Riverbend PTO Meeting September 9, 2014.

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

6:17 pm – Scott called meeting to order. The meeting agenda was passed out and attendees gave a brief introduction about themselves.

Membership -

Jane discussed having a flier specifically for the kindergarten parents so they know what PTO is all about. Membership Drive – we are up to 36 members, which is pretty good. We need to convey to prospective members and current members that they do not need to attend the meeting to be a member. It was mentioned that Mrs. Northrop’s class may have not received a PTO flier.

Financial Report –

The financial report was handed out. Jane discussed that we do not carry over much money at the end of the year on purpose. The money we earn throughout the year should be spent on the students who helped earn this money. The PTO currently has $2,875 in the account. This money will be spent mainly for teacher reimbursement throughout the year. Our goal for fundraising this year is $5K. One of the purchases for 2014- 2015 year was shade umbrellas for the playgrounds.

*Mrs. Chambers made an announcement to the PTO. Mrs. Chambers thanked the PTO for raising the money for the Apple cart last year. She added they are almost ready for use. This year there will be a School Improvement meeting every 2nd Wednesday of the month. This year there will be a technology upgrade with a focus on STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math). Mrs. Chambers discussed that Riverbend qualified as a Title 1 school again this year. The Title 1 classification allows more money for school teaching activities and special help for students.*

Fundraising Events –

Brief information about the following POSSIBLE events:

1. Panther Party Fun Night – very good money maker
2. Clothing Swap – people would donate used clothing in good condition and we would sell the clothing at a low cost. We have never done this, but some of the other schools have.
3. Miss Arty Pants – students made art projects for holiday. This was not a big money maker.
4. Pennies for Panthers – BIG money maker.
5. Sell Auto Bell car wash tickets.
6. River Blast – last year we did okay. It was our first time putting on this event and we had a cold blast on event day.
7. Pride Night – free popcorn
8. Celebration (ice cream party) every 9 weeks for class who brings in the most Box Tops.
9. Mountain Arts – we would have performers come to Riverbend and charge an admission for the party.
10. Popcorn on Friday – not a money maker at all. Katie went over the Popcorn on Friday process.

Jane passed out a sign-up sheet for the various events people might be interested in helping with.

Details for Panther Party Fun Night were discussed. Panther Party Fun Night will be held on Friday September 19, 2014 from 6:00 to 8:00. The cost will be $5 if you pay early and $6 at the door. Each participant will get a hotdog, chips, and a drink. Additional food can be purchased. Additional food would be snow cones – we have leftover supplies and we can get the machine on loan, popcorn…… The possibility of selling icy pops was mentioned. The icy pops would take the place of snow cones which could be messy and hard to eat with such little time in the dining hall. All were in favor of icy pops and snow cones were dropped from Fun Night.

* Check Inn Table – Fliers will go home with the students on Friday announcing Panther Party Fun Night. Mrs. Chambers announced there will be NO photos or videos of children during Panther Party Fun Night. This is a legal issue and a school rule. We might want to think about having posters up during check in, so parents who do stay for the event are aware of the photograph law.
* Michelle was nominated to hunt down donations from businesses in the county. We will be looking for basic items like plates, napkins, cups…etc. May need bigger items if we decide to hold a silent auction at some point.
* More discussion about having a Holiday fundraiser. We could have a candy cane gram or crafts. Michelle said some of the parents said they did not like the quality of the art presents. This is a fundraiser. Money was made with this event. Maybe see if Miss Arty Pants has other projects for the season. Yankee Candle fundraiser worked well at another school. People liked buying something that can be used or purchased as a gift for the upcoming holiday season. Jane said she would look into the details. Some of the companies want you to sell a minimum.

Don’t forget Panther Party Fun Night is September 19th and we will need volunteers from 5:15 to 8:30. Volunteers can stay the entire time or half the time, just let us know.

Meeting adjourned at 7:14pm

Recording Secretary, Christine O’Brien