Blue Sage Elementary PTO Meeting

September 5, 2023

**PTO Board:**

**Principal: Amy Christ**

**President: Jennifer Giorgis**

**Vice President: Shannon Hofer**

**Secretary: Ashley Ladd**

**Treasurer: Kristi Karas**

**Mission Statement:**

**We are parents and teachers working together to supplement and enrich the educational experience for our students.**

Agenda

* Call to open by Mandy E. and Kaelin Z.
* Introductions- PTO board members listed above
* Secretary Minutes: Approve from May by Rachel Henne
* Principal’s Report- Mrs. Christ! 23rd year as a school principal! 3 kids (oldest is a Freshman at UNO, son who is a senior, 6th grade son, husband in law enforcement, lives in Fremont). Current enrollment- increase of 52 kids, small 5th grade class, about 18-22 kids per class. Safety Day tomorrow 9/6 at BSE- will practice all emergency response protocols. 5th graders go to Outdoor Ed on Thursday/Friday of this week! School pictures on September 12. Conference sign ups open on Monday, 9/11 at 10am. Parents can sign up to sub for TA’s at any building they choose so email Mrs. Christ if you are interested! Thank you to PTO for providing staff with back to school breakfast! Alex B. is instructional facilitator this year and vice principal full time at Blue Sage!
* Visiting Teacher’s Report- Specials Teachers- Mrs. Poe (counselor)- goes into classrooms every other week. Mrs. Lech (reading specialist). Erin Stover (music)- working on 4th and 5th grade music program already! Thank you for all of parent support of music and programs! Anyone with dance experience that would like to help would be awesome! Mr. Fickle (PE)- Curriculum follows what kids do outside of school- working on football, volleyball, basketball. Mr. Emerson (Art)- No more square one art but doing Silver Graphics this year! You will see order forms next month for this. Mrs. Farrell (Media)- Summer reading bingo prizes are coming this week- had 106 kids complete it! Sarah Weeks is an author coming Monday, 10/9 and are due this Monday if you want one signed! Battle of the Books- last day to turn in forms is tomorrow, 9/6. Stem club for 5th grade forms went home last Friday. Book Fair is 2 days during conference time in the cafeteria. January will be one book, one school again! Charlie and the Chocolate Factory is the book!
* Treasurer’s Report- Kristi Karas- Financial report- raised $74,000 last year! Last year we had $27,000 in expenses and this year we have $38,000 budgeted! However, when we add to the budget, we have to raise funds to cover the new budget! We have just under $90k in the bank! We have $35k left to cover budgets of the year. We must have this years and next year’s budget in the account at all time. Non-budgeted process- staff members can ask for an item to be funded but must ask Mrs. Christ and fill out a non-budgeted request form. If it is under $1,000, the board can approve. If it is more than that, we bring that to the PTO meeting and vote on it as a group. Reimbursements will be processed twice a month- at the PTO meeting and 2 weeks after it. Must be submitted by the Wednesday before to get your check by the PTO meeting.
* Old Business
  + Thank you: Open House Volunteers!
  + Report on summer Family Dinner Nights- not much participation this summer so we’ll look at that. $2310.86 in fundraising from last year!!
* New Business
  + September Newsletter
    - Family Dinner Night: Pickleman’s- 9/19- 30% back to Blue Sage PTO! Watch for a monthly family dinner night in each PTO newsletter!
    - Marquee- PTO has to find the brick layer and get it approved by the district- $6899 for just the marquee, brick will be an additional cost. District pays for concrete pad and electrical to be ran. It will be placed on the left hand side of the entrance (between the visitor parking lot and the street).
  + Current Events
    - Fun Run/Bash- Kicks off 9/13 and goes through 9/22. Last year we raised $32k so the goal this year is $30k! 4 levels of donations, wristband, color changing cup, sticker, drawstring bad- all are Blue Sage logo and colors! Fun run is during school hours on Friday 9/22- it will be divided up into classes. Sign up to help when it comes out and parents are more than welcome! Bash- Mandy Eckmann is in charge this year! It’s a celebration of the Fun Run and is meant for families to get together and have fun and meet new people! 6 bounce houses, scavenger hunts with prizes (3 for different ages), 3 food trucks, pizza meal deals- presales will begin 9/13 and end on Wednesday 9/20 and can be purchased online! Meal will include pizza, chips, water. Sign up genius will start 9/13! Volunteers will wear t-shirts so they are easily identifiable.
    - TAGG- Rachel Henne and Meegan Vellek are in charge of this! Many businesses will allow you to tag your receipt and they will give a portion back to the school! There will be a box at the school where you can put receipts in and the committee will tag your receipts for you!! A flyer will go in the Friday folder on September 15!
    - Yearbook- Allison T. is in charge this year! Upload pics on google drive and an app- you can upload 5 pics at a time. Orders for yearbook are due January 27 so we will start pushing those orders. Cover contest will start and be due end of October. Yearbook will collect baby pictures of 5th graders again this year!
  + Save the Dates
    - 7-8th- Outdoor Ed for 5th grade
    - 12th- School Pictures
    - 13th- Fun Run Kick Off!
    - 22nd- Fun Run during school
    - 22nd- Blue Sage Bash 5:30-7:30pm
    - 26-27th- PT Conferences, 2:06pm dismissal, Book Fair
    - 28-29th- No school
  + Committee Chair Spotlight- Talk to a committee chair if you are interested in helping with ANY committees!
  + Trunk or Treat- October 27- 6-7:30- need people to sign up to decorate trunks and also donate candy!
* REMINDERS
  + Submit receipts on PTO website: BlueSagePTO.com
* Open Items: questions and comments- Check Teacher’s favorite things on website to make sure it’s working!
* Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 3rd, 6:30 p.m.
* Meeting called to close by Mandy and Brian K.
* Thank you for your support!