



March 18, 2025

Attendees: Sarah Sirna, Jeff Gustafson, Nicole Nejezchleba, Stephanie Woodstrom, Laura Richardson, Ashley Crist, Kristen Coward, Kayla Lande, Kali Sundquist, Steph Berner, Cindy Andress

Absent Board Members: Calida Fuerst, Sarah Wexler, Tara Pitkin, Michele Ewen

Topic	Discussion Items, Notes and Action Items
Call to order (Sarah)	<u>February meeting minutes</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Motion to approve seconded and carried - Stephanie W to post to website
Courtyard update (Sarah, Nicole)	Debrief on Melanie's proposal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Melanie is obtaining staff feedback on what they'd like to see in those spaces and working to secure an artist for an installation. The goal is to have more concrete information to share by next month's meeting. - Goal is to get kids outside more and make good use of the courtyards - One idea was to use both courtyards - one for the quiet zones, one for the more interactive zones - Follow up question about who will be overseeing the project installation; would that be Melanie. We might also want to help her find a couple parents who want to be involved to help her oversee this. - Sarah to get an updated proposal from Melanie to share with facilities Basketball hoops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cindy will email Jim to find out what next steps would be for looking into new basketball hoops; ideally we would get all-new adjustable height backboards and rims.
Enrichments (Jeff, Ashley)	<u>March requests</u> Phy Ed team: NinjaAnywhere <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project is moving forward using funds from the trust to pay the \$7,800 - Event will take place June 2-4. Kindergarten team: Raptor Encounters in-school field trip <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requesting \$450 for Raptor Specialists to come to Minnewashta Elementary with real life raptors for a 45-minutes presentation and feature 3 ambassador raptors (typically an owl, a hawk, falcon) and they could get an eagle as well.

	<p>All students in RSK and Kindergarten will be able to attend.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Motion to approve seconded and carried <p>Second grade team: Ojibwe shoulder bag activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requesting \$177 to purchase materials needed for an Ojibwe shoulder bag activity from the Minnesota Historical Society which allows Spanish first grade students to make their own Ojibwe shoulder bags. This activity will teach about the importance of the bags and the symbolism involved in their making using resources from MNHS and interviews with Ojibwe artist. - Motion to approve seconded and carried <p>First grade team: Self-regulation tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requesting: \$648.42 plus taxes to purchase resources that will be part of a new curriculum being piloted called 'Everyday Speech' that will benefit first graders. The school psychologist is overseeing this pilot. Some of the resources will also be linked to the Coding STEM Unit, integrating play with educational content to enhance learning experiences. - Board agrees this is a supply request (versus an enrichment request) that should come out of that budget. The team would need an additional \$90 added to their supply budget to cover this. - Motion to approve spending supply budget and increasing this budget by \$90 seconded and carried <p>Second grade team: The Works in-school field trip</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recategorizing this request as an in school field trip so we can use that budget to cover the event. <p>April request deadline</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communication has been sent to staff that all requests should get in by the PTO meeting in April. - Kristen will update the budget balances so that Jeff can send this out to remind teams how much they have left to spend.
<p>Presidents update (Sarah, Laura)</p>	<p>2025-2026 Dates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sarah and Laura are beginning to assemble next year's calendar. - If there are any new things we want to try, board members should add them to the list now even without concrete plans so we can secure the space. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional Tonka Pride popup sales <p>Board slate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Laura still working to confirm all board members interests for next year - Steph B plans to step down as fundraising chair; - Michelle E plans to step down as member at large - Board members to recruit among friends that might be interested. Share the message that participation levels can vary and time commitments can be what you want them to be. - Sarah and Kayla to send some communication out to parents via social, newsletter and Membership Toolkit
<p>Principal update (Cindy)</p>	<p>Be seen, Be heard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Second cycle started today; three more; next year will do these quarterly

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parent side of the curriculum is online and is sent out in advance
	<p>Many upcoming school events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MIA field trip for 3rd grade which got cancelled is coming up - Stages trip in April - 1-2 field trips for every grade coming up in May - Additional music performances coming up
Treasurer update (Kristen)	<p><u>Monthly treasurer report</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sarah has tax information to deliver to Kristen - Steph B has a check from Mable's Labels - Staff appreciation budget will be maxed out this year; board wants to plan to increase next year; last year we spent more than this year as well
Event update (Event chairs)	<p>Book Fair recap</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Because we are always so profitable, Scholastic has offered us an opportunity to host a one-day BOGO book fair. No profits but discounted books for students. - Idea to host this at the carnival and position it as a discount to promote summer reading; however we often receive positive feedback that we don't have things parents have to spend money on at this event. - No other options were identified to host this event but we will keep it in mind. <p>Grandfriends Day, April 14 and 27, 9:30 to 10:30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Calida has supplies and snacks and will deliver the week before; she needs compostable cups; water jugs available in the storage unit - Volunteer sign up for check in is live <p>Staff Appreciation Week, April 28-May 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Everything is ready including Chick Fil-a catering Monday; Coffee Bar on Tuesday; Pizza Karma food truck Friday; a surprise gift one day - PTO volunteers needed to barista on Tuesday, at 7:15: Ashley, Kristen, Stephanie, Sarah, Kayla - Laura sending calendar invites to the board for each of the events - Board will vote next meeting to approve \$4,500 additional funds over original budget of \$5,500 to cover the costs (pulled from non-allocated) <p>Kindergarten Visit, May 8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plan to set up a Tonka Pride table <p>Parents Night Out, May 9 (Steph B)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tickets are now available for purchase <p>Carnival, May 30 (Laura)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All planning is on track
Other updates	<p>Yearbooks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parents will get emails about customizing pages for the yearbook - Tara will be working hard on yearbooks for the coming months

Resources

- [Event Dates](#)
- [Board Contacts](#)