

Kolter PTO August 2010 Minutes

Kolter Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) General Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 30, 2010

Members Present: 66 members (see attached sign-in sheet)

I. Call to order: President, Anne Hodgson, called the Membership meeting to order at the Kolter Elementary Cafeteria on August 30, 2010 at 6:38 PM. A quorum was present. President Hodgson welcomed attendees and introduced the 2010-11 Officers.

II. Minutes: Secretary's report: Ms. Ruiz-Mansfield, Secretary, presented May 2010 minutes.

- a) Mr. David Naff motioned to waive the reading of May 2010 General Meeting minutes. Motion seconded. Membership voted. Motion approved.
- b) Mr. Naff motioned to approve May 2010 General Meeting minutes. Motion seconded. Membership voted. Motion approved.

III. Officer's Reports:

a) President's report: Anne Hodgson, President

- i) President Hodgson outlined the PTO objectives for the school year. President Hodgson explained state of the art technology, enhancing standing inventory, and creating outdoor living space as a few of the goals. President Hodgson gave Mr. David Naff, Ad Hoc Cafeterium Upgrade Committee Chair, the floor in order to present the cafeteria improvement initiative. Mr. Naff presented the cafeteria facelift initiative and explained the competing factors on why Kolter cafeteria needs aesthetic improvements. Mr. Naff reviewed Phase 1 that took place over the summer and explained the scope of Phase 2 which includes a wall mural. Mr. Naff explained Phase 2 would take place during an extended school break. Mr. Naff discussed the cost & funding for the project and requested that PTO pay/commit \$13,000.00 toward the project.

b) Principal's Report: Ms. Stewart, Kolter Principal

- i) Ms. Stewart reported on the Technology Fundraising Efforts and opined that despite needed aesthetic improvements Kolter remains at the top thanks to parent support and our amazing instructional staff. Ms. Stewart explained the goal is to provide resources so children can use technology to positively impact learning. Ms. Stewart announced Kolter won last year's grand prize for best attendance rate and has been awarded 30 lap tops or 6 smart boards. After reviewing the campus needs, Ms. Stewart will select the award choice but initial sentiment is 30 laptops will benefit the larger Kolter population.
- ii) Ms. Stewart introduced Ms. Marty Daniel, Kolter's new Ed Tech Specialist, and gave her the floor. Ms. Daniel explained the school's technology needs. To date, Kolter needs a smart board in the computer lab, library, and in some remaining first grade class rooms. Another future goal for technology is updated computers & wireless access throughout the school. Ms. Daniel then demonstrated the smart boards and how they are implemented in our class rooms via a video.
- iii) Ms. Stewart discussed the magnet program and the comprehensive audit that will take place within HISD. The audit will include site visits and consultants meeting with staff and parents. Ms. Stewart explained that Kolter's magnet program serves the entire student body and requested testimonials from families on how the language program has impacted your child's education and your family. Please send testimonials to Ms. Dottie Lawrence via email at dlawren1@houstonisd.org

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- c) Questions- President Hodgson opened the floor for questions regarding the technology and cafeteria facelift improvements. There was discussion regarding the choice of aesthetics vs. sound system in the cafeteria. There were questions and discussion regarding mural options Ms. Stewart made herself available for questions after the meeting and explained she will get parent and staff input on the mural in the near future.
- d) President Hodgson's report (cont.)- President Hodgson summarized the annual fundraising projects and explained our new fundraising activity this year, Kolter's 50th Anniversary Gala.

IV. Treasurer's Report: Ms. Angie Pettigrew, Treasurer

- a) Ms. Pettigrew presented and reviewed the past year's end results. Ms. Pettigrew outlined where monies were spent and explained where our fundraising efforts were used. Ms. Pettigrew explained approximately \$14,000 went to smart board technology, \$12,000 for magnet activities, \$7,000 for teacher classroom cost, friends of Kolter, etc.
- b) Ms. Pettigrew presented the proposed 2010-11 PTO Budget. Ms. Pettigrew explained the fundraising goal of approximately \$90,000 and our projected total expenses to be \$112,000. Ms. Pettigrew reviewed the year to year expense comparison and discussed cost increases, 2010-11 budget expenses & the Kolter benefits, if budget is approved.
 - i. Mary Nesbitt motioned to approve the 2010-11 Annual Budget as presented. The motion was seconded. Membership voted and passed by a majority vote.

V. Board Approval: President Hodgson presented the PTO Board members/chairs and asked for the board approval. A few additions and/or revisions were made.

- a) Ms. Rhonda Gilbo moved to approve the committee chairs with the stated modifications. The motion was seconded, membership voted and the motion carried by a majority vote.

VI. Committee Reports:

- a) Ms. Lisa Sutton, VIPS Coordinator, presented the Fall Fundraisers- Entertainment Books and Sally Foster.
- b) Ms. Angela Roth, Outdoor Class Coordinator, discussed a new recess garden program and a play date Wednesday for parents with kids after work.
- c) Ms. Shelby Bacak, VIPS Coordinator, explained the required VIPS process, including a background check, must be completed before a parent can volunteer at Kolter.

VII. Old Business: None.

VIII. New Business/Announcements:

- a) Next Membership meeting scheduled: 6:30pm - Monday, September 20th at the Kolter Elementary School cafeteria.
- b) Discussed mixer.
- c) Discussed CRC committee
- d) Ms. Laura Nepveux presented information for the upcoming Spirit Night.
- e) A drawing was held and Kolter t-shirts and prizes were awarded to the following parents: Ada Smoot, Staci Beinart, Louise Goldberg, Michael Brookner, Loyshea Rockwell and John Zhang. Thank you Kolter Cougar Parents for attending!

Ms. Colleen Naff motioned to adjourn meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Meeting minutes compiled by:

Cyndi Ruiz-Mansfield, Kolter PTO Secretary