



Parent Teacher Organization
General Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2017
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Meeting attended by:

- | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Jami Alvarez | 2. Jennifer Weston | 3. Melissa Sofranko |
| 4. Amanda Huntington | 5. Alicia Baer | 6. Sondra Wendt |
| 7. Alison Ryan | 8. Dameon Blair | 9. Wendy Davison |
| 10. Bill Young | 11. Holly Byerly | 12. Amy Francis |
| 13. Stacey Reiersgaard | 14. Mallory Reilly | 15. Kelley Camasto |
| 16. Nathania Vandenen | 17. Priscilla Cruz | 18. Brenda Van der Toorn |
| 19. Krystie Burgess | 20. Adri Selvius | |

President's Report – Alison Ryan

Alison called the meeting to order a few minutes after five, and greeted everyone. She said that she had not heard from Mr. Blair and did not know when or if he would arrive. She then mentioned that the kindergarten open house is going to be on May 7th. She also said she will be getting forms for the Edu Kits, which are the school supplies that you can purchase for your child, so you don't have to run around to different stores, gathering supplies for the next school. If you order before June 11th, there is free shipping to Caurus. Any orders after 6-11 will be shipped to the student's residence and the student will have to pay for shipping.

Vice President's Report – Jami Alvarez We made \$406 from the Barros Pizza restaurant night. The final restaurant night will be the last day of school at the Tennessee Grill.

Principal's Report – Dameon Blair

Mr. Blair arrived during the backyard report started by telling us that the gaga pit can be taken apart for the summer and stored in the gym or one of the sheds. He said Dan Bachelor is the person who is familiar with the assembly of the gaga pit. He said that he was not going to be sewing the carpet for the pit, but we are welcome to. Mr. Blair said he arrived late, but there was a good turnout for pizza night.



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He then said that the teachers have all been praising the PTO for the special way they are treated, and he feels there is no better PTO anywhere. He feels the students are well prepared and will do well in the AZ merit testing. He then mentioned that preliminary reports about the third grades testing are very good.

Mr. Blair reported that we are three days away from a vote for a building for the middle school. He has hired six new teachers for the middle school and all of them have their Master's Degree. We will have staggered starting times for here and the middle school, to facilitate student drop off, at each location. When we expand, we will not have a high school, but we will add two grades to our charter. The middle school will have two homerooms for each of the of the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grades. The class size will start out very small and all the newly hired teachers will be on campus before the end of this school year.

The high school survey will be coming out in a week or so asking what is important to the students and parents in the high school. What sports we should have, along with extracurricular activities including possibly shop, woodworking, drafting along with music are all possibilities. There will also be a life skills class to provide students with various experiences. With so many new middle school teachers, the teachers are anxious to get started right away. We are going to be responsible for painting crosswalks between the two buildings, since the city of Phoenix does not maintain the privately-owned street.

Fundraising – Stacey Reiersgaard

Stacey talked about the silent auction and said the on-line auction would stop before the live auction began at 5pm on 5-11-17. The live auction will close at 7pm and attendees will know what they won bids on, at that time. Stacey said she is going to send auction info to family and friends, since anyone can bid on the items. Alison suggested sending flyers home the Monday before the auction to increase interest. Queso Good Food will have a food truck at the auction and The Tennessee Grill will set up a store front for the event. Stacey said that she needs volunteers during the set up and taking down after the auction.

Public Relations - Holly Byerly

Holly said that she will have a newsletter coming out on Wednesday and announced that anyone who wanted information included in the newsletter must get her the information on Tuesday.

Teacher Appreciation – Amanda Huntington and Melissa Sofranko

Birthdays for May are Mrs. Weston on 5-5, Mrs. Reilly on 5-16 and Mr. Balog on 5-17 and The Monthly Teacher Appreciation Potluck will be hosted by the PTO on 5-3.



Learners today. Leaders tomorrow.

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The teachers at the meeting were asked to leave the meeting, while we discussed teacher appreciation week. Amanda told us that the signup sheets went out on Monday for the third grade who was hosting the European breakfast. She said that they could use "European" type décor, for the breakfast. She also asked for blenders for the smoothie day and said that since Tuesday is the actual teacher appreciation day, they will receive their gift card bouquets. They will work on the bouquets over the weekend, since gift cards are still coming in from the students. Wednesday is USA day and is a half day, so they will get their booklets with the letters from parents, before they go to "Escape The Room". They are going to check with the teachers to make sure no one repeats a room, that they have previously done. Thursday is Asian day and Bill Young is making fortune cookies that contain a fortune with a prize listed on the back of the fortune. The prizes include \$100 in cash and various amounts of gift cards. We spent between \$600 and \$650 for the prizes in the fortune cookies. We will need volunteers to write down and hand out prizes as they are opened and to make sure all the school employees receive a fortune cookie. Friday is Cinco De May, so Ms. Bandelier's class will be hosting a Mexican food luncheon. The teachers will also receive their books that contain the letters written by the students.

Monday the first is also principal appreciation day, so Alison will give the book containing all the letters from the students to Mr. Blair. Alison also made a video of several students saying, "Thank you" and "I love you" in different languages. The videos will be compiled and played at the whole school meeting. Wednesday is administrative appreciation day, so we will order lunch for the office personnel and Mr. Blair is having Lori Everson do something for them.

Backyard Committee -Wendy Davison

Wendy reported that the 8th grade mural on the back wall is coming along. She also said that Mr. Blair is going to reseed the backyard over the summer and we will have to lay new carpet for the gaga pit.

Elections

Alison called for the elections and reported that there was only one candidate for each position, and no candidates for President, Secretary, Teacher Liaison or Volunteer Coordinator. She then explained that she could not run for president again, because of the two-term limit. The only way that she could run for president was if there was no other candidate. No one volunteered to run for president, so Alison could run. Alicia Baer volunteered to run for secretary. Jennifer Weston said she would like to be the teacher liaison and Jami Alvarez said she would like to be the volunteer coordinator. Stacey then made a motion, that we vote to accept them all, and it was seconded by Jami. Alison then called for a vote and it was unanimous to approve the board.



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The new board is as follows:

President – Alison Ryan

Vice President – Wendy Davison

Secretary – Alicia Baer

Treasurer – Sondra Wendt

Public Relations – Holly Byerly

Volunteer Coordinator – Jami Alvarez

Teacher Appreciation – Amanda Huntington and Melissa Sofranko

Fundraising – Kelley Camasto

Teacher Liaison – Jennifer Weston

Alison then adjourned the meeting at about 655 pm.