

ANCS PTCA Board Report: March 2013

Funding updates/New funding initiatives:

Mini-grant update:

Our final Mini-grant deadline was March 15. We distributed approximately \$4000 worth of grants and supported projects including special needs supplies and media center requests at the elementary campus and a range of classroom items at the Middle campus (new maps, globes, and materials for constructivist mathematics teaching for example). We also supported a speaker at the Middle campus and smaller classroom technology requests. We informed applicants about the mini-grant decisions in the last week of March. Applicants have 30 days from receipt of our email to use their mini-grant funds.

Technology surge update:

We are happy to report that the projector mounting is now complete, and teachers have been using new projectors in their classrooms. The PTCA received several thank you letters from students as a result of this initiative, and we are thrilled that this technology is making a difference in their classroom experience.

The total purchase of projectors along with installment (approx. \$8000) has come directly from the PTCA budget.

We are now in the “second stage” of technology needs assessment: collecting information to see what the i-pad/tablet needs are on each campus.

Whole Foods 5% day fundraiser:

After waiting several months to see if we were selected, we are thrilled to report that ANCS was benefitted from a Whole Foods 5% day. We were initially given the date of April 10 (spring break) and the only other option based on their quarterly fiscal cycle was April 3. With some very intensive publicity and promotion, we successfully completed this fundraiser. We had a fantastic turnout—the Whole Foods manager described this as the most successful 5% day they have had—and we raised \$6020.20 from the event.

Since we had the opportunity to have a Whole Foods Fundraiser, we spent additional funds this year on Teacher appreciation by purchasing \$10 WF gift cards for all teachers at both campuses (this was in place of fruit baskets). We purchased the gift cards on our 5% day and encouraged teachers to take advantage of the fundraiser to use their gift cards for dinner.

Event updates:

Teacher Appreciation week:

We kicked off Teacher Appreciation week with a “Relax and Restore” yoga party for teachers at Yoga Samadhi in Inman Park. Along with a restorative yoga workshop and refreshments, teachers received gift bags of lavender eye pillows, candles, and tea. On Monday morning, Endive Catering donated a breakfast for teachers at the elementary

campus. All week we planned “giveaways” at morning meeting for museum passes, lunch gift cards, yoga classes, and wellness packages. We also organized flower bouquets and purchased \$10 gift cards to Whole Foods for all teachers on the 5% day. We projected a “thank you” video for teachers from students on the last day of Teacher Appreciation week, and asked children to make cards and notes for their teachers.

Teachers at the Middle campus also received Whole Foods gift cards, flowers, and the opportunity to try a yoga class. They were also treated to lunch every day--each grade organized bringing food in for the luncheons.

ANCS 5K: Planning is underway for the Run with the Wolves 5K on April 20. We have begun in person registration on both campuses and have been promoting through facebook pages, and yard signs/flyers/banners. We have several organizations signed up for our health fair and will soon be ordering t-shirts and additional publicity with the sponsor and health fair organizations listed.

PTCA Executive Meetings:

Our March 21 executive meeting focused upon mini-grants and upcoming events. We have invited all committee chairs to our April 15 meeting. We will go over the year’s events/upcoming events at this meeting. We have also sent all chairs and “info sheet” to fill out with suggestions for future years, planning notes, budget info so that we can organize a parent handbook for future chairs.

Principal’s coffees:

Both campuses held Friday coffees for parents this month.

End of year event:

The Executive committee voted to plan an outdoor end of year event on May 10 in place of Bingo Night this year. This event will include food trucks and music and will function as a “barn raising” fundraiser for a new outdoor shed at EC with recycled objects for creative play.

Proposed Bylaw Updates and PTCA Handbook:

Now that our bylaws have been approved, we are in the process of organizing our slate for next year and also organizing our committees.

We have begun the process of creating a PTCA handbook that can outline PTCA structure and provide guidelines for all committees and events.

PTCA Slate for 2013-14:

The PTCA is reviewing which executive committee members would like to stay on board, and contacting committee chairs to see if they would like to remain in the same role next year. We have posted on general announcement in the courier asking parents with interest in heading PTCA activities to contact Narin or Vendredi. We plan to post other courier and facebook announcements as we learn about open positions. Currently,

five members of this year's executive committee are willing to stay on the committee and take positions within our new organizational structure.

PTCA Promotional updates:

We will have our final e-blast prepared for distribution by the beginning of May.

List of Events/Meetings:

April 15: PTCA Executive Committee meeting (will include committee and event chairs)

April 19: Third Friday coffee

April 20: ANCS 5K Run with the Wolves

April 26: Coffee with Principal Underwood

May 3 MS Talent Show

May 10: PTCA End of year event

May 14: PTCA General Meeting

May 20: PTCA Executive Committee Meeting