



Killearn Lakes Elementary

PTO Meeting
September 20, 2022
6:00 pm

MEETING MINUTES

Attendance:

Principal Brenda Wagner, Assistant Principal Champayne Ricciardi, Ressa Tomkiewicz, Allison Hartsfield, Karen Benavidez, Jamie Sheehan, Brittany Auclair, Taylor Wright, Jennifer Griswold, Katie Giagos, Briano Allen, Lenard Franklin, Debby and Derek Dykes, Karen Allen, Colleen Sellers, Whitnee Fuqua, Kelly Dennis, Troy Diggs, Siobhan Dominy, Elena Hill, Frederick (Ben) Poag, Joann Frazia, Meredith Postier, Rony Sears, Bethany Mitchell, Katherine Fothergill, Heather Jackson, Imogene Reddick, Michelle Garcia, Lachelle Browning, Christine Blades, Patricia Pagozalski, Jessica Cain

Welcome at 6:00pm

Ressa Tomkiewicz

This year the PTO is going to follow the theme of "The Best Year Ever!" We are trying to come up with new ideas on how to celebrate teachers. The favorite programs are also coming back like the fall festival.

Principal's Report

Brenda Wagner

Thank you for being here. It is great to see a large crowd. The PTO is a good group as well as the SAC (which only has 3-4 meetings per year). Thank you to those who attended Open House, it was a great event. The season for parent/teacher conferences is now upon us as we are in the 6th week of school. Please know that a parent can ask for a conference at any time.

The first field trip is coming up on September 30th for the fourth grade. And then in October we have a lot of events coming up. One is Red Ribbon Week and will end with a book character parade (on October 28th). It is great to see events are coming back and that we are getting back to normal.

Please feel free to email or call administration at any time.

Assistant Principal's Report

Champayne Ricciardi

Let's talk FAST assessments. All teachers have been doing it. Teachers will be sending a letter with the student's score for the beginning of the year test. It is good baseline info. Fourth grade takes their last assessment tomorrow. Please spread the word that the FAST test is measuring for this year's objectives. Meaning that this is information the kids haven't learned yet so the scores are expected to be low. Touch base with teachers if there are any concerns. The kids have been awesome because they are testing on things they haven't even learned yet.

Board Member Reports

- Director of Finance

Allison Hartsfield

Allison Hartsfield went over the budget that was handed out at the meeting. She mentioned that the School Store was back this year. Thank you, Mr. Franklin!! It has been the last two Wednesday mornings at 8am-8:30am just outside the media center. It helps kids with learning money and counting out correct change. So far this year it has made about \$300.

We also sold the old designs of Spirit Wear at Orientation and the new designs at Open House. This has generated about \$600 this year.

So far, we have spent some money on a few things. \$3000 on patron prizes, \$114 to renew the website, \$55 birthday book club, plus some money on hospitality (such as the back 2 school lunch for teachers, snacks for the first faculty meeting, and waters for orientation).

The teachers get a \$200 allotment each year and 4 teachers have already claimed their reimbursement.

To date we have brought in \$11,000 and spent \$6000.

Voted for the budget for year: move to approve the budget: Jamie Sheehan. Seconded by Taylor Wright.

- Directors of Fundraising

Karen Benavidez, Jamie Sheehan

Karen says that leadership is easier with a partner as it has made it easier to make decisions with Jamie. As of September 20th, we have reached 59% of our goal at \$14,426.

The prizes this year for the patron program include wristbands, car magnets, pop its, yearbook, and 5th grade graduation tickets. Hopefully this makes it worth the money for the donation.

There are classroom contests with participation (not dollar amount). The first prize distribution has gone out. If classrooms make it to 30% then they get a pajama day. Each week the class with the highest participation level gets extra recess. The highest class at each grade level gets a cookie party. The class with the highest participation in the entire school gets a pizza party!!!

Emails have been sent to homeroom teachers, the Listserv, posted on Facebook etc. Please donate to our school!

Spirit Wear will be available for order until December. Ordered items will be printed and delivered every two weeks or so.

- Director of Communication

Brittany Auclair

Motion to approve the minutes from last year's final meeting - Jamie Sheehan. Ressa Tomkiewicz seconded it.

The minutes for all our meetings are on our website. Will also try to add them to a Facebook post.

- Business Partner Coordinator Taylor Wright

We had a couple of businesses drop this year and then a couple of new businesses. They will be recognized on Facebook. Some of our business partners this year are Facility Solutions and Management, State Farm (Bridgit Smallridge), McKee insurance, Best Day Events and Rentals, Clark orthodontics, Bannerman Pet care, Dr. Hartsfield, Killearn dance troop, HCA, and Jen Griswold from Keller Williams. We are still waiting on a few checks to roll in. Also want to thank partners for getting involved in other ways such as Rising Star Supply who wants to donate gift cards for teachers or help sponsor a lunch.

Seven weeks into school and we are doing great. It is the most amazing school because of the parents.

We have a form so that parents can ask people they know to become a business partner. It was sent out on Listserv and will be posted on Facebook.

- Volunteer Coordinator Jennifer Griswold

Two events just happened. Book fair and photo day. They were a huge success and ran smoothly.

If a classroom does not have the volunteers needed (like for special projects or field trips) reach out to Jen Griswold. She has the list of approved volunteers and can send out an email with a signup genius to the list, to homeroom parents, on the ListServ, and can be posted of PTO social media.

Upcoming events where we may need volunteers include the Fall Festival and possibly the Character parade.

Reminder to teachers to send the homeroom parent the email address list so information can be disseminated.

