

4-22-2013 PCO Meeting

Nikki read the mission statement.

Treasurer's Report: Blooming Bash profit doubled from last year.

Edible Garden – Nikki explained that a parent expressed interested in talking about an Edible Garden and she's hoping that this agenda item will be part of the May meeting.

Mini Grants – Mini Grants were pushed back to May due to PSAA's.

Nominee Committee – the slate will be finalized at the end of April and names will be pulled from a hat during the May PCO meeting for new Executive Committee members. As of 4/22, three Exec Members will be resigning, which will open up three spots for the 2013-14 school year.

Bully Movie –There was a good discussion amongst the group of parents that attended the movie after the screening. ECS has good things in the works to present to parents regarding the bully program coming up this fall.

Lya's ECS Board Meeting Recap - the loan came through for the renovations which will start as soon as the school year is over.

A draft budget was voted on and will soon be public, which anyone can review through the office. Additions to next school year's budget includes:

- a line item for field trips

- \$2,000 for student council – they will decide on how they want to use it.

- A nurse and counselor at both schools

- An HR rep – 2-3 days/week

A question arose regarding after school activities. Lya noted that a lot of budget items came from teacher's feedback. She also noted that there is no specific line item for after school activities. There is general money allotted per grade. The board approves the budget and the school Admin decides on how to use the funds.

Lya also noted that students attending a charter school can go to their home school for after school arts and sports programs and that ECS was going to look into this further and how ECS can cover the cost for kids to participate in their home schools after school activities.

It was also noted that at schools throughout the area, including suburban schools, have pay for sports due to very tight budgets.

Parents Surveys – a recent survey was conducted to determine which area parents have the most interest in from a growth standpoint. The results showed that interest was evenly split between arts, sports and academics.

Town Hall Discussion – parents then broke into small groups to talk about how ECS can grow stronger.

Blooming Bash – Beth reported that the Blooming Bash was a huge success. Funds doubled from last year, with \$18,000 coming in and \$4,000 in expenses. Profit was approx. \$14,000. Beth signed the check over to the school and they will determine how to spend the money – which will go towards arts at ECS.

Staff Appreciation week – Beth announced that this is coming up the week of April 29. She'll need help with various activities for the teachers and staff. A luncheon will take place on Fri 5/3 at both schools. Other activities include muffins and possibly spa services. More to come via the Wed Word, PCO Facebook and via email blasts from Room Parents.