

Orchard PTO Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2021 3:30 pm (via Zoom)

- I. Call to Order – CJ Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 3:34 pm
- II. Treasurer’s Report – Jon Hall presented the treasurer’s report. Notable income last month was from the Get Movin’ Crew for the Jog-a-Thon (\$11,609) and via Venmo for the Giving Tree (\$1600 approximately). The money from Venmo was spent on the Giving Tree, and \$1238 was spent through the staff hospitality committee. There is approximately \$44,000 in the account.
- III. Principal’s Report – Alysia Arsanto reported that *school pictures will be taken by Dorian on February 3rd and 4th *There will be no school on the 18th and 25th of this month. Spring conferences will be held via Zoom. The ORR reading assessment will be taken again, but the current data shows that our students are maintaining their skills. A monthly data meeting is beginning at each grade level to focus on best practices to serve students more effectively. There have been zero cases of in-school COVID spread at Orchard. Alysia expressed a pride in the staff for all that they are doing to help students and families and how they are growing and learning, as well as how hard they are working.
- IV. Cultural Fair – Danica Garcia presented different options for a Cultural Fair, with a virtual event being the most likely. The question was put to the group as to whether to have an event this spring or to cancel for the year. The group engaged in discussion around the issue, with opinions being expressed to cancel the event until it can be fully experiential in a future year. Toward the end of the meeting, there was an idea to possibly pair a cultural theme with the One Book One School event. It will be discussed again at a later meeting.
- V. Old Business and Updates
 - a. Hospitality Update – no update available.
 - b. Venmo Report – Venmo has been utilized this year as a fundraising avenue for mask sales, Jog-a-Thon and the Giving Tree. It seems to be

user friendly and does not charge a fee. We will continue to use the app.

- c. Spring Book Fair – Mariann Medina reported that discussion has been had around a spring fair, but with so much uncertainty, there is nothing to report at this time.
 - d. Spring Fundraiser – A conversation was had around the feasibility of a spring fundraiser. Ideas such as a sales-based fundraiser and restaurant-sponsored nights were presented. The general consensus was to not host a formal spring fundraising event, and instead rely on the Papa John’s Teacher Delivery event that is planned for late spring. We can look into other restaurant fundraisers if needed. If we still can find the money in the budget to provide teacher gift cards, this money can be made up of the money that would have been spent to support the spring fundraiser, as well as the income from Papa John’s.
- VI. Questions or Comments
- a. 5th Grade Promotion – Tammy Morrow suggested that celebration be planned that acknowledges our current 5th graders as the first class to complete their entire elementary education at Orchard. Danica Garcia is heading up a sub-committee comprised of interested parents and teachers.
 - b. Read to Ride – Tara Symons reported that Orchard was accepted into the Silverwood Read to Ride program. She will be delivering information to the school.
- VII. Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 4:26 pm

In attendance: CJ Rodriguez, Danica Garcia, Jon Hall, Angela Kopenac, Kriste Colley-Kummer, Sarah Landon, Choa Wang, Alysia Arsanto, Kristen Myrick, Mohammad Gorashi, Mariann Medina, Tara Symons and Tammy Morrow