

LCDC PTO Meeting Agenda January 16, 2014

I. Old Business – Marile

- i. The LCDC cookbooks are on sale and have been drastically marked down to \$1! They are at the LCDC front desk and in the exchange shop.
- ii. Please remember to collect and bring in your Farm Fresh receipts, Box Tops and Labels for Education. The drop-off location is outside the Big Dippers room. Contact Nicole Hintermeister with any questions.
 1. Box Tops are submitted and the balance held until a check request is made. Nicole submitted box tops before the holidays which came to about 300 box tops (\$43). She can do another submittal anytime. Mrs. Bloom received a check for over \$100 based on the \$43 as well as what was already in the account. Labels for education collect points and pick items from a catalogue includes art supplies, furniture, etc. We already have 1000 points for that program
- iii. Reminder: LCDC is on the web (<http://pto.larc.nasa.gov/>) and on Facebook
- iv. The PTO has created a new Parent Concerns form. It can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/o5x7no5> and is an anonymous way to communicate concerns to the PTO board. We can also be reached at any of our NASA email addresses or at lcdcpto@gmail.com
- v. Holiday Party – Thanks to everyone that helped make the Holiday Party a great success. A special thank you to Christina Williams for chairing the event and to all the teachers for the wonderful children's program.
- vi. Scentsy Fundraiser – The Scentsy Fundraiser was a great success. Thanks to all those that made purchases. A special thank you to Jennifer Frost and Nicole Hintermeister for leading this fundraiser.

II. New Business – Marile

- i. Square One fundraiser – Sarah Puckett will be chairing this fundraiser. It is just getting started and the children will be working on their beautiful artwork in class. Parents can expect to see the packets for orders in early March.
- ii. Spring Fundraiser – The Board is considering options for the spring fundraiser and would like your input. We are strongly considering doing the Flower Power fundraiser again as it was quite successful since we opened it up to the whole Center. Please provide your input to any Board member.

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- a. Ms. Bloom received info for Nature's Vision in the mail. It is for nature products and the board will take a look at it.
- b. Yankee Candle - is being considered for next Fall
- iii. Upcoming Lunch 'N Learns – Information about these were sent out by Ms. Bloom before the holidays and have been advertised on @LaRC. Be sure to check on any that interest you and share with your colleagues that have children.
- iv. Diversity Day luncheon – This will be held at the LCDC on Friday, February 28th. Mark your calendars now. More details are to follow.
 - a. Usually staff put this together and parents can also contribute food. It is a time to appreciate diversity as well as have a social time together. Children can also enjoy the food if a parent attends.

III. Finance – Kandyce Goodliff

- i. Checking balance is \$646 and savings balance is \$2,330
- ii. Expenses included the Holiday party, teacher wish list, teacher birthday and a retirement gift for Ms. G
- iii. Revenues include profits from the Scentsy fundraiser. We are still waiting for the fall pictures profits as there are still outstanding packages.

I. Directors Report – Mrs. Bloom

- i. Ms. Shalamar has given her resignation. She has accepted a job with the shipyard. She will be missed. Ms. Bloom is getting ready to put out an announcement to get new teachers in for the empty spots
- ii. SECA Conference - How many teachers are participating this Friday and what are the benefits? How are those not traveling to the workshop benefitting from PD?
 - i. Only two teaching staff (both part time) are not attending. One has anniversary plans and the other has a previous obligation. The PTO is paying for some teachers to attend.
 - ii. Ms. Bloom sent a link to look at the training. This regional conference is close which makes it convenient
- iii. Status of the Futures team
 - i. FY13 finances were a concern. With drop in enrollment, the team has to determine how the LCDC can be sustainable
 - ii. Team is looking at models of operation and the LCDC 3-10 years down the road
 - iii. Some mandated changes include coming into one building with the other two scheduled for demo. The current model needs to be reassessed with the public schools taking some customer base with preschool.

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- iv. Team is strong and caring
- v. Looking at model of operation – dissecting the rooms and the size of the rooms
- vi. The team is looking at hiring in the next 5-10 years and what the demand for childcare will be. A survey will be distributed soon (currently awaiting OMB approval). A second survey will go out to current families to find out their priorities for childcare.
- vii. Health care savings - \$53K should be a win/win because of ACA / LCDC saves and staff can get lower cost health care
- viii. Ignore all the rumors
- ix. When will team wrap up? – Hopefully by end of February. The team started meeting in November and paused for the holidays.
- x. Per Randy Cone, the team is looking at ways that we can reduce the dependency of the center on the budget (grounds, custodial, maintenance) By reducing two buildings, we are saving ~\$134K/year.
- xi. Will LCDC lose phones or custodial care? LCDC no longer needs these services in the old buildings but we will have to look at additional cuts
- iv. Tuition increases – Ms. Bloom and others checked with centers in our area and other NASA centers to look at models. Leadership managed to tuition lower than outside centers.
 - i. Is this a 12 month commitment? In the past, there have been families that pull out their children for the summer. LCDC can no longer afford this. Parents can now opt for a 10 month commitment and pay a different rate.
 - ii. What is the daily rate used for? drop-ins or used for withdrawal

II. Parent Comments/Concerns

- i. How many positions are you looking for?
 - i. Ms. Bloom is looking to hire two part time preschool teachers with at least associates degrees
 - ii. Currently there is an announcement for office assistant in the afternoon which would work with the entire exchange and not just the LCDC
 - iii. Need another flex person to compensate for Shalamar
- ii. Why is enrollment lower than last year? Ms Bloom always tries to meet with parents when they leave. She has received a variety of reason for withdrawal from LCDC (child going to public preschool, financial issues, felt another center would be better, logistics, personality)
- iii. How can preschool be improved (curriculum, etc.)? The teachers are looking to improve the materials but want better material. Do preschool parents want it and want to pay for it?

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iv. Teachers appreciate being able to go to the conference

III. Closing Remarks – Marile

- i. The next PTO Meeting will be Thursday, **February 20**, 2014, at **12:00pm**. We will meet in the “classroom” (Education Office Building 1216 Rm 201) with online capability for those unable to attend in person.
- ii. Upcoming LCDC Closures:
 - a. Friday, January 17th – SECA Conference
 - b. Monday, January 20th – Martin Luther King Day
 - c. Monday, February 17th – President’s Day