

Jefferson General PTA Meeting Minutes
April 16, 2019

Attendees: Becca Harpster, Kelly Perry, Jessica Testani, Kerri Timmerwilke, Laura West, Ioana Fernandez, Phil Fernandez, Jennifer Hall, Kathy Fromm, Katie Larsen, Alison Benson, Maxine Kunz, Geoff Gaebel, Jill Jarvis, Michelle Biltimier

Call to order: 8:35

Becca Harpster welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance - we did the pledge right before the meeting with the students.

Approval of the Minutes: Jessica Testani noted that there were two typos that were corrected and that a new version had been electronically distributed to PTA board members, the copies for the meeting had already been made. The changes were on page 3: recognized in the Committees report should be lower case and glove should be globe in the Programs report. Kelly Perry made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2019 meeting. Ioana Fernandez seconded. All voted in favor. The minutes of the March 19th meeting were approved.

Nominating Committee. Jennifer Hall spoke. Phil Fernandez had resigned from the Nominating Committee. Jennifer Bjorlin and Jessica Testani completed the Committee. Jennifer Hall thanked all of the parents we had spoken to while creating the slate. She presented the the following slate to serve on next year's PTA Board:

Webmaster – open, there is a person we are waiting to hear from but we had not received an answer as of this meeting.

Recording Secretary – Kanako Shuaipaj
Corresponding Secretary – Kathy Fromm
Treasurer – Meredith Vogel
VP Ways and Means – Ioana Fernandez
VP Ways and Means – open
VP Programs – Donna Hayes
VP Committee Chairs – Kerri Timmerwilke
VP of Membership – Jen Taylor
President – Phil Fernandez

The slate will be published and the vote on next year's board will take place at the May PTA meeting. Becca Harpster said that nominations for any open spots will be considered at that time. Becca Harpster thanked the Nominating Committee members and the PTA members who agreed to be nominated for positions for next year.

Principal's Report. Mrs. Weber joined the meeting at this time. This was a little longer than usual because her report also served as a Coffee with the Principal where parents could ask her questions. Mrs. Weber reported that the former PAARC testing should be completed by the end of next week. Only 2nd graders will be MAP testing in MAY. K-5 F & P testing will also take place in May. This is the 3rd reading assessment of the year.

The Board has not approved the last day of school yet but should do so at the Board of Education meeting on April 23rd. She is expecting it to be the 31st of May but the end of year events won't be scheduled until the last day is officially set. This was the end of her planned report and then she opened for parent questions. Jennifer Hall asked if 5th graders will be doing hand prints and Mrs. Weber said yes, the wall was being prepped. She also said there was a possibility that York Seniors that were Jefferson alums would be doing a walk through at Jefferson but there are still a lot of details that would need to be worked out. We will still be doing our Clap Out on the last day. Kelly Perry asked about submitting vacation forms for the last week. Mrs. Weber said that the vacation forms are really for absences lasting several days so Kelly should email her.

Mrs. Weber also said that people have been out to walk through the building and to look at what changes need to be made to create a secure entrance and that work may start this summer. She wanted parents to be aware that the security portion of the facilities plan is moving forward and that they are communicating with and visiting schools to find out the needs.

Becca Harpster asked about renovations related to kindergarten. Mrs. Weber said that has also started. The committee will be presenting to the School Board in May most likely to see if those changes can also be started. Most likely the big kindergarten room will be divided.

There was a question about furniture changes. The administration wants uniformity between the schools, so the schools are starting to see the options and furniture will be purchase as things move forward.

There was a discussion about what all day kindergarten will look like. Nothing has been decided yet but likely the core curriculum will take place in the morning, so any students attending half day will still get all of the necessary instructional time. The change to all day is not supposed to add more instruction – it is supposed to allow for kindergarten students to participate in more specials, other school experiences. There was also a discussion about how the timeline may change because the Early Implementation Committee is hoping to start all day kindergartener in each building as the facilities are ready. She noted that this has not been decided yet and that they will be bringing their findings to the Board for its approval and so that everything will take place with full transparency. There was a question about a lottery system if some buildings are ready first. Mrs. Weber said that this is one of the concerns that they are facing and that they don't want to create problems. Katie Larsen asked about a cap for kindergarten class sizes. Mrs. Weber was unsure she thought mid-20's.

There was a question about the possibility of our Maker Space being considered for kindergarten space. Mrs. Weber thinks that is unlikely. Kelly Perry was concerned because our LRC is not big enough to support everything it does and be the Maker Space. There was also discussion about furniture for the Maker Space. We may be able to get some things in the near future because the District has developed options but it will be inline with what is going on at other buildings.

