

## **Deerfield PTO General Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** September 9th, 2025

**Time:** 7:00 PM

**Location:** Deerfield Elementary, Music Room

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### **Opening Remarks**

Nicole Beatty, President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

- Introductions and welcome
  - Review PTO Committee Chairs
    - New committee chairs for 2025-26 introduced/recognized.
    - Trisha Franklin volunteered to chair/co-chair Carnival committee
  - Approval of May Minutes
    - Motion by Kelly, second by Haines – *Motion passed*
    - Previous meeting minutes are found on Deerfield Elementary website “For Parents”
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### **Officer Reports**

#### **President’s Report – Nicole Beatty**

- Around 30 incoming Kindergarteners attended June and July playdates
  - Thanks to Ashlee for planning activities during the playdates

#### **Vice President’s Report – Amber Epperson**

- New Treasurer was trained over the summer

#### **Treasurer’s Report – Cale Yost**

- Will present with new business
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### **Principal’s Update – Summer Moeckel**

- Thanked PTO for support and success of Back to School bash and the teachers appreciation for back to school meals
  - Discussed feedback on having Back to School bash on different day than Hopes and Dreams conferences
  - PTO Teacher Wishlists have been approved and \$100/teacher to purchase items for their classroom (store items, vacuum sweepers, math manipulatives)
  - Fastbridge testing is being finalized and results coming back in the coming week(s)
  - Continuing “Lunch Bunch” and classroom VIPs
  - Adding Firebird Fridays and welcoming families to assemblies to celebrate Character Strong awards; invitations to birthday lunches
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### **New Business**

#### **2025-2026 Budget – Cale Yost**

- Proposed budget presented, including changes from the previous year.
  - New: efficiency ratio to show effectiveness of fundraising efforts

- Fun run replacing read-a-thon this year - welcoming corporate sponsors to offset costs
- Cap pantry donation to \$2,500 for Penny Wars fundraising
- Funds for specials classes were adjusted to balance with newly added: DEER and science
- Brooke suggested coming up with a plan to build up reserves to make another large purchase down the line.
- Summer mentioned the prospect of writing a grant to add an inclusive playground. Welcomed anyone with grant writing experience to contact her.
- 5% over budget can be approved by president without vote.
- Motion to approve 2025-26 budget by Alana, second by Haines – *Motion passed*
- Discuss standing rules for meetings - bylaws allow for standing rules. List of previously voted on standing rules to be compiled and approved in October (5% over budget, party fund process, \$20,000 allotted for reserves, etc.)

### **Bank Transition – Cale Yost**

- Proposed transition from Commerce Bank to Truity bank for better interest rate and other benefits
- Current savings interest rate at Commerce 0.1%; potential 4.5% high-yield savings
- Will offer a debit card that can be used to officers to make purchases (excluding treasurer) and free online bill pay
- Summer indicated that Truity is a good partner to the district and supports Teacher of the Year
- Motion to approve by Marc, second by Amber - *Motion passed*

### **Fun Run Fundraiser – Ben and Katie Colham**

- Details about the event were provided including:
  - Date: Friday, 9/26/25 from 6:00p - 7:30p
  - Activities: fun run, activity stations, Dude dash, DJ and foam dance party, Pelsma Plunge dunk tank
  - Class with the highest participation will receive a pizza party!

### **Ongoing Business**

#### **Committee Reports**

#### **Apparel Committee – Brooke Hesler Ramsey & Caleb Ballard**

- Site will be live in approximately 2 weeks. New this year: Hats!
- Proceeds raised will fund staff shirts

#### **Deerfield Dines Out – Kelly Langseth**

- \$680 raised during Chipotle dines out!
- This years focus is Quality vs Quantity of dines out opportunities
- Next: Morningstar's Pizza October 5th

#### **Marathon Club - Samantha Bishop-Simmons**

- Around 150 students signed up

- Current focus on process, including checkout to ensure all students get to where they need to be safely.
- Volunteer sign up is posted to help assist with MC each week
- Dillons has donated oranges to the initiative and Amcore is providing cups for water
- New: tiered prize levels, beyond finisher shirts, to recognize runners success

**Movie Night Under the Stars – Alana Kramer:**

- Reminder to vote for movie to be shown
- Concessions to be offered with hot dogs, chips, and drink

**Fall Parties - Amber Epperson:**

- Thanks to Jamie for her work and to those who have volunteered to be grade level representatives and room parents.
- Still in need for 1 room parent for Mrs. Walters class (4th grade)
- Fall party is October 9th - times TBD

**Scholastic Book Fair - Trisha Franklin:**

- Current scholastic balance: \$5,100
- Proposed spending:
  - Teachers/staff each receive \$25.00 to purchase item(s)
  - Books for all - purchase bundles of books at discount to allow each student to take 1 book home with them at no cost
  - Vouchers for volunteers \$10 for each shift worked
    - Total \$2,900
- Motion to approve by Trisha, second by Marc- *Motion passed*

**Parent/Caregiver Questions & Concerns**

- Marc indicated that Deerfield PTO is the Scouting America partner. There are events coming up including camping trip on October 11th.

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**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Nicole, seconded by Cale – *Meeting adjourned*

Next Meeting: October 14th, 7:00–8:00 PM