

Spirit Lake Elementary PIE
November 21, 2022
Spirit Lake Elementary School

Meeting called to order by PIE President Jamie Hunter at 12:02p.

Board members present: Jamie Hunter, Rachel Fandel, Greta Gruys, Kelly Mueting, Nicole Evans, David Matthews, Kate Mendenhall, Kelli Kruger

Guests present: Mr. Huebner, Mrs. Vancura, Allison Antoine

Purpose Statement: PIE provides the students of the Spirit Lake Elementary School with activities and opportunities that support and extend their education above and beyond the classroom.

Principal Report

Mr. Huebner provided report. School year continues to go well! Fall conferences are completed and the teachers appreciated the evening meals during conferences sponsored by PIE. The PIE Survey Teacher Results- 23/37 teachers participated in survey. The goal of the anonymous survey was to get a better sense of priorities for PIE and receive teacher input and suggestions. The teachers were asked to rank survey questions 0-10 on a few subjects such as playground and outdoor classroom. There was also a portion to write comments. Updating the playground is the #1 suggestion for SL elementary PIE with particular interest in resurfacing (go away with the woodchips/ rubber mulch). Teachers expressed their appreciation for the field trips and experiences PIE provides. Teachers also stated thanks for the Amazon gift cards and Winter Blast but stated that they still continue to use their own monies for classroom supplies. PIE committee discussed increasing the amounts of Amazon gift cards and Winter Blast gift cards for teachers. A plan to put together a playground committee will be performed by Jamie and Mr Huebner to look into new equipment and prepare for possible resurfacing in the future.

Review/Approve October Meeting Minutes.

Sent via email and a copy was printed and distributed. Error noted and was amended to change "October" to "September" meeting minutes. Motion made by Kelli to approve with the change; second Rachel. Ayes all, motion carried.

Review/Approve Treasurer's Report

Report printed and distributed. Kelly Mueting, Treasurer, provided updates.

Motion made by Rachel; second Greta. Ayes all, motion carried.

Fundraiser

- \$68,000 in sales with approximately \$30,000 distributed to the school
- With the success of the fundraiser, a motion was made by Greta to increase the Amazon gift card amount for each teacher to \$100 (from \$75), second Rachel. Ayes all, motion carried. Gift cards in the amount of \$25 will be given to support staff (custodians, secretaries, librarians, nurse).

Book Fair

- Book Fair was held November 7th-11th with record sales of \$16,000 this year!
- \$1,200 in books was purchased by PIE to restock for the vending machine throughout the year

Cultural Experience

- Kate Mendenhall and Allison Antoine, representing Okoboji Elementary Pioneers committee (similar to PIE), are looking into collaborating to book a cultural experience for the children of Spirit Lake and Okoboji Elementary Schools. "Culture All" is an organization based out of Des Moines that works with immigrants to share their cultural backgrounds with children and adolescent groups. An example of a schedule was shared in which 4 ambassadors come to the school to work with students and share experiences. "Culture All" recommended the Japan Cultural study with 4 ambassadors coming to work with students for 1/2 day with 4 workshops on origami, swordsmanship, tea ceremony, and Taiko drumming. The idea would be to have a morning with Spirit Lake students and then an afternoon with Okoboji students while splitting the transportation and lodging costs for the program. There was discussion of having a school-wide assembly with the ambassadors, and later breakout and work with 1 specific grade (3rd or 4th grade). In addition, there was potential to have an evening program and invite the community to the Pearson Lakes Art Center to partake in the experience as well. Kate will look into booking this cultural experience for March 10 and check the availability of the SAMI center. Potential to book future years with different cultural experiences represented from countries such as Africa, Mexico, and India.

Winter Blast

- Winter Blast set for January 20. Motion made by Greta to increase PIE donation to teachers for Winter Blast activity supplies to \$75 (from \$50). Second Kate. Ayes all, motion carried.

STEM Fair

- Greta Gruys will take lead and provide updates. STEM Fair set for Thursday, March 30. This is an optional opportunity for 3rd and 4th graders. PIE members please "save the date" to assist with set up and take down.

Miscellaneous

- Ice machine was installed and working great! Teachers and staff are very appreciative.

Motion made by Greta to adjourn; second Kelli. Ayes all. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:10p.

Next monthly PIE meeting to be held Monday, December 12th at 12:00 at Spirit Lake Elementary.

Respectfully submitted,
Greta Gruys, PIE Secretary