

PAC MEETING

Moberly Elementary

September 18, 2012

7:00 pm

Present

Welcome:

Moberly's principal, Ms. Plottel welcomed guests to this first PAC meeting of the school year and introduced herself and Ms. Brown, acting Vice Principal.

Introduction of PAC members:

Ms. Plottel introduced the present PAC President Mrs. Thandi. Ms. Plottel explained that this will be the last year that Mrs. Thandi is going to be president, due to her son graduating this year, so a new president, as well as a new treasurer, secretary and members at large are needed in order for our PAC to become and stay strong.

Treasurer's Report:

- Treasurer was not present. Ms. Plottel gave an overview of how the PAC can help with fundraising, such as with the upcoming Spellathon, hoping to raise about \$5000-6000. This is just an example of one type of fundraising the PAC can help with. Ms. Plottel explained that when money is raised, teachers give input as to where they think the money would be best used, for example, new computers, new textbooks, playgrounds, etc. Ms. Plottel mentioned that the playground behind the gym needs to be replaced, due to it being made of wood, and the School Board will be taking it down eventually. In order for a new one to be made, fundraising is necessary. "Fundraising ultimately helps all the children at Moberly."

Chair's Report:

A PAC chair was not available so Mrs. Plottel chaired the meeting, a job that would be welcomed by a PAC member in the future.

- stated the need for volunteers at Moberly and explained that if anyone at the meeting would like to volunteer, to please submit their names and they may be called upon in the future. A reminder that if a parent is not available at that time, it is okay to decline at that time if busy with other matters.
- reminded parents that volunteers can also help out in the classrooms and on field trips.
- showed parents the Moberly website, reminding them of how to access calendar, principal's news, newsletters, etc.
- explained how children were placed in classrooms, and explained the reason behind split classes. A handout was made available to further explain how split classes are often a "positive asset" to the child. Ms. Plottel continued to explain the process of how teachers carefully divided last year's classes into different groups (different ability groups, a relatively even number of boys and girls, special needs divided between classes...) and how some consideration is made as to who that child's teacher should be the following year. Ms. Plottel reminded parents that in May of the last school year that parents are told that if they have any special requests for the next year (special characteristics that the child may have that would help the teachers decide which teacher would be best for that child) that those requests be submitted BEFORE June. It is very difficult if not impossible to fairly move students once classes have been balanced and formed for September
- reminded parents to refer to the website for the date of future PAC meetings, the 3rd Tues. of every month at alternating times, 7:00 pm and 9:00 am. Babysitting is available at evening meetings.

Special Guests:

- Two senior Air Cadets came into the PAC meeting, introduced themselves and shared information re: and Air Cadet Program, also leaving behind some brochures. Air Cadets is a youth program that promotes discipline, leadership skills, and good citizenship to children between the ages of 12 and 18 years old. It is an excellent program that gives children excellent

opportunities to grow and learn skills they wouldn't necessarily learn at home.

Upcoming Events:

- Ms. Plottel reminded parents to refer to the website for: Picture Day, two upcoming performances, hot lunch days (which have changed to Mondays), and a Professional Day on September 24th for Moberly teachers, who will be attending a Mind-UP Workshop. Ms. Plottel took time to show parents a video clip on what Mind-UP is and how effective it is in teaching your child to calm themselves and to be more "mindful". This workshop will be led by a new teacher on the Moberly staff, Ms. Erickson, who is an experienced leader in Mind Up training. Ms. Plottel also reminded parents of upcoming Goal Setting Interviews in October and Parent Teacher Conferences in December. Your child's teacher will be deciding which of these he/she will be having.

Next Meeting: October 16th, 9:00 am

Focus of Next Meeting: *The Early Learning Program* at Moberly

Meeting Adjourned: 7:55 pm