

Sugarloaf SAC Board Minutes

December 12, 2012

Roll Call: 6:06 pm

Present: Harry Russell, Kelli Fricke, Jenny O'Brien, Mindy Conn, Jill Palladino, Joelle Keane

Excused: Ollie Iarrobino, Laurie Cook, Raquel Silvestro

SAC Chair Report – Kelli Fricke

On a motion by Mindy Conn and seconded by Joelle Keane, the minutes were approved from the meeting held on November 14, 2012.

The teacher of the month award and certificate was given to Mei Carney for December. Valerie Parker was already voted as recipient of the award in January. Jenny O'Brien provided the gift card for January's award and Laurie Cook and Joelle Keane have already committed to awards for February and March. Nominations will be taken at the next meeting.

The guest speaker scheduled for tonight's meeting was unable to join. Ideas for keynote topics for upcoming meetings were discussed and Principal Russell felt that another opportunity to speak with someone from the District IT Department would be beneficial and will also invite School Board member Andy Griffiths in February to discuss budgeting for the following school year and reach out to some other individuals that might be willing to speak at upcoming SAC meetings.

Principal's Report – Harry Russell

Principal Russell discussed the following highlighted activities that have recently occurred at Sugarloaf School as well as initiatives he is currently working on:

1. He has been writing a grant for approximately \$10,000 that would enable the school to create a S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math) Lab on campus. This lab would include robotic and hydraulic equipment as well as other specialties including forensics, chemistry, and physics. The grant will require match funding, however Mr. Russell has recently received a commitment for a donation to the school from a private individual that may be able to support this once finalized. Mr. Russell will also reach out to business partners such as Keys Energy, FKAA, and Monroe County Sheriff's Office, as those fields will be highlighted in this vocational lab. His ultimate goal is to build this lab and program to the level that would require an additional teacher allocation specifically for the program.

2. Middle School students went to Regal Cinemas in Key West on a field trip today to watch an anti-bullying documentary. The program was coordinated by guidance counselor Rebecca Palomino and funded by grant money she secured for the event. The program was very well received by all students and they each signed an anti-bullying pledge at the end of the trip.
3. They are in process of teacher of the year elections at the school level.
4. Middle School mid terms start next week, Monday December 17th.
5. Winter break commences soon. The last day for teachers and students will be Friday, December 21st which is an early release day for students. The early release day is slated for professional development and they are planning in-house training by peers in 8 different areas.
6. The annual craft fair on December 1st was a big success. The funds raised are earmarked for end of year awards. Mr. Russell gave thanks to all involved in the event.
7. The Holiday Shoppe is going on now and there has been a great volunteer turn out.
8. The athletic program is up and running and basketball season is going on now.
9. Mr. Russell congratulated Joe Dallas on a fantastic holiday choir concert.

Other Business

Operation H.O.P.E. is a program supported by Mr. Lawson who holds a Care Package Drive at the school to benefit military personnel. He has distributed information about the drive to SAC and has encouraged the SAC to spread the word. It is a program he has supported for several years and is an ongoing effort at the school and not held just during the holidays. The students usually get involved as well and it is always well received.

With no further business the SAC meeting adjourned at 6:33 pm.

Sugarloaf PTO Minutes

December 12, 2012

Roll Call: 6:33 pm

Present: Harry Russell, Kelli Fricke, Jenny O'Brien, Mindy Conn, Jill Palladino, Joelle Keane, Wendy McPherson

The above attendees met to discuss upcoming fundraising events as well as updates on current efforts and ideas for additional revenue sources in the future.

The Holiday Shoppe is currently open for the week of December 10-14 for Elementary students. The volunteer turn out has been excellent. The drive doesn't raise significant funds for the school but it is an event that is well-loved by the students.

The Believe fundraiser had very little participation this year. Final profit from the fundraiser was reported at \$3,620.85, which is significantly lower than prior year averages of around \$11,000. Joelle is concerned about the ongoing viability of this particular fundraiser.

On that topic, members discussed major concerns about the future of SAC fundraising efforts, with many key members nearing the end of their tenure at Sugarloaf School as their children move onto high school. The need for new volunteers and SAC members was stressed for continued success of the Board and its efforts, particularly parents of early Elementary aged students.

Jill Palladino will be spearheading a committee at the school to discuss the long term vision of the school, including ideas to improve partnerships with parent and community stakeholders.

The list of new fundraising ideas prepared at the last meeting was discussed in more detail. The consensus was to focus on the newest idea of a basketball tournament that will serve as a venue to host an Outback Steakhouse fundraiser. This would be a day-long event hosted at the Sugarloaf School campus in the gym, whereby all the middle schools in the district would attend and compete. During the event we hope to have Outback Steakhouse meals provided with ticket sales serving as a fundraiser for the programs endorsed by SAC. Mr. Russell will meet with Coach Sean McDonald to determine the feasibility of the event, since the basketball season ends at the end of January. If the event is possible, Mindy Conn will follow up with management at Outback to determine their willingness to support the event.

With no further business the PTO meeting adjourned at 7:18 pm.