

East Olympia Elementary PTO Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2022 @ 4:00 pm

EOE Library

4:02pm **Call to Order**

4:02pm **Welcome - President Desirea Marrs**

- **Introduction of officers and members present:** Diane Murrey, Teres Stricklett, Phallon Cavelli, Rana Longworth, Penny Kocan, Helena Rice, Dallas Sayers

4:04pm **Ms. Novak (Spanish Specialist)**

- Approval has been given for an end of year Fiesta, put on by K-3rd grade, to take place June 2nd; event is expected to include food, piñatas and stations set up in various rooms; past years have seen a huge turn out - 550 in 2019; Ms. Novak requests \$400 for food and piñatas; PTO has \$250 for Spanish Specialist; majority vote approves \$150 additional funds; suggestion made to collect donations during the event to build a cushion of funds for next year

4:15pm **Approval of February Meeting Minutes**

- Approved as presented

4:15pm **Principal's Report - Patty Kilmer**

- More students regularly enrolling at EOE - roughly 2-3 weekly - bringing total numbers to 548; new homes are going up which means even more kids at EOE - all out of district requests are being denied; kindergarten classes have reached 24 students per class, district contacted and a new class has been added - 25 teachers total at EOE now; district is looking at having schools cut 4 teachers next year and increasing the number of students per class; teachers have options in response to this (ie: pay raise, bringing in a para teacher, etc); district wants to wait until the Fall to access and make these cuts which is not ideal for students - Patty has a meeting following Spring Break to find out more; district also plans to cut administrators - assistant principals are on the top of the list; Helena encourages everyone to get involved and attend district meetings; she said that these changes and issues were forecasted and are not a shock; she suggests reviewing the Tumwater Audit on the district page as well as the FB page for Coalition for Kids, Thurston County; Patty notes that regular district turnovers over the past few years have only intensified the issues going on
- Patty shares that the students are loving the Readathon fundraiser and feedback from staff and students has been positive; everyone is pleased with how successful the Readathon has been; Patty shared her plan for dates that PTO supported rewards would take place, all were on board
- Patty has been at EOE for 28 years and has made the decision to retire at the end of this year; she has received notice that her retirement has been accepted; her position will be posted in and out of the district; parents, likely from the PTO, will be asked to be on the panel to decide on a new principal for EOE; despite her retirement she has advocated for the Strong Start Conferences in the Fall and it looks promising that they will still happen
- Pick up was discussed - many ask if pick up will return to how it was pre-Covid and it does not seem that parents will again be allowed to walk up and get their children for safety and parking reasons; Patty proposes all students be released at the same time during conference week as a trial run for a single pick up time to be the norm; the pick up situation, traffic and bus routine has been surveyed; buses only take 5 mins to pick up students and be on their way - no issues there; more bus drivers have been hired and Dena Jordan is handling district transportation well in Patty's opinion
- Patty needed to leave but asked if there were any topics we needed to run by her prior to that, Phallon asked if she was interested in hosting a Mathnasium event - detailed had been emailed to Patty prior to the PTO meeting; Patty said to get possible dates and we would discuss it further

4:48pm **Treasurer's Report - Teres Stricklett**

- \$20,--- in bank account
- \$193 received from Amazon Smile
- Roughly \$9600 left in teacher Fall Fundraiser funds
- No update on Minuteman Press; Helena suggests asking Kristie about the invoice received

