

**Friends of Pulaski
Board of Directors Meeting
November 14, 2012**

The Board meeting was called to order by the President at 7:40pm

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Scott Suckow
Mr. Brandon Antoniewicz
Mr. Ross Crampton
Mr. Steve Dillinger
Ms. Sarah Harris
Ms. Toni Popova
Mr. James Sowka

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Ms. Marjory Oliva

ATTENDEES

Ellen McNamara
Alejandra Lopez
Tiffany Willing
Laura Stein
Marian Rodriguez
Bob Fox
Debbie Gibbons

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the October 24, 2012 Board Meeting by Mr. Crampton and seconded by Mr. Antoniewicz. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Suckow nominated Debbie Gibbons to for the vacant Communications chair. Mr. Antoniewicz moved to approve Debbie as Communications Chair; Ms. Harris seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

CHAIR REPORTS

- **PRESIDENT**

- Mr. Suckow has met with Ellen MacNamara (teacher liaison), Lillian Gonzalez (Administrator in charge) and Diana Racasi (AP) – continuing to develop list of school needs that FOP can potentially support
- Thanks to efforts of Mark Battin, PE teacher, Healthy Schools designation awarded to Pulaski on October 10, 2012
- Pulaski Student council raised approximately \$3000 through recent Affy Tapple sale; funds will be used to purchase PE equipment and possibly enhance sound system in Auditorium.

- **TREASURER**

Mr. Sowka reviewed the financials (included in the presentation) and also noted that all IL State filings would be made this week and would reflect Ms. Gibbons.

- **FUNDRAISING**

Mr. Crampton noted that the FOP website content is currently being updated to include “stories” about parents who have donated – testimonials as to why they love Pulaski, why they contribute, etc. A letter will be distributed to all current Pulaski student parents around Thanksgiving to explain donation process and encourage all to donate. Laura Stein, along with Lindsey Barnes, presented information about The Get Moving Crew’s Fun Run program. The Get Moving Crew provides organization and support for fun run fundraisers; cost is \$1,200 for The Get Moving Crew to run event that would require support from the Administration, PE teachers, and other parent groups to bring a Fun Run to Pulaski in Spring 2013. The Board was interested in the event and intends to explore the possibility of working with The Get Moving Crew, but also discussed the merit of paying an outside group to run this when Pulaski (admin, teachers, parents, etc) could possibly run the event in-house. The Board will investigate similar events at other schools, research pros and cons of hiring an outside group versus running it ourselves, continue discussion, and revisit topic at December meeting

- **VOLUNTEERS**

Ms. Harris provided an update on her new part-time role with Pulaski. She also provided an update on outreach activities, current volunteer opportunities (Morning Parent Patrol, Lunchroom Supervision, Recess Supervision, Classroom Assistance, Library Assistance, Office Assistance, and Special Events - most help is needed with Morning Parent Patrol) It was noted that all parents are required to complete CPS Volunteer Registration packet so they can get involved ASAP.

- **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**

Ms. Popova proposed that we hold a Homemade Pizza fundraiser at Pulaski – a portion of all orders on a specific night go to FOP; if pre-ordered, pizzas can hopefully be delivered to school and distributed to families on-site; Ms. Popova will investigate possibility of making this a recurring monthly event; 3 to 4 volunteers needed to help coordinate the event (mainly publicity). Ms. Popova also encouraged attendees to identify one or two local businesses with which they have a relationship – we can individually establish connections between Pulaski and the local

business community Ellen McNamara suggested that we investigate the Manna Group – families purchase “gift cards” from designated corporations; when gift cards are used, a portion of purchase goes towards school.

- **COMMUNICATIONS – no update**

- **FACILITIES**

It was noted that there has been no progress on the playground equipment. Mr. Suckow has begun giving the school administration a list of items to be addressed (trash cans, lights, stairs, etc.) and will follow-up during recurring meetings.

- **TECHNOLOGY – no update**

LSC UPDATE – Principal search continues to move in positive direction with a successful “Meet the candidate” session occurring just before the FOP meeting.

OPEN MEETING FOR QUESTIONS AND OTHER TOPICS

Evaluation process to assess support requests – Mr. Suckow proposed a formalized evaluation process to determine where FOP funds should be allocated; further discussion will take place at December meeting

Fundraising Request – Based on teacher and Administration input, Ellen McNamara proposed the purchase of 35 Chromebooks to be used by teachers and students throughout school. Mr. Suckow noted that this need was also identified by Michelle O’Hollaren (Technology teacher) and the Administration (Lillian Gonzalez and Diana Racasi). A discussion first occurred on the merit which was supported by the Board. Then a discussion was held as to whether FOP should put available funds towards this or fundraise for additional funds to cover costs (either “look what we got; donate so we can do more” or “donate so we can get these and more cool stuff”).

Mr. Antoniewicz moved to purchase of 35 Chromebooks (contingent on test to ensure that they do indeed work at Pulaski); Ms. Gibbons seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Suckow noted that a test Chromebook has been ordered and will be shared with Michelle O’Hollaren to test ASAP.

It was noted that the next meeting will be on December 19, 2012 in the school library.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 9:10pm.