OSTA MINUTES FOR AUGUST 17, 2013

Meeting was called to order at 9:15. Members present: Ava Wilhelm, Joyce Cheatham, Tina Rogers, Beth Allan, Annette Huett, Jessica Hornberger, Bethany Lorenz, Natalie Bowman, Tiffany Neil, and Travis Hurst. Members absent: Toni Ivey, Jim Jenkins, Tim Laubach, Becky Hammock, Brandi Williams, Kay Gamble, Sally Fenska, Suzanne Spradling, Bob Melton, Sue Hull, Michelle Smith.

There were no reports from division or district directors. Sally and Jim have posted on Base Camp that they will be resigning after fall conference.

Tiffany Neil, our state science director was at the meeting. She reports that the standards are in draft form and have been read by 150 teachers across the state. Response has been overwhelmingly positive. Focus Group meetings are scheduled with OERB and other non-educators that have a stake in science education in Oklahoma. OERB has pledged their support. Public viewing of the standards should be ready for November. The hope is by the time the legislature convenes in February, we will have ample evidence of statewide support for the OKLA version of the new standards.

She also explained the process used to get the new cut scores for state testing. Members explained their role at the meetings where cut scores were derived. The rigor of the tests has increased over the past three years, especially the DOK 3 questions. Sample DOK 3 questions will be made available in September.

Membership Report: Travis reports that we are growing by 2 members a day. He reports some confusion by people trying to join on Member Clicks. Some things on the web site are confusing.

Awards: Fundraising for awards will go through Beth.

Nominations: For fall election these positions are open: Elementary director, high school director, president elect, and treasurer. We need GREAT nominations!

OKJSS: We still need proposals for articles. We are having lots of difficulty filling the journal.

CONFERENCE: “Get in the Zone: Central Standards Time” is our theme. There will NOT be a pre-conference on Friday at OERB. Pearson will sponsor our fall conference---YEA!!!

Awards reception: These are the assignments made so far:

* Invitations- Suzanne
* Program- Tina
* Food and Wine- Joyce
* Table decorations- Annette and Ava 12 tables and the food table
* Music- Annette volunteered her husband.
* Greeters- Bob, Annette, and Ava
* Newspapers- Ava 2 press releases are needed, one about the conference and one about the awardees
* Plaques- Travis (Edmond Trophy)
* Nametags- Jessica She has an ETCHER in her classroom. Tina also volunteered Michelle.

Theme: We have a t-shirt design. Beth will post it on Base Camp. Tina will model conference logo after it.

On-Site Registration: Bob has already volunteered to man this. Travis and Natalie will help him.

Volunteer Coordinator: Beth will do this because she has all the keys.

Technical Support: We will use our great UCO guy. We agreed at our last meeting to pay him the same stipend as last year. Free Wi-Fi is available for conference attendees. Travis volunteered to help as needed.

Signs: Tina has signs. We volunteered the student volunteers to put them up in the parking lot.

Program: We discussed sponsorship and different levels and vendors who might need to be contacted. What are our levels? All vendors get banners and tables. The banners are made at UCO. In the program bronze level vendors get a quarter page. Silver level will get a half page and gold level vendors will get a whole page. Beth suggested that vendors like Delta, who do sessions, should PAY and purchase a table. Jessica suggested that perhaps, could be part of the GOLD package. Tiffany asked for Presidential Awardees (Go Annette!!!) be recognized in the program. Discussion ensued that we also recognize them at the awards reception. (Go Annette!)

Breakfast: Panera Bread! We will order less than last year because we had tons of leftovers. Ava and Brandi will help set it up and coordinate with the student volunteers, who are really doing most of the work!

Elections: Bethany volunteered to coordinate this. During the meeting, Bob texted in that he would set up electronic voting. Go for it, Bob!

Agenda: We cut down the number of sessions, but not the number of rooms. Here is how it looks so far:

* Registration and Breakfast 8:00
* Welcome 9:00
* Keynote 9:15 to 10:15
* Session 1 10:45 to 11:45
* Lunch 11:45 to 1
* Half Day Sessions 1:00 to 4:00
* Session 2 1:00
* Session 3 2:00
* Session 4 3:00
* Silent Auction ends at 4:00
* Door Prize Drawings at 4:00

Lunch: Tiffany has volunteered to speak at this time about our OK Science Standards. We will call it, “Lunch and Learn the Standards.”

Poster Session: Tim wants this in for pre-service teachers. Beth voiced that it would be difficult to set up because we don’t have easels. Discussion then ensued that maybe it would be better to have grad students, but there is a limited number of those. Jessica explained that this could be a great networking opportunity. Tina threw out that the posters be set up on the way to the auditorium. Beth thinks they should be in hallways or breakfast area and the students should bring their own easels. Tina liked that idea better and through the ensuing discussion, we all agreed that this could just work out! Tina plans to put a blurb in the program and on the agenda to help sell it.

THANK YOU, JESSICA. She agreed to take care of the silent auction. The bookstore will be run by Suzanne and we don’t have to buy any more books because we have leftovers from last year.

NEWS FLASH: Beth has no opinion on using the Lands’ End code in the program this year. All were aghast.

Door prizes: Beth will donate 2 refurbished Carolina kits. Tickets should be passed out by presenters at their sessions or at registration or at both. Beth suggested that we have a presenters packet. We need to remember to label our buckets for the tickets.

Certificates: Consensus was that they should be placed at the book table for teachers to pick up as they leave.

Tiffany asked that we get the agenda to her ASAP so that she could put it on the SDE Science Facebook page and #OKSCI. These tools are SDE’s efforts to reach out to all science teachers across the state. She encouraged us to use it and to reach out to others in our buildings and networks. OK SCI Leadership is a keystone project that will help other teachers in the state. The group’s focus is building leaders to affect policy. OKSCI is also a web site and the new standards will be placed there. The web site should be up and going by November.

NEW BUSINESS: Mini Grant. This grant is seeking math science partnerships for engineering design conference in the spring. The grant will train teachers on engineering design and leadership. They want to partner with us for a spring conference.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20.