

Children's Kiva Montessori School
PTO Meeting
Feb 9, 2016 5:30-6:30 P.M. Children's House on Empire

- I. **Welcome/Introductions:** Angie Seeley, PTO President
- II. **PTO Vision-** The Children's Kiva Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO) serves as a liaison between parents, teachers, staff and the Board of Directors, with the goal of enriching the Kiva community. The PTO strives to create a welcoming atmosphere for families to engage more deeply in their children's education by providing a forum sharing ideas and by sponsoring opportunities for family involvement.
- III. **Reports**
 - A. **President**
 1. Welcome
 2. Second PTO fundraiser-**Angie is still trying to set up a date for rock picking at the Ute Farm. She has a new contact and is waiting to hear back. They will pay minimum wage for anyone over 8 years old. She would like input on incentives to get people to attend (maybe doing drawings for gift cards). A parent mentioned it would be good to incorporate learning as well. Angie would like to create a small committee to help organize this so please contact her if interested!**
 - B. **Treasurer**
 1. Checkbook balance is \$3,273 at February 2, 2016
 2. PTO has \$2,384 available for distribution under new policy.
 3. Monthly reports are available through Angie Seeley.
 4. Discuss and **VOTE** on distribution of funds requested by EMS for the following:
 - a) ~~\$150 for phonemic awareness program for lower EI~~-**After talking with Amy Cook at CH, they have found an alternative program for this that is free of cost.**
 - b) \$400 for field trip to Powerhouse Science Museum in Durango for lower EI on March 7 and upper EI on March 14. **Vote unanimously passed!**
 - c) **Other field trips tentatively planned that PTO could possibly help with per Miss Lindsay:**
Mesa Verde (No cost), Durango Nature Studies, Aztec ruins, walking field trips, Anasazi
 - C. **Volunteer Director**
 1. Overview of Volunteer Efforts Lower EI field trip to Firehouse and to District Court for mock trial (thank you to Judge Plewe) **Soup of the world is looking for help that will benefit the Bridge Emergency Shelter.**
 2. Staff Lunch dates March 11(**This would only be for CH as EMS teachers will be gone for Inservice**), April 15, and may 27**Stacey will get a count, if interested in helping contact her!**
Both CH and EMS could use help with dusting shelves for works
 - a) EI/MS would like assistance with:
 - (1) (3rd-7th grades) will be completing PARCC testing 4/11 to 4/14/16, 4/18-4/22/16, and 4/25-4/28/16, we are looking for volunteers to provide a snack for 30 students on each day**They have 4 volunteers so far- Tamia Hurst volunteered to help also.**
 - (2) EL/MS need lunch help 12:00 to 12:30 Monday through Friday, come have lunch with your child. All we need is an adult at each table and maybe a little clean-up assistance.
 - (3) EL/MS needs someone to organized a portion of the library

(4) EL/MS needs a parent to help in the Specials classes, Mon-Thurs 12:45 - pickup, can be a 1 hour commitment per parent or all afternoon. You do not need to have any experience, what a great way to learn with your children! This is just a need of another adult presence to help keep kids on track and focused

(5) Miss Lindsay and Miss Cassy have 30 min reading blocks and could use parent help to come in and read with kids.

b) Children's House needs help with

(1) We need a comparison shopper to do some measuring and sizing of items needed do some online research for the best value, if you are a value shopper WE NEED YOU- This is to research prices on shelving etc, please contact Lexi or Stacey if interested

(2) March or April we will have a spring clean-up day or weekend

Once the weather is better: Table refinishing and epoxy application,

(a) *Gazeebo-need someone to remove the bamboo from the fencing around the gazeebo and install Plexiglas*

(b) *.Someone to sand and stain the gazeebo and some of the other outdoor structures.*

(c) *Someone to install new surface on the boat.*

c) Training for classroom volunteers, we are still looking for parent input on if this would be helpful and the best times so we can try to involve as many families as possible- Stacey will get in touch with Rob, please let her know if you have interest in this!

d) Teacher appreciation we are ready to set up the committee, please contact (Stacey 303-349-5092 or coloradoinsurancepros@gmail.com) if you are interested in this project

D. Health and Wellness

1. Kelly Busby- She was not able to attend/no new updates
2. EMS playground update Will have Smart Source results hopefully at the next meeting in March. She will also be sending home some SPARK activity ideas parents can do at home. She made the suggestion of starting our PTO meetings with Mindfulness.

IV. **Community Forum**-We love to hear what parents(guardians/staff etc.) are thinking please don't hesitate to share celebrations, comments, suggestions, questions or concerns! It is your participation that makes this organization great! We respectfully ask that these items be limited to 5 min, if you would like more time please request your items be placed on the agenda and we will be happy to accommodate you! Some parents expressed concern they weren't getting info about the recent walking field trips. Susan will possibly start attaching that info to the Kiva Kids Newsletter along with volunteer opportunities.

A. Board of Directors Representative

B. **Open Forum**- follow up - Transportation - how can parents support this Angie mentioned creating a sub-committee to head this up. After talking with Cari Spoonemore (our previous PTO President) she mentioned that PTO did try and set up a parent carpool but no one volunteered for it at the time.

V. Director's Corner

A. E/MS Finance Director Susan: Our BOD is actively recruiting candidates for Head of School at EMS. They were also working with the RE-1 school board regarding facilities and a budget for next

year. The BOD will provide updates- their minutes or on the board site and info will be included in the Kiva Kids newsletter.

- B. Alexia Hudson-CH Executive Director- There was a parent education night scheduled for Feb 18th but it may be rescheduled. Lexi will contact parents with more info. Pinon Project is offering the Incredible Years parenting class- hand out available from Lexi. 14-16 week class and they use the socio/emotional curriculum that is implemented at CH. Lexi has a sign-up sheet if interested. This is not only for Kiva parents, it's a great opportunity to invite friends from the community.
- C. **Day in the Life at CH** Lexi shared a great video presentation. Contact her if you would like more info!

VI. Other Activities

- A. Box Tops
- B. Mentor program-Contact Angie if your are interested in helping with this for next year.
- C. Ideas for next year?- Book fairs or book exchange. Possibly doing a lending library at CH.
- D. PTO officer vote is scheduled for the May mtg - consider running for one of the officer positions

VII. Upcoming Events/Calendar

- A. Monday, Feb 15 - No School
- B. Monday, Feb 15 - BOD meeting (CH & E/MS)
- C. Thursday, Feb 18 - Parent Ed night for CH & EMS families at CH
- D. Next PTO meeting:
 - 1. Tuesday, March 8th 5:30-630 PM at CH