

FCA PTO Budget Meeting

Approved Meeting Minutes

September 22nd, 2009

Governing Council Members in Attendance

Randy Becker	Erica Brown	Jennifer Chadderdon
Blake Cleverly	Dawn Force	Jessica Heide
Derek Jones	Sherry Nanneman	Cheri Neibauer
Todd & Janet Blackwelder	Aubrey Valdez	

Chairman Derek Jones called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm.

Discussion on Purpose of PTO

Derek Jones began the meeting with a Governing Council (GC) discussion about the role of the PTO and the mission of FCA. Randy Becker said the PTO was created to give direction on where we go as a school. Parental involvement causes good outcomes and the PTO should continue to keep programs strong and parents involved. Dawn Force said there used to be 300 parents at the PTO meetings and now there are maybe 30 (including the GC). Randy Becker said issues like the dress code and homework brought parents to the meetings, but there have not been 300 parents at the PTO meetings since the original meetings when the school was founded. Cheri Neibauer suggested publishing the agenda for PTO meetings. Derek Jones said the agenda will be posted the Thursday before the meeting. Todd Blackwelder suggested a reminder of where to get the agenda in teacher's newsletters and on the FM transmitter. Sherry Nanneman will ask teachers to inform parents, in their weekly newsletters, about the availability of the agenda and when PTO meetings are scheduled. Randy Becker suggested an AlertNow notice of agenda and meeting.

Todd Blackwelder asked what value the PTO has beyond funding and what do we add to the curriculum and citizenship. Blake Cleverly mentioned the PTO assists in hiring of teachers. Erica Brown discussed the current fundraiser and the need for help from the FCA community to raise needed funds. Aubrey Valdez said we need to have specific goals for the money when FCA fundraises. Derek Jones commented that the founding parents of FCA stated that fundraising should only occur to fulfill specific needs.

Jessica Heide stated that GC members should volunteer to lead and be a role model for other parents. Our GC should be concerned with academics and why our test results on the PAWS math declined this past year. How does this affect our Exemption request? Dawn Force said the role of the PTO is to hold accountable the standards and administration. The GC needs to keep committees active, promote parental involvement, encourage academic excellence, and facilitate communication and cooperation. How do we help our parents sign-up and get involved? Sherry Nanneman stated that the 3rd grade teachers have asked for parental help in their newsletters and have had great success in getting parents involved.

Budget

Budget Officer Jessica Heide began the Budget meeting. Treasurer Cheri Neibauer and Jessica mentioned placing some of the money in a money market account. Jessica reviewed the Income section of the budget. Todd Blackwelder asked GC Fundraiser Liaison Erica Brown if raising \$20,000 every year was a feasible goal. The

current "FCA is on Fire" Fundraiser has brought in about \$500. The official closing date is October 1st and Erica will have a better idea of how much money has been raised. Blake Cleverly said parents he has spoken with are tired of fundraising and wished FCA would just ask for donations instead. Randy Becker suggested we tighten our belts and not fundraise in this economy. He said there is no real purpose to be raising money for FCA.

Expenses Budget:

Activities Committee – Requested \$1400. After discussion, budget funded at \$1,000.

Back to School Bash – Requested \$600 for next August. After discussion, budget funded at \$100.

BTSB did request a separate \$100 for a new FCA sign – request approved at \$100.

Decorating – Requested \$700 to decorate for the first day of school and monthly for the staff lounge. Kim Johnson commented that the staff takes care of decorating for the lounge. Budget funded at \$100.

Elections Committee – Requested \$250. After discussion, budget funded at \$100.

Fundraising – Requested \$200 for miscellaneous use, \$100 to purchase pizza and popcorn for the winners of "FCA is on Fire", \$300 to stock the school store, and \$700 for T-shirt expenses. Fundraising budget funded at \$1300 for all expenses.

Last Blast Picnic – Requested and funded at \$350.

Public Relations – Requested \$1000. After discussion, budget funded at \$250.

Staff Support – Requested \$2,500. After discussion, the budget was funded at \$1,200 - with an additional \$500 to fund the annual staff picnic in August.

