

## Kolter PTO Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 29, 2011 6:30 p.m. – 7:40 p.m.

- 1) WELCOME – Meeting called to order by Cyndi Ruiz Mansfield, president, at 6:35 pm. Forty seven people attended-quorum present.
- 2) SECRETARY'S REPORT - reported by Cyndi Ruiz Mansfield, former PTO secretary. Ms. Julie Doyle-Madrid motioned to waive the reading of the minutes and approve the May 9, 2011 Meeting Minutes (can now be found on the Kolter PTO website) as presented. Ms. Lola Washington seconded. Membership voted. Motion approved.

### 3) REPORTS

President's Report: Cyndi Ruiz Mansfield introduced the new Executive Board and Committee Chairs for 2011-2012 (see Kolter PTO Committees 2011-2012 handout, #2) for perusal. There is an officer vacancy and the President suggested Lan-Phuong Vu-Yu take the position of secretary. Marie Jacinto motioned that the New Board and Lan-Phuong Vu-Yu as the new secretary be approved. Lisa Sutton seconded. Membership voted. Motion approved. The new committee Dad's Club and it chairs were introduced- Andy Saldana, Jason Beinart & Chad Mansfield. President Ruiz-Mansfield also identified a new committee to assist, Lisa Sutton, Chair of the Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS). Lisa Sutton motioned that the Committee Chairs be approved as presented. Denise Cortez seconded. Membership voted. Motion passed.

The president introduced the Save Our School's Funds Fundraiser. In this year's HISD budget, Kolter lost \$275 per child. The PTO asks for members to consider an optional donation with varying ranges. President Ruiz-Mansfield requested that all those who can give at least \$275 for their child. This money will go straight to Kolter.

#### A. Principal's Report - Peggi Stewart

Ms. Stewart gave a First week update and introduced three new staff. The Art teacher and Library assistant positions will not be renewed.

Budget Cuts Update: \$275 budget loss x 600 student = \$165,000.00. This is what Kolter lost this year. The challenge is to get missing money to pay for: continuing sending teachers to training initiatives, School Safety, Teacher's Aide, Substitute Teachers, maintaining Kolter facilities (library/bathrooms/classrooms), smart boards (just ran out of warrantee).

#### B. Treasurer's Report - Keith Desrosiers

The treasurer went over the budget. (See Kolter PTO Financial Statements 8/27/11, #4) The goal is to align with Kolter's priorities and make a difference. More money has been appropriated this year to support Kolter where there is not enough funding (art program, support teachers conferences, professional development.)

Ed Wolf motioned that the PTO Budget 2011-2012 be approved as presented. Denise Cortes seconded. Membership voted. Motion is passed.

#### C. Teachers' Report (New segment in PTO) - Ms. Silverman & Ms. Wadih– Kindergarten News

Kindergarten parents should keep a record of any books that their child reads. They get a "cool prize" after reading 100 books. There is an Open House this Thursday 9/1. Please let teachers know if you are interested in volunteering in the art room and in the cafeteria during lunch. Recess volunteers are not needed. Kolter Keeper (collection of work your child did over the summer) needs to be turned in this Wednesday (8/31) in the library to win prizes like T-shirt and Astro tickets.

#### D. VIPS - Lisa Sutton

Steps to Volunteer- new parents need to sign up online and provide a copy of your Texas driver's license to the office and all returning volunteers need to provide a copy of their TDL as well since HISD changed its policy in August 2011.

Volunteers should be getting a confirmation letter from Ms. Munoz (new receptionist) or Ms. Roberson. Also, register/ re-register on the PTO manager to provide your contact information and what you are interested in. There will be a quick tutorial for all committee chairs soon.

4) COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Fall Fundraiser (7:30)- Lisa Sutton

Entertainment books will be on sale for \$25/book. Kolter will receive \$12.50 for each book sold.

Great American Fundraisers will be going on for 2 weeks. Kolter will receive 40% of all sales.

5) NEW BUSINESS

A. Spirit Night- Gaby Goodweather

It will be at Escalante's on August 30<sup>th</sup>. Please come get to know people and part of the proceeds will go to Kolter PTO.

B. Questions- There will be 11 finishing student teachers from UH attending Kolter ES every Tuesday and Thursday for the next 6 weeks. Shared Decision Making Committee where the principal, teachers, and a parent representative help make decisions for Kolter open to public viewing. Raffle prizes awarded to six parents.

C. Next PTO Meeting- September 19<sup>th</sup>

6) ADJOURN- Angela Roth motioned to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

**Important Dates:**

**Spirit Night**, Tuesday, August 30<sup>th</sup>, Escalante's Restaurant 4-9 pm

**Open House/Math Night** (PreK-2), Thursday, Sept. 2, 6:30 pm

**Labor Day**, no school, Monday, Sept 5

**Principal's Coffee** for Kindergarten, Sept 8, 8-9 am

**Open House** grades 3-5 & Life Skills, Sept 12, 6:30 pm

**SDMC**, Sept 14, 3:30

**Jennie Kolter Day**, Sept 15

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher Appreciation**, Sept. 16