with the DU Basketball game on Thursday, February 20th?).
- Kim's question for the group: should we continue to use the stickers to promote the Dine Outs? The feedback was a resounding yes!

2019-20 Fundraising Goals Progress

- We are doing well on our goals. The outcome of the Direct Give campaign takes pressure off Read-A-Thon and we are hoping for a big bang with Spring Wing. We are in a really good place.
- Ann Garner stated that she still wants to get to the \$200,000 number. She would love for us to set up the PTSO for future years.

Treasurer's Report

- The budget was presented last month and we need to vote on it. Some things have changed (for example Direct Give).
- Ann Garner moved that we approve the proposed budget. Shannon Durling seconded. All were in favor.
- Fundraising highlights:
 - Total Fiscal Year to Date Income: \$106,027.48 (this number does not reflect approximately \$20,000 in Direct Give donations)
 - Total Fiscal Year to Date Expenses: \$133,562.39
 - Net Income FYTD: -\$27,534.91 (this number will shift based on the \$20,000 Direct Give number above)

Next Meeting

Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 7 at 6pm.