



MINUTES – EBO meeting #6

March 6, 2008, 2pm

Attending: Pam Benos, Susan Cheatham, Samantha Marrs, Jean Zimmerman, Kris Branch, Michelle Payne, Debbie Ramos

MINUTES: February minutes were approved with minor edits from Susan about the funds available in the EBO bank account.

BUDGET: There is approximately \$1500 available in the account as start-up funding for the teachers in the fall, plus other commitments for programming. There is a plan to provide \$150 per teacher for start-up funding in the Fall.

The group discussed the teacher requests for the Spring and next year. The teachers are short of supplies, and we may need to do a “consumables” drive to assist. Mrs. Zimmerman is going to learn shortly of any budget available for supplies, paper, etc. so she will let us know if the EBO needs to send out a request to parents for Staples or Target cards. The group agreed that it would be preferable to request Staples gift cards than for money.

Additionally the teachers requested that the EBO work with the administration to identify funding for them to attend the national gifted conference. The estimate is \$1000 per teacher, and next year there should be 7-8 teachers. Everyone agreed that a fundraiser would be in order to help match school funding. Samantha and Pam will meet with Mr. Siddiqi to learn what the school will have in its 2008-2009 budget for professional development.

ACTIVITIES

PUTT-PUTT: Samantha raised the Putt-Putt for discussion. We could have a 6th grade Putt-Putt with Midlothian, and Pam suggested that we consider implementing a Buddy System for the rising 6th graders at Robious to help with the transition to middle school. If we do this, we will consider a Putt-putt that is Robious only, due to size. The teachers will award REVO for participation in the buddy system. NEED VOLUNTEERS to organize the lists of students available from Mrs. Zimmerman, match up children, organize Putt-Putt and teachers. May consider Windy Hill batting cage/putt-putt instead of the one on Midlothian Turnpike used last year.

EBO BOARD ROLES FOR 2008-2009: Samantha circulated 2 draft versions of a board structure for the EBO next year (attached). After discussion, the group agreed that it makes sense to have 4 officers and three committees (action teams) that include: Communications, Events and Hospitality, and Team Coordinators (grade representatives). The group discussed how we will fill these positions, and it was decided that a letter will go to all current parents this Spring, and a different letter will go to all new families. At the August orientation, the EBO will also have a brief presentation for new families.

PLANTING PROJECT: The teachers recommend that the EBO work with the after-school Environmental Club if we are going to do a beautification project. The club may want to take responsibility for any specific planting project so Susan will talk with Kim Benson of the PTA about next steps. If CBG children and parents want to participate in the after-school effort, that will be strongly encouraged by Mrs. Estes.

FAQ for website: A list of potential questions was circulated for the website (attached). Everyone was asked to submit any additional questions to Samantha for the teachers or students to answer.

PARENT EDUCATION: There is a suggestion that we provide more parent education opportunities – particularly “Making the Most of Your Middle School Years.” We have information from Midlothian and Manchester, and Pam will attend the Manchester “8th Grade and Beyond” event.

END OF YEAR PARTY: The teachers have asked the EBO to organize a party in June to celebrate the end of the first year of the CBG. They will arrange for displays of student work. VOLUNTEER NEEDED to help plan the party – potentially a fundraiser.

AUGUST ORIENTATION: No progress has been made on the planning for August. VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE NEEDED to identify date, confirm teachers, PTA, and administration. Again, this will be organized like a fundraiser, sell 6th grade team t-shirts, organize food, etc. Mrs. Zimmerman will provide list of new families as soon as possible.

In sum – MAJOR REBO ACTIVITIES:

- Communications to current and new families (Samantha and Pam)
- Buddy System (volunteer needed)
- REBO Putt-Putt – May (volunteers needed)
- End-of-Year party – June (volunteers needed)
- 6th Grade Orientation – August (volunteers needed)
- Parent Education (volunteers needed)

Next meeting April 10, 2pm.