4:53pm **Current Business**

- **Staff Appreciation:** Rana has spoken to Sweetlee's and made arrangements; our cost will be \$5 per ice cream (dairy free included); other plans include handing out roses that Teres may be able to get donated, post it center in the hallway for students to fill in nice things about staff and flyer to go home with students of daily activities to show their teachers appreciation; Rana is looking into Meconi's as a lunch option - Phallon said she could send the donation request link; Helena suggests asking Sweetlee's to stay after Teacher Appreciation hours to host a Spirit Night at EOE, Rana will reach out - dealing with waste is a concern
- **Readathon / MemberHub:** Phallon gave an update on the progress of the fundraiser and initial plans for rewards and prizes; she said she would not go with a company next year if we did another Readathon or similar event because the Fundraiser Committee did the majority of the work involved and the company was not worth the percentage they took; she suggests using MemberHub next year and has offered to reach out to a company rep about this; MemberHub allows options to keep 100% of profits from similar fundraisers and offers all PTO tools in one location (calendar that sends reminders, newsletters, gear sales, fundraisers, parent directory, etc.); the cost is free the first year and \$430 following year; it was agreed upon that she would get more information to share in the April meeting; Helena suggests that we get parent emails for the directory by sending out flyers, through the front office, in registration packets and enrolled student summer mailings
- **Book Fair:** Mr. Schneider is still researching companies and it does not look like this will happen this year; the in-person Scholastic sale was turned down by Patty because there is no room in the school to host this and we could not do an online sale without having Scholastic also send us \$30k of in-person products
- **Spirit Wear Sale:** Phallon presented that the online store and in-person sale are all set to go; she had questions regarding handling funds at the in-person sale; Teres said that should would get her the cashbox and needed funds and that funds could be dropped to her at the end of each day; 2 members must count the funds at the end of each day
- **Gaga Ball Pit:** Rana spoke to Ms. Anchors regarding the current Gaga Ball Pit situation - New Market was no longer handling the project and was no longer communicating with Ms. Anchors; a Gaga Ball Pit option was presented in the amount of \$2600; Dallas said that he was willing and able to make one for far less and offered to reach out to Ms. Anchors himself; it was agreed that we would discuss the options of building verses buying a pre-built option again with Ms. Anchors; we plan to also purchase dodgeballs
- **EOE PTO Scholarship:** Phallon asked for the details of the Scholarship which is open for submissions April 1- May 1; board was unclear on details of how this worked and it was suggested that Phallon reach out to Kristie to gather information on how this was handled in previous years; Phallon plans to get information sent to appropriate people a week prior to April 1
- **Bylaws:** (See attached for reference of amendments being discussed)
 - ARTICLE VI - Officers, Section 2: Terms of Office: Approved by majority vote as presented
 - ARTICLE VIII - Financial Policies, Section 1: Fiscal Year: **TABLED**; no vote held, concerns expressed regarding changes
 - ARTICLE VI - Officers, Section 4: Duties, Treasurer: Approved by majority vote, with addition of "or third party external"
 - ARTICLE VI - Officers, Section 3: Qualifications: **TABLED** due to time
 - ARTICLE VII - Special Committees, Section 1: Purpose: **TABLED** due to time

5:51pm **Old Business**

- **Pacific Northwest Theatre:** No contact with Meghan; table until May PTO Meeting

--pm **Additional Agenda Items**

- **Additional Agenda Items were discussed within Current Business**

--pm **Task Review, Next Meeting Date - April 20, 2022**

- **A task review did not occur during the meeting**
- Phallon - Contact Kristie regarding the PTO Scholarship & Minuteman Press invoice
- Phallon - Contact Kristie & Edith about sending out a Parent Directory Form in mailings going to new and returning students
- Phallon - Contact MemberHub to gather more details and information on a membership and its benefits
- Phallon - Send Rana Mecconi's donation link
- Phallon - Purchase prizes / reward supplies and coordinate all final plans with Patty; find volunteers
- Phallon - Sign Up Genius for Gear Sale volunteers
- Phallon - Contact Mathnasium to get date for a potential evening event
- Teres - Prepare cashbox for Gear Sales

- Rana - Discuss Gaga Ball Pit further with Kaci Anchors (Dallas Sayers volunteered to contact her himself)
- Rana - Contact Sweetlee's to discuss the possibility of a Spirit Night after Teacher Appreciation

5:56pm **Adjournment**