

Parent Support Fellowship-Minutes

Meeting: September 30, 2009
8:15am-9:15am Room 23

Donna Ferris and Juanita Hayes welcomed us to the first meeting of the PSF. Greg Solis was asked to open us with prayer.

The PSF was formed with 4 goals in mind. Goal 1-to organize parent volunteers, Goal 2-to provide parents a means to get involved on campus, Goal 3-to build relationships among parents and Goal 4-to provide a means for feedback from parents to CSOD. Each of these goals was selected to help make a more open and supportive relationship between parents and staff at our school to benefit our students.

The Mission Statement:

Parent Support Fellowship (PSF) is our parents' club at Christian Schools of the Desert. All parents, step-parents, grandparents or other persons playing a significant role in the lives of our students are welcome to attend and be involved in PSF. The purpose of this organization is to make a positive difference in our school and community by promoting communication between the school and home and fostering a supportive educational partnership among the school, community and families.

(Presentations were made at this point by different groups from our campus.)

Sports boosters and cheer would like to encourage you to attend our games and to participate in our canned/dried foods drive. There are large green bins being placed around the campus to place your items. Toiletries, diapers, personal care items can also be donated. These items are distributed through FIND into local area food banks. Narrow Door ministries is an organization that our High School students are working with to distribute food from FIND to families in the Coachella Valley. Our students are delivering food directly to families and praying with them on Saturday mornings. The drive will come to a close at our October 17, football game. Remember to wear orange to raise awareness of the hunger that exists in our own "backyard".

Girl Scout Troop 799, a group of 7th grade girls is working on a leadership award and is starting a recycling program here on campus. This is not a traditional recycling program. The troop has partnered with Terracycle to recycle juice pouches (Kool Aid, Capri Sun, etc), Clif bar wrappers, Granola bar wrappers (Nature Valley), Frito and Lays Chip bags, Oreo cookie wrappers, etc. The girls have decorated bins to identify those items and they will be placed on campus. If you would also send items from home as you collect them, that would also be appreciated. They will receive 2 cents for every wrapper that they recycle which they have said will be donated back to the school (in processing the contract with Terracycle, the checks will be issued directly to the school based on our 501c3 status). If each person at the school recycled 1 item each day, that would lead to a couple of thousand dollars to the school during our school year.

WATCH DOGS is in need of more dads. Any male influence in a child's life is welcome to participate. The last Applebee's pancake breakfast that they did produced funds to help underwrite some of the fun events that the WATCH DOGS sponsor (think Water Day and Snow Day). It was also suggested that with some of the committees available through PSF that our WATCH DOGS would be able to have a little of the feminine touch to their events making them better, yet. Don't forget about HeBrews the last Friday of each month, this is a great time to fellowship with students and other parents. Even though it takes place on the Elementary campus, there is wonderful fellowship and the children put on a brief presentation.

Our annual auction and dinner is coming up on November 7. It is going to be at the Riviera Hotel in Palm Springs and going to be a great time. There are regular committee meetings posted in the bulletins. Even if you cannot attend the auction, try to get an item to auction. If you can get a gift certificate, instead of a full "package", it can be paired or grouped with other items for purchase.

Committees available through PSF:

Members of the PAC will be in charge of each committee. Each committee will need volunteers and a volunteer chairperson to be the right hand of the PAC member. Service on a committee is not meant to be a MUST every time that you are asked to do something. Volunteer for something you enjoy and would be able to help out with when possible.

Fundraising – Volunteers for the Auction/Walk A Thon/Golf Tournament. You would not be chairing the event itself, but assisting. (PAC contact: Caroline Keck)

Hospitality – Volunteers for School Events (HeBrews, Open House, Choir Performances, Hosting of Events with outside organizations/individuals, Teacher Appreciation Week). You would be either providing food, drinks, paper goods or helping with the chair of the event. (PAC contact: Melinda Dougherty)

Helping Hands – Volunteers for general needs (making copies, lunch supervision, crosswalk duty, etc). You would be physically doing something to directly impact the school. (PAC contact: Jill Williams)

At this time it was asked for volunteers to fill the roles of President, Vice President and Secretary of the PSF. After discussion, Carolyn Chrisco stepped forward to assume the role of President, Samantha (Sam) Rhodes in the role of Vice President and Dottie Wilmeth assumed the role of Secretary.

There will be a “sound byte” created to go in the Monday bulletin and one created for the Elementary teachers to put in their newsletters to parents extending an offer to those who could not attend this meeting to get involved. There was also discussion regarding the role of the PSF and how it relates (mostly in the Elementary) to the role of Room Parent. Since each teacher handles their Room Parent(s) differently, this is a supplement to that. Those people who are already volunteering in that role would still want to be in PSF for the additional communication.

Thank you to everyone who attended.