- Old Business Ressa Tomkiewicz

Still need to fill the Hospitality Committee chair, but the rest have been filled at this time. This chair is currently being handled internally.

Kicked off the year with the BooHoo breakfast and it went well.

- New Business Ressa Tomkiewicz

- Fall Festival – October 22nd 12pm-3pm

In September we focus on the Patron Program and in October we are shifting to the Fall Festival. Forms will be going home for students to purchase wristbands ahead of time for \$15 and they will also be sold at the door for \$20.

There are going to be vendors there such as Redemptive Love Farm, Killearn Lakes Taekwondo, and AR Workshop. There will also be booths for each grade. This year the teachers have enough to do so they are going to be run by parents. For example, Laura Page is running the 2nd grade booth which will be a fishing exhibit. There will be someone putting candy on the fishing line behind a wall. There will also be a duck pond. Fifth grade is starting to work on their booth also. We will need volunteers to

run the booths. Have also partnered with DeerLake Middle School and there will be older students who need volunteer hours that will be helping at the event.

Also hoping to have a dunk booth and are currently looking for teachers willing to participated.

Principal Wagner will work on a resource officer.

- Parent Social – October 5th (Wednesday) at Hurricane's

There will be light appetizers and an opportunity for parents to meet each other and the PTO Board.

- Campus Enhancement

There is about \$12,000 to spend this year. Jessica Cain is chairing this committee chair. She will email KLES with a survey for ideas and will choose one. We know the process is long and arduous because Boosterthon money was used last year to enhance the campus. The playground equipment on the intermediate playground was painted and repaired. The cafeteria got a new sound system and PE got a new cover for the basketball courts.

The process is cumbersome because there will have to be three bids and it will take several months.

- Friendsgiving

Wanting to have this event for teachers and staff. Ressa is brainstorming, but would love some new ideas. Thinking about food trucks or a dessert bar or even a potluck.

Share Night Update

Katie Giagios

We raised about \$270 at the Share Night at Sweet Frogs and they also donated coupons to go into report cards.

October 6th will be a Share Night at Hanger 38, which is a Thursday. Looking in to getting stickers to send home with the students that day

November 8th (Tuesday) will be a share day at Smitty's. It will be all day (and might even include takeout) and they will donate 20% to KLES. Will also look into getting stickers for this day also.

Texas Roadhouse will be doing a partnership with us where we purchase electronic giftcards and they will donate a percentage of the amount. This will be near the holidays so they can be given as gifts.

Have reached out to FSU events and waiting for a response.

Looking for ideas for 2023. Maybe Moe's or Dave's Pizza Garage. We are not doing a drive through this year.

Coupons for the report cards are difficult to find. Especially when businesses find they need to give at least 800 of them.

All Pro Dad Update

Briano Allen

Thanks to everyone for supporting the program and encouraging fathers with their kids and the school. Over 100 people who came to this event in September. There was Chic Fil A and games and there was positivity with speaker Steve Oole. October's meeting is on the 11th and the theme will be reading.

Requesting any ideas on how dad can support reading at a young age. Principal Wagner suggested having dads volunteer to be mystery readers for the younger grades.

Teacher Reports

Lead Teachers

Kindergarten

Reddick

As just previously mentioned guest readers are needed. Recently the kindergartners have covered some letters, book main ideas, realistic and informational text. They have been writing numbers, learning plural vs. singular nouns, the rules of the school, being responsible, and discussing the Constitution as well the 5 senses. The theme is going places. They are about to learn about living v. nonliving things. They will be doing work with apples... tasting, measuring, cooking, experimenting such as sinking vs. floating.

First Grade

Sellers

They have been working on social emotional learning activities, phonics such as short "O", international dot day, class constitution, and what scientists do. October will start Spider Fest.

Second Grade

Fuqua

Thank you to Ms. Fuqua's parents for attending the PTO meeting. The kids are adjusting well. They have their second math test this week. They are starting Life Cycles next week. Fire Safety will be coming up. This group is a great group.

Third Grade

Allen

They are getting their feet wet with the new Savvas curriculum in reading. They are reading Judy Moody Declares Independence to tie into Constitution Week while the students are learning about government. They just finished Chapter 1. In Science they are start an engineering unit and will be designing Treehouses.

Fourth Grade

Garcia

This year is off to a good start! This is the first year of changing classes for these students and they have caught on quickly. They were excited for parents to come to Open House. Their first field trip is next Friday to Mission San Luis and they are doing their first FAST test tomorrow.

Fifth Grade

Jackson

BIKE RIDE!!! 😊 Very excited about the 5th grade bike ride!! Students have been working hard with the new curriculum and the FAST Testing. In Science they are learning units of matter. In math they have learned place value and multiplying two-digit numbers and are now working on division.

Teachers are really proud of the students. Social studies is learning about map skills and will soon have state projects.

Special Area

Dennis

Also, very excited about the 5th grade bike ride.

Media – Bookfair was a success! The dollar amount earned will be coming soon.

Music – students are learning about rhythm. The 3rd/4th grade students are working on recorders and the 5th graders are working on ukuleles.

Art – Younger children are working on stripes/patterns and the older children are doing dioramas.

Guidance – Currently learning the difference between hearing and listening.

PE – Extremely excited to have bicycles for all different levels and sizes. It is fun to watch the little ones learn on the balance bikes. Thank you to all the volunteers who are helping out with the 5th grade bike ride. No more helmets after this week!!

Open Forum/ Q&A

Ressa Tomkiewicz

Adjourn Meeting at 7:10pm