

October Eastern PTO Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 12, 2021

Officers Present: Laura Ashton, Kylie Croon, Lydia Potthoff, Kristin Harnish, Jenn Comstock
Staff Present: Julie Edwardson, Kathy Ferguson, Biz Ruskowski, Shanna Girbach

Call to order: 6:33pm

President's Report, Laura Ashton

Jogathon- we are just short of \$45K raised! We are exceeding our goal before the event and can likely expect more donations on the day of the event.

Friday 10/15 is JOGATHON: kids will get their JAT t-shirts in their classrooms in the morning and then head out to the track to run. We will do this in 2 shifts. The first shift will include Young5s, 5th grade, preschool, Kindergarten and 4th grade. The second shift begins at 11am with 3rd, 1st and second graders. Keelan McNulty will MC and get all the kiddos and spectators moving! Spectators are welcome. Parents can park after 9:15am and look for volunteers in orange vests who will direct them to walk along the tree line around the track and enter the bleachers. No parent spectators are allowed on the track. We still need a few more JAT volunteers. We will do a JAT make up day for any kids that cannot be in school on Friday. The weather looks nice and cool for Friday. Yay!

Principals Report, Biz Ruskowski

In-School volunteering- TCAPS School Board approved in school volunteers to be in the building. Each teacher will determine how many volunteers they need for an event and Biz will approve. Each volunteer will need to have a TCAPS background check which takes 24 hours. Parents will not be allowed at Halloween parties this year. Kids can dress in costume and have pre-packaged treats for class parties. We will have an outdoor parade for parents to attend on 10/29. It could be cancelled if the weather does not cooperate.

Updates- 5th grade had 2 amazing field trips got to kayak the Platt river for their pond studies then they went to Veronica valley to fish. They did some dissecting and added fish to their class ecosystem.

Last Friday was an Afternoon of play. We ask staff to spend at least 2 hours in non academic playtime. We are still looking for ways to make kids comfortable and honor their social emotional needs as well as academic needs this year.

NWEA test scores should be coming home this week. We ask parents not to worry about scores at this point. If a teacher is worried she will reach out to parents directly. You can speak with your teacher about these test scores at conferences.

Conferences- Shanna Girbach is still looking for volunteers for meals for parent-teacher conferences. Please check your email for sign up information. We will also post on facebook tomorrow as well with links or venmo Shanna's: @Shanna-Girrbach

Pick up/Drop off-Thank you for working with us in the morning and at pick up to help keep parents away from the front door and instead waiting in their designated areas. Thank you Laura for the signs to help with this.

Eastern is still hiring: Noon duty positions (2-3 hours) as well as a school behavior assistant (looking for someone who relates well to kids, is patient and we are willing to train -this is a 7 hours a day with a signing bonus and attendance bonus- call TCAPS HR to apply.

PTO meetings going forward-will they be virtual or in person? We may do a blended meeting going forward in person with a virtual option. We will table this and make a final decision closer to our next meeting in November.

Eastern Directory- Jenn Comstock is working on an Eastern Directory. We will be sending targeted emails