Ballard Elementary PTO
Meeting Minutes

December 6, 2016
6:30 pm

Type of Meeting: PTO

Meeting Facilitator: Krystal Ruby and Megan Buttz

I. Introductions:

- Lisa Hartz – Teacher
- Samatha Wheeler – Teacher/Parent
- Julie Astaita – Teacher
- Jenny Horness – Parent
- Jean Bruns – Teacher/Parent
- Missy Snyder – PTO Secretary/Parent

II. Treasurer Report:

- 25,000 in savings
- 6,602.15 in checking
- 11/15 – Closed account at Fidelity and switched to South Story

III. Principal Updates:

- Awesome winter concerts!
- Teachers are doing great through the tough time of the year
- Hat and Coat reminders

IV. Open issues

a) Spirit Day

- Jan. 20th
- All kids will get in free with a donated in-door/out-door recess toy
- Missy will make a flyer (Megan provided list of equipment)

b) T-Shirt Updates

- Flyer will be going out this week
- Web-site is ready to begin
- 10% will be donated back to PTO
- 6-10 days for orders as well

c) Conference Meals

- Meals turned out well
- Thank yous were given
- Meals were appreciated and nothing is needed to change

d) Brain Pop

- 980.60 from PTO and the rest will be covered by box tops

V. New business

a) Teacher Dinner Night at Back 9

- Jan. 17th – Taco Tuesday for East
- Feb. 6th – Meatball Monday for West
- Flyer in the lounge for teachers to volunteer for 1hr increments
- Save the date and sign in sheet will be completed by – Julie Astarita

b) STE(A)M Ideas

- It was expressed that more steam activities were desired
- Presenter come in or ISU come in to help get the funding (couple groups are available) – PTO would be responsible for a portion of the funding
- Project Lead the Way was started at West with Kindergarteners

        - Starting with this and wants to take baby steps
        - Stephanie Zielke

c) Monsanto has money available for grants so principals will reach out if the time comes for needing grant writing assistance

d) Reading Challenge

- Star challenge winner lunches will be completed:
    - Tomorrow at West
    - Friday is East
- Dec. 23rd – Jan. 2nd: 12 days of Reading. Do it by minutes
    - Top reader per grade will get a 25$ gift card
    - Chick Filet in Ames may donate a small value gift card for the winner of each class room
    - If the above falls through – will utilize the nice water bottles with a few goodies in it
    - Star table will still be done at both East and West (star balloons at dollar tree are 1$)
    - This motion was agreed on with the attendees

e) Playground Goal/Teacher Gifts:

    - (See attached expenses sheet)
    - Everyone present voted on 1 of 3 options for teacher gifts
        - Final Vote: Option 3 - $100.00 per teacher gift

f) Renovation

    - Committee has been meeting – meeting is tomorrow night
    - Approximately 3 million dollars for renovations
    - Will be done this summer

g) Jan. 17,19,20th is Fast Testing – East

h) Jan. 23 – Feb3rd - MAP Testing at East

i) Working on getting an author to come

- March 30th
- Possibly Matt Stessman

j) Dueling Pianos at East

- Will be asking for donations for these
- May be looking at last couple weeks of school

k) The Leader in Me

- May be looking into completing after the playground completion
- Expensive