

East Helena Parent Teacher Organization (EHPTO)
Meeting minutes by Stacy Anderson
May 2, 2017

Attendees: Amy Strainer, Heather Ireland, Stacy Anderson, Erik Pritchard, Vashti Teders, Megan Surginer, Valerie Balukas, KD Jones, Jill Miller, Jen Wagner, Shandi Hayes, Lee Musjerd, Jami Tuck, Moriah Bucy, Joe McMahon, Erica Johnston

Welcome and Introductions

Principal Updates

Jill Miller, Eastgate: Kindercubs and Kindergarten registration open. 111 registrations for Kindergarten and 26 for Kindercubs. EVMS Jazz band on 4/13. 4/24 was early release for students so that staff could participate in QPR training (Question/Persuade/Refer) for suicide prevention. Loyalty Day was 5/1. Eastgate had 16 winners for their artwork. Thanks to the Women's Auxiliary for everything they do for our schools! 3rd annual Silent Auction/Art Walk was held in April raising \$1,000 for the Tiger Fund! April 26th was Secretary Appreciation day....Thank you Mrs. Havens for all you do! The last week of April was Week of the Young Child. 4 area preschools rode the school bus to visit the school to help with kindergarten transition. Staff appreciation is the first week of May. Staff is wearing jeans all week, which they love! Parent night for incoming kindergarteners is May 18 at 6:30pm. Eastgate Fun Day is May 23rd. Kindergarten last day of school is June 6 and 1st graders last day is June 8. One day of Kindergarten screening this year, which will take place on June 7.

Joe McMahon, Radley: KD Jones reported on the school version of Relay for Life, a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society. Eastgate students will join the Radley students on the track. Students receive a bead for each lap they finish. Students enjoy participating in this event. KD also reported on the Team Player program with the Helena Brewers on July 21. Eastgate and Radley students will chose one student in their home room class that is a team player. Each selected student will get to throw out a "first pitch" to one of the Brewers players. They receive a shirt and snack certificate for that night, along with 2 tickets for that night's game. Families of both schools will get discounted tickets for that game as well. Kids meeting their reading goal for the 4th quarter will also get a free ticket to the game! These kids will also be able to go out on to the field for a round of applause and a snack! Mr. McMahon reports that Smarter Balance testing is wrapping for Radley. 10 new students have been enrolled at Radley in the last month. PTO profits for Radley have gone to bushes for the west fence line and a large order of alternative seating for various classrooms. 16 pairs of tennis shoes, various sizes, were also bought for students to use during gym class who may have forgotten them that day or do not have gym shoes. Shoes will be kept in the school gym.

Dan Rispens, EVMS (via email): Mr. Rispens and Mr. VanNice attended the National Association of Suicidology's national conference last week in Phoenix. Travel and associated costs were paid by a local retired physician who has a special interest in the topic. They heard from experts in the field and found that East Helena Schools are on the right track! Loyalty Day was celebrated on May 1st. 6 students were recognized. Parent planning meeting for 8th grade graduation is 5/9 @ 7:00pm in the EVMS cafeteria. Parents plan the late night party and EVMS teachers plan the ceremony. Flood Awareness Day (6th graders only) is May 26 in the morning. Heather reports on the great feedback she has heard regarding Jason DeShaw.

Teacher Appreciation: Flowers were purchased for Administrative Staff Appreciation. Muffins will be delivered for Teacher Appreciation week.

Field Fun Days: Eastgate is May 23rd and May 25th for Radley. Diedra is coordinating snacks for these events and thanks you packs for the 8th graders help.

Box Tops/Campbell's labels, Lee Musjerd: Just submitted \$825.10 in Box Tops. Labels do not have an actual end date. In order to combine points, a letter from each school on their official letterhead is needed in order to give to one specific school. Lee will create a template for the letter. Visa gift cards are available for purchase with the points. The water coolers that have been purchased in the past are also available. Lee will make one big submission before mid-August. Talked about thinking of reward ideas for EVMS students to encourage them to focus on expiration dates on the labels/tops. Amy talked of updated/purchasing new collection containers for each school.

PTO Movie Night, Moriah Bucy/Vashti Teders: Went well! Lots of popcorn was popped!

Treasury Report, Erica Johnston: Erica will finalize a budget status report with new anticipated receipts. Annual Report has been filed. We will end the year, not including Box Tops amount and undeposited State Employee Charitable Giving campaign monies, with approximately \$14,000 after the \$5,000 reserve. Reimbursements were read out loud and a motion was made by Heather to approve these reimbursements, Amy second. All in favor.

Amy sent around the table a thank you card from Radley teachers for funding their Exploration Works field trips. Heather thanked those that volunteered their time for the Out of The Darkness walk. Heather also shared a flyer she received on fun summer camps for kids at Helena College. Still need volunteers for Eastgate/Radley bulletin boards and Tiger Gear coordinator.

Incoming Kindergarten Parent night: May 18th at 6:30pm. Trish and Valerie will be helping with this.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35pm ☺ Next meeting September 5th at 6pm! Thanks everyone for a great year!