Welcome Committee – Requested and approved at \$810 for 30 baskets.

Enrichment – Requested and funded at \$250.

Shed – \$3500 carried forward from last year.

Yellowstone – Approved at \$4,500.

Todd Blackwelder moved to accept the budget. Dawn Force seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Supplemental Budget:

Library Committee – Requested \$520 for posters for "Chargers Choices". After discussion, Todd Blackwelder motioned to fund at \$75. Seconded by Dawn Force. Motion passed unanimously.

Technology Committee – Requested \$500. After discussion, Blake Cleverly motioned to fund at \$150. Seconded by Randy Becker. Motion passed unanimously.

Governing Council – Requested \$2000 for general use. Cheri Neibauer motioned to fund at \$2000. Seconded by Sherry Nanneman. Unanimously approved.

Additional \$150 requested by Treasurer Cheri Neibauer for QuickBooks purchase. Motion by Randy Becker to fund at \$150. Seconded by Dawn Force. Motion passed unanimously.

Raising Readers – Principal Larson requested \$150. After discussion, it was decided that a fundraiser to raise funds would be more appropriate to raise awareness and funds. Todd Blackwelder moved to fund at \$0. Aubrey Valdez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Scholarship – Todd Blackwelder requested \$750 scholarship fund to help individual students with financial hardship pay admission fees to academically oriented events. Examples would include, but not limited to, 5th grade Yellowstone trip, any FCA sponsored field trip, and any academic trips taken by students. Randy Becker moved to fund the scholarship at \$750. Jessica Heide seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Sports – Jennifer Chadderdon requested \$400 for volleyballs and basketballs for the afterschool sports program. Jennifer informed the GC that Principal Randall Larson has approved to pay for volleyballs from the school budget. Request rescinded.

Teacher's Fund – Funds requested in the amount of \$2500 for 25 teachers. Chairman Derek Jones expanded this yearly fund to include the 3 specials teachers – music, art and PE. Sherry Nanneman moved to fund the \$2500. Aubrey Valdez seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Teacher's Requests:

Fourth Grade – Requested \$112 for admission to the Historic Trails Museum. After discussion it was decided that individual parent funding would be more appropriate. Recommendation was for parents to fund this activity, with the understanding that there is now a scholarship for those students experiencing financial hardship. Cheri Neibauer moved to fund at \$0. Aubrey Valdez seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Fourth Grade – Requested \$124.50 for necklaces made during the Historic Trails Museum field trip. After discussion it was decided that individual parent funding would be more appropriate. Recommendation was for parents to fund this activity, with the understanding that there is now a scholarship for those students experiencing financial hardship. Erica Brown moved to fund at \$0. Todd Blackwelder seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Kindergarten – Requested \$155.15 for vinyl sleeves for ticket pouches on the front of students' desks. After discussion, it was decided not to fund this request and ask the Kindergarten classes to continue using the paper pouches provided by the school. Todd Blackwelder moved to fund at \$0. Aubrey seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Kindergarten – Requested \$572.70 for easels. Dawn Force moved to fund the easels (at the October 13th PTO meeting after originally tabled for further information). Carrie Bennion seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Music – Mrs. Beecher requested \$1801.90 for chimes. After discussion, the GC recommended having the Grants Committee explore funding options or the Fundraising Committee raise necessary funds. Erica Brown moved to fund at \$0. Todd Blackwelder seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Pencil Sharpeners – Multiple requests for funding of pencil sharpeners at a total \$235. Randy Becker motioned to fund the request at \$0. Jessica Heide seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

WhiteBoards - Request for 35 sets of whiteboards at \$667.80. Todd Blackwelder motioned to fund the request at \$0. Jessica Heide seconded. Motion passed unanimously. However, both Todd Blackwelder and Robert Snyder volunteered their time to help make the whiteboards as Norm Carrell did when FCA first began.

Derek Jones requested every GC member read E.D. Hirsch's book, Cultural Literacy, before the October 13th PTO meeting.

Todd Blackwelder motioned to adjourn the meeting. Erica Brown seconded.
Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted – Janet Blackwelder