**Riverbend PTO Meeting November 4, 2014**

Place: Riverbend Cafeteria, 71 Learning Ln, Clyde, NC 28721

6:15 pm – Jane called meeting to order. The meeting agenda, minutes from last meeting, and financial report were passed out.

Reminder: School Improvement Meeting Nov. 10 at 3:10pm. Title 1 school visit will be discussed.

Yankee Candle Fundraising Summary -

All of the top Yankee Candle sales winners have received their prize. Jane will be sending an email to the JV PTO contact to find out how they handed out the candle orders. Mrs. Chambers offered using the stage in the gym. This will allow PTO to use a big space and keep the orders out for a few days while parents come to pick up the orders. We will need to have pickup available after school. If there are a few orders that have not been picked up by the end of the scheduled pickup days, Shirly will be able to assist with candle order pickups.

Treasurer’s Report –

We grossed $13,960 in sales. This means our take home is $5,584. PTO will be paying the Yankee Candle bill within 30 days of ordering. By paying quickly we will save 3% on our total bill, which will be used to cover the flat rate shipping cost of $250. We currently have $10,284 in the bank.

Principal’s Update -

*National Title 1 Competition Update*

Yea!! On November 18th Riverbend will be visited by Raleigh personnel. The Title 1 winner is down to just two. The visit will be held from 9-2pm. The reviewers will meet the Mrs. Chambers first, followed by the teachers, and finally parents of the students at Riverbend.

*iPad card update*

Preparing the iPads for the classroom has been slowed due to a change in the wi-fi offered at Riverbend. IT has changed the open usage of wi-fi to a more restricted usage protocol. This means each iPad now has its’ own password. There were also some issues surrounding the sharing of programs between iPads. The good news is classrooms are starting to use the iPads and there are enough iPads so that each student has their own. The cart is two short, but there are two that can be checked out at the library.

**Extra news**: Mrs. Barker was able to secure funding, via a grant, to transform the “old computer lab” into a STEM focused learning space. Soon Little bits will be in and available to the students. Little Bits is a robot building kit.

Event Discussion –

**December 11th** will be the Regional PTO meeting. This meeting will be held in the library. Mrs. Barker said the space had already been reserved. We will be showing the Riverbend video for the guests. Morning snacks need to be offered.

**December** Staff Appreciation day – Date TBD; Need to be thinking of what we want to do for the day.

**January** – Pride Day to Celebrate RES!! - Free popcorn & free tattoos for the students - Pastries and coffee for staff. T-shirts???? Christine will look into prices for ordering the shirts. Mrs. Barker said she can find entertainment for the day also.

**March 31** – Science Festival. This day was made possible via a grant. There was talk about combining this festival with a fun nigh?? The topic of a movie night came up. Mrs. Barker said we have a movie permit that will cover all movie companies except 21st Century. The other restriction was the movies could only be shown inside. Inflatables came up as a possibility for fun. Mrs. Chambers said some companies will come and blow the equipment up, but will not “man” them. If we have inflatables we will be at the mercy of the weather. Mrs. Chambers was wondering if the Fair Grounds (inside) would be a place to have the event or one of our events. We would need to check on whether we needed to rent the facility or if it was even available for events like this.

Christine suggested switching the Auto Bell Car Wash fundraiser from April to March. March would be a “Get Your Car Clean for Spring” event. The Zaxby’s fundraiser would be moved to April. Christine will look into making sure representatives from Riverbend do NOT have to be present for the event. Zaxby’s event is from 5p to 8p on a Monday or Tuesday (school’s choice). 10% of the sales during this time frame will be donated directly to RES PTO.

*Side topic:* Movie Night instead of Panther Fun Night? A movie night would be a lot easier on the staff as far as time needed to host the PPFN. If we have a movie night would we invite parents?? Should we provide food in the price?? Note: we cannot have food or drink in the gym. If we don’t have food we could sell items during an intermission.

Other Topics:

**Playground Equipment & Shade structures** – Scott

*Equipment*: PTO could possibly purchase a Teeter-Totter Airplane to replace the dome out back. This piece of playground equipment is safer than the old Teeter-Totter and it allows many students to play on it at once. Mrs. Chambers said there was a “jumpy tire” playground toy that she saw on T.V. Mrs. Chambers will look more into this equipment. Scott also said he knew of a drink cart that could be pushed out when the students were playing out back. Right now there isn’t a water source for the students while they are playing out back.

*Shade structures*: The really nice umbrella shade structures are $10k - $15k! The option of a pavilion or a structure similar to what is down the hill came up. The permanent structure would be constructed over benches or tables instead of playground equipment. Ultimately this would cost a lot less than the umbrella shade structure. Clark and Leatherwood should be approached to see if they would be interested in building this structure if we purchased the equipment.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm

Recording Secretary, Christine O’Brien