

Eastern Elementary PTO

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 2/8/2022

Call to Order: 6:32 pm

Officers Present: Laura Ashton, Kristin Harnish, Kylie Croon, Lydia Potthoff, Jenn Comstock

Staff Present: Ruskowski, Hites, Christie-Lutes, Sills

Review of Minutes:

Lydia Potthoff motioned to approve and Kylie Croon seconded.

Welcome & President's Report: Laura Ashton

January was a quiet PTO month

Upcoming Events: committees needed

Spring Fundraiser- May 14th at TC Country Club

CHAIR Jenn Comstock

6:30/7pm adults only, Auction

Staff Appreciation- in May, CHAIR Lydia Potthoff

Star Writers- CHAIRS Sarah Gano/Sunny Miller

Talent Show- CHAIRS Sarah Gano/Keelan McNulty

Treasurer's Report

Checking/Savings: \$44,391.94
3,534.74

Total Cash on Hand: \$47,926.68

Proposed Budget for this Year:

Lydia motioned, Keelan seconded

| Eastern Elementary PTO | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| January Treasurer Report | |
| Cash on Hand: | |
| Checking Account: | \$44,391.94 |
| Savings Account: | \$3,534.74 |
| Total Cash On Hand: | \$47,926.68 |
| Income: | |
| MTD | |
| Interest | \$0.03 |
| Miscellaneous | \$98.10 |
| Total Income: | \$98.13 |
| Expenses: | |
| Hospitality | \$25.00 |
| Total Expenses: | \$25.00 |

Principal's Report

January was a long month. We just finished a semester and report cards went home last week. We are focusing on having some fun this month. Sledding, walks outside, Global Play Day brought some positive energy to the school. (Kids have to problem solve and use their imaginations, unstructured play, no technology) Comments from Mandy Labarre, Kelle Krcmarik, Kathy Ferguson.

-Student council is giving a "positive pencil" name tag for each student in the building. Mr. Nathan got the Eastern Staff member of the week award.

-Parent Teachers conferences are coming up at the end of the month and will be virtual. Elementary Principals decided to make conferences new Kindergarten parent night virtual because it attracts large groups of people and will be set virtual.

-Laura: where can we send our questions/concerns about virtual conferences and events?
Shaina Biller, Dr VanWagoner

-Young-5s will be called Junior Kindergarten starting next year.

-Questions: Do we have any projects about Black History Month? (Esther) A couple teachers spoke on what they have been teaching (teachrock.org has some great options for teaching Black History month through music) and Biz suggested Esther reach out if she has any suggestions.

-Mary Bader family/friends is donating benches to be installed on Eastern property. We will survey students to decide where to put the benches/seating. Ribbon cutting ceremony for this in August.

Budget Surplus Vote:

5 proposal recap:

1- Sarah Eichenberger, School Garden Proposal

NMC may be willing to partner with Eastern on a garden (Sarah is communication with Carrie at NMC). Concerns about who takes care of the garden when school is not in session. Lutes definitely thinks the teachers would be interested in the garden being a science curriculum add on...and summer camp participation possibly as well. PTO could set up a garden committee going forward. Nelson has run an ecology club in the past, so upper EI could likely take this on. Funding for this could also fall under Enrichment (up to \$1500 set aside). Student Council also has some funds and could donate through their legacy project.

2- Lindsey Schultert, Air Purifiers for classrooms (\$5828)

We need to check TCAPS health policy before this can move forward (Biz). PTO would own and be responsible to upkeep of the filters.

4- Keelan McNulty, Playground upgrades \$7000

playground equipment and installation is very expensive. Refocusing on sturdy soccer goals and a new playground feature, paint for art teacher mural

small immediate improvements in proposal, long term- shade and music area

teachers- would like permanent soccer goals that cannot be moved

Keelan met with Tyson Birch, head of tcaps grounds. We already started a work order to put up metal posts for a shade structure. PTO only needs to pay for the shade canopy. (biz has a donation of 3 benches as well)

5- Lydia Potthoff, Outdoor Learning Space

3 sun shades and picnic tables by the cedar trees/car pick up line. Teachers are excited to have a shaded outside area to teach

Can we combine proposals with Keelan's space and have a shaded space on the playground or another space on campus? TCAPS ground manager option has made this a much less expensive proposal. Tyson is on board to install secured seating.

Votes (via zoom and facebook)

Playground: 16

Learning space: 7

Keelan's Playground Proposal chosen for excess PTO funds

Adjournment: 7:41pm

Next Meeting: March 8th, 2022 at 6:30pm