

## **ANCS PTCA Board Report: February 2013**

### **Funding updates/New funding initiatives:**

#### *Mini-grant update:*

Our second mini-grant deadline was January 25; the executive committee reviewed applications and made decisions at our meeting on January 28. Applicants were informed of decisions via email on Feb 1.

We received 18 applications with requests over \$15,000. We funded a number of extra-curricular groups as well as a professional development request. Here is a quick breakdown of some of the projects funded:

- Funding for tickets to an Alvin Ailey dance performance at the Fox Theater for the Middle campus
- \$1000 towards teacher professional development
- Funding for a 6 week literacy/drama/storytelling class with Amy Handler for all first grade classrooms
- Support towards a trip to the MLK Center for the Middle campus
- Support towards the development of a MS baseball team
- Support for the development of a LEGO Robotics program at the Elementary campus
- Support for an afterschool "Young Leaders" mentoring team at the Middle campus

Many of the remaining grant proposals were technology requests for i-pads and projectors. During the discussion of these applications, the executive committee agreed that it would make sense to assess where the needs are on both campuses and have a more organized way of tracking needs and purchases. As a result, we decided to put all technology requests "on hold" and develop a technology surge plan.

#### *Technology surge proposal:*

Members of the executive committee have been in touch with the technology support staff on both campuses to discuss technology needs. We have begun a proposal for technology support as a three-phase plan. The first phase would be to purchase and install projectors in all classrooms on the elementary campus and purchase projectors needed for the MS. The second stage would be to assess i-pad needs, and the third phase would be to assess future computer upgrades and additional technology needs. The PTCA plans to put aside a portion of mini-grant funds specifically for technology purchases and plan fundraisers with these needs in mind.

#### *Technology funding:*

In place of supporting individual technology requests through mini-grants, the PTCA provided a gift to support projector purchases and installation. On February 6, the PTCA Executive committee voted to purchase the projectors needed for both campuses. This purchase has now been made and 9 projectors were ordered. We are now pricing mounting costs with the help of the Building and grounds committee and have estimates

for electrical work. The total purchase of projectors along with installment (approx. \$6000) will come directly from the PTCA budget.

*Amazon/Box Tops fundraising:* We have been publicizing the Amazon link for purchases and Box Tops fundraising through the courier. We have also begun to distribute new Publix rewards shopping cards.

We are waiting to hear from Whole Foods in Midtown for a fundraising support shopping day. We are also planning an additional Dine out for later this spring.

*School Store:* The school store is up and running. After making a large shirt order earlier this winter, we set up extra sales during the week of February 4 and February 11 for the Feb 14 Spirit day. Sales have increased greatly with credit card usage. The school store raised over \$2000 in the past two weeks (net sales are approximately \$500).

*Graduation t-shirt fundraiser:* Lisa Roberson and Kelly Dennis contacted the PTCA with an idea for creating 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade packages that parents can purchase—these would include a t-shirt with the names of children in the graduating class and other items such as a mug or pencil that could be part of the memorabilia package. The executive committee approved this fundraiser under the PTCA umbrella. Shirts will have pre-sale orders.

### **Event updates:**

#### *Bingo Night:*

Bingo Night was originally scheduled for Friday, February 8. The PTCA Executive committee made a decision to postpone the event. A successful Bingo Night event would require careful, early planning and pre-sale tickets to prevent some of the issues from last year (such as unexpected high attendance, fire alarms being set off etc). Since presale tickets were not ready, and the Bingo Night committee had plans to gather donations and prizes during the week of January 28 (the same week Auction letters had been sent), we put the event planning on hold. The T-Dawg benefit was also scheduled for the weekend of Feb. 8 so it made sense to limit the number of ANCS fundraisers taking place on the calendar in the month of February. The Executive committee is discussing the possibility of a Bingo Night or another family friendly fundraiser later in the spring after the auction and 5K.

*PTCA General Meeting/coffees with Notary services:* The PTCA organized a station for parents to have school registration forms notarized at the January general meeting. Notary services were also organized for the two coffees (Jan 18 at Elementary campus and Jan 25 at Middle campus). The Middle campus principal's coffee was especially well attended and included a discussion regarding high school options with representatives from a number of area schools.

Our general meeting in January included a presentation from Nathan Bubes and Darnell Fine, who shared their collaborative teaching methodology at the COES Fall Forum in

November. Other ANCS faculty and staff from both campuses participated in break out sessions and shared their experiences at the conference as well.

*Elementary campus assemblies:* The PTCA sponsored an assembly, “Seven continents, Seven seas” on Thursday, Feb. 7 at the elementary campus.

*PTCA Executive Meetings:*

The executive committee meeting was held on Monday, January 28 at 6pm. The executive committee will be meeting again on Thursday, February 28 and then March 18.

*Other Events:*

The Masquerade Ball at the Middle Campus is scheduled for February 22.

A Dine out at Six Feet Under is planned for Monday, February 25. Fliers have been made for this event and we have begun to advertise through the courier and facebook.

**PTCA Promotional updates:**

The second e-blast/newsletter of the year is now written and in the process of revision prior to distribution. Along with PTCA updates and event reminders, the e-blast includes a listing of mini-grants supported and testimonials from teachers who received mini-grants and attended the COES Fall Forum.

The PTCA printed new thank you cards that were used as holiday cards for all staff during holiday season.

**Spring Events:**

ANCS 5K: Planning is underway for the Run with the Wolves 5K on April 20. Sponsorship packets are prepared and final decisions are being made regarding a race company contract and distribution of sponsorship packets. We have begun some publicity through the courier and will be publicizing through other venues including the Porch Press, other media outlets, facebook, and room parent announcements.

**List of Events/Meetings:**

Monday, January 28: PTCA Executive meeting

Thursday, February 14: Spirit day

Friday, February 16: Third Friday coffee (EC)

Friday, February 22: Principal’s coffee (MS)

Friday, February 22: Masquerade Ball (MS)

Monday, February 25: Dine Out: Six Feet Under

Tuesday, March 13: PTCA General Meeting

Friday, March 15: PTCA Mini-grant deadline

Monday, March 18: PTCA Executive Meeting

April 1-5 Teacher Appreciation week

April 20: ANCS 5K