Becca Harpster asked a question that a parent asked her regarding lice. Mrs. Weber said that we cannot exclude kids for lice, it is not a public health issue. She said that it is something that seems to go in spurts and hits schools differently every year. Your best bet is to pull hair back

and tell your kids to stay in their own space. Laura West asked if there was a way that the notices could be simplified and perhaps emailed to parents. Mrs. Weber thought that was a good idea. The nurse can do follow up checks if asked, kids know they have it and are often embarrassed. Parents should be notifying the school if their children have it and treating it, and checking and rechecking. That is really the only way of stopping.

Michelle Biltimier asked about the morning kindergarten kids being asked to stay off the playground at dismissal because they have been playing on it since the beginning of the year. Mrs. Weber said that is the guidelines that she uses because other classes and gym can come out at any time and she just wants all kids to be safe. She asked if there could be better communication. Mrs. Weber apologized for the not communicating it clearly earlier.

Laura West asked about the Class picnics and if they can call it something else since most don't involve food. Yes, we can call it whatever we want. This led to a larger discussion about food and Mrs. Weber stressed that the current rules are to keep all kids safe.

Geoff Gaebel asked about the possibility of Jefferson students engaging in a program like Silverado that is done by Lincoln students. Mrs. Weber said that she could talk with the Lincoln principal to see what they are doing and how it all works.

Teacher Report – No Report.

Treasure Report – Kelly Perry said the current combined balances are \$35,062.18. the largest receipts are from the carnival. The largest disbursements remaining are for Teacher Appreciation and for variety of 5th grade needs. She did have a couple of revisions to recommend. Adding \$6000.00 to Support of Ed to allow for the purchase of Indoor Recess Classroom bins, this is a donation that needs to go to the School Board for approval and to add 2 \$2500.00 line item to pay for the end of year dance. Jessica Testani made a motion to make the amendments as outlined by Kelly Perry. Geoff Gaebel seconded. All voted in favor.

We interrupted to the agenda because Ms. Lindsay's 2nd grade Class asked to come in and let the PTA know what they are doing for their passion projects. All kids said something to show what the passion projects have meant to them and several students gave more detailed presentations – showing books, slideshows etc. to explain what they are doing.

Before returning to regular business, Mrs. Weber reminded everyone about some upcoming events. The Spring Celebration of Learning, with state reports starting before on April 25th. Talent show auditions are today. They were overwhelmed with participation and may change things in future years to make it easier for the organizers and the students.

We then returned to the Treasurer's Report. There was a discussion of umbrellas for the outdoor tables and Jessica Testani made a motion to increase the Support of Ed budget by \$2400 to allow for the purchase of individual table umbrellas at a cost of \$380 per umbrella. Becca Harpster seconded and all voted in favor. If there is a decision to use a canopy instead that will involve work from the District and would require additional funds. There was also a discussion of adding a GaGa ball pit and a flag for the MPR.

Committees Report: Laura West gave for Kerri Timmerwilke who was absent. She said that the Kendra Scoot fundraiser is on April 18th. There is a School Dance planned for Sunday May 19th.

Programs Report: Kanako Shuaipaj was absent but everyone heard very positive things about the assembly.

Ways and Means Report: Ioana Fernandez said that there were still spots available for the Kentucky Derby Party.

Recording Secretary: Jessica Testani had no report.

Corresponding Secretary: No report except to please submit everything for Tiger Beat by 10 pm on the preceding Thursday.

Webmaster: No report.

President's report: Becca Harpster. We are working to spend some of the funds raised, but the main one and the largest dollar value is the indoor recess kits. We are putting those lists together now by grade to determine costs. Mrs. Weber is looking to bring it to the May 14th School Board meeting for approval, so our request needs to be submitted by April 30th so hopefully we will have lists by the April 16th PTA meeting. Please let us know if you have any ideas. Mrs. Weber is going to get emails out to the teachers for input. She then suspended her report and

New Business:

Proposed By Laws Amendment. Becca Harpster proposed a few changes to remove the President Elect position and to change that position to Vice President of Membership. This necessitated updating the number of Vice Presidents listed in several spots.

Jennifer Hall expressed her concern that this was being removed because as a former president she felt that was a lot to learn. Other people agreed but Jessica Testani explained that during the search for someone to take the President Elect position, there was interest in the membership portion but that no one wanted to take on President Elect so it was her belief this needed to be done to present a slate to the PTA. Jennifer Hall agreed that this was an issue and there was a discussion over other changes that could be made that might make more sense to encourage people to take on these positions. Becca Harpster said that these proposed changes would be voted on in May.

Becca Harpster asked if there were any additional questions or other new business. Nothing was raised.

Jessica Testani made a motion to adjourn, Becca Harpster seconded. All voted in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting is Tuesday May 21 at 7 pm, in the Jefferson Multi-purpose room.