

MINUTES

Spoede Elementary School Association General Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Jill Hunt.

In Attendance

SSA Executive Board Members: Katie Otto, Ashley Schneider, Lisa Fister, Stacey Acree, Jennifer Deutsch, Dr. Connie Brawley, Jill Hunt, Maureen McGinnis, Susan Kemppainen, Melissa Pesce and Kristen Wild.

Other Members Who Signed In

Please see "11/16/10 SSA GMM Attachment A" for the sign-in sheet

Approval of the Minutes

Lisa Fister made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting, September 14, 2010. Lisa Goebel seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

I. Welcome

II. Principal's Report

- A. Dr. Brawley wanted to report that everything is going well. Spoede was recognized as a Missouri School of Character but will be also going for the National School of Character recognition. Teachers are working on the application.

III. Presidents' Report –Jill Hunt & Susan Kemppainen

- A. Grant Requests passed by the Exec Board
 - 1. Science Carnival Grant- Reptile Experience was passed at the Executive Board Meeting.
- B. Character Education Presentation
 - 1. Darci Cadieux, Rob Garrett and Carol Kliesen discussed the work the Character Education committee is doing. See handout on Rewards and Incentives at Spoede School.
 - 2. The Committee is doing a book study on "Punished by Rewards, Getting Rid of Bribes." Some of the topics they are exploring are myths about self-esteem, conditioning kids, and how rewards/incentives/ etc. may be insulting children's intelligence.
 - 3. Weaving the Rewards & Incentives program with the Love & Logic program and using them together.
 - 4. The group wanted to emphasize that Spoede is not getting rid of rewards, just changing how it uses them.
 - 5. Lisa Goebel asked was it explained to the students and if so how was it explained. The group responded that it was explained to the students and Ms. Paula offered the Grade Level Stars example and how it was explained to the kids at assembly. Mrs. Kleisen spoke about the Box Tops example and educating the kids about the "why" of collecting Box Tops and getting all the students involved. The kids learned the Box Top boogie to get them excited about the collection process
 - 6. Ms. Paula spoke about building the students internal drive to do good rather than relying on external drive.
 - 7. Ms. Cadieux commented that this a long-term (dynamic & developing) plan. Rewards make a difference short-term but not long-term.
 - 8. The ultimate goal is to make sure everyone feels valid and important and that they have a voice.
 - 9. Lisa Fister asked if other schools in the district are doing this? And the answer from the committee is that yes they are and the middle school is working on it as well...but it is a process, not something that happens immediately.

10. In closing the committee wanted to stress that this will be incorporated into all the great things that Spoede is already doing and that they still want Spoede School to be fun!

C. **Playground & Pepsi Refresh**

1. Pepsi Refresh – Spoede is at #19 which is phenomenal.
2. The deadline for donations to the campaign will be extended into December.
3. The Pepsi refresh challenge is a huge amount of work and everyone involved has been working really hard. Kristen Wild was the alliance coordinator and she is working on getting one more alliance which will bring us to a total of nine!
4. The main thing is that Spoede needs more votes. If anyone works for a large employer where flyers can be handed out or texts can be encouraged that would be great.
5. Lisa Fister made cool flyers that can be handed out at sporting events or large venues.
6. Marjie Chuchola suggested that the kids take ownership and make calls and contacts especially over the holiday break.
7. Melissa will be putting together a Q & A about Why Spoede is doing the Pepsi Refresh campaign and why Spoede is the perfect fit for the Pepsi Refresh project.
8. The campaign has raised over \$100,000.00 and will meet its goals of accessibility, inclusiveness, new equipment and drainage issues will be fixed.
9. Teachers will need to approve the equipment but then the order will be placed by December 31st.

IV. Vice Presidents' Report – Stacey Acree and Lisa Fister

- A. Fall Family Fun day was a success. It was discussed that more will need to be done to promote the Creve Coeur location.
- B. Spoede night at the Blues game will be on December 11th. The date to purchase tickets will be extended. The tickets are \$20.00 and \$5.00 comes back to Spoede. The money is used to purchase grade level shirts. The next Spoede Blues event will be in March.
- C. Volunteers are needed for the Pepsi Refresh Committees.

V. Treasurers' Report –Marjie Chuchola & Maureen McGinnis

- A. Taxes: Steve Morley volunteered to prepare the SSA's taxes which will save \$1000.00.

VI. Corresponding Secretary – Jennifer Deutsch

- A. Turtle Tribute Fund- Information will be going out in the Gazette to remind people about the Turtle Tribute fund, which is great for holiday occasions.

VII. PDC Report- Ashley Schneider and Charlotte Kelley

- A. Ashley reported that the Ladue Education Foundation did a presentation grants and two of the grants were given to Spoede.
- B. Ladue School District has a new website- everyone is encouraged to check it out!
- C. Budget Taskforce has been put in place with the task of cutting expenses or increasing revenue by 5 million dollars.
- D. Next year cuts might affect staff, etc.
- E. New LECC is under construction.
- F. Options for Westminster campus to begin Fall 2012 include: 5th grade center, 8th grade center, kindergarten center, Gifted or Montessori center.
- G. School Board Meetings are going to have a new format. There will be two meetings a month, one for formal business and one for less formal ideas etc.

VIII. Webmaster's Report – Melissa Pesce

- A. Virtual Wish Tree Store is up and running online. Playground items will be added to the Wish Store.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m. by Susan Kemppainen.

Next meeting February 1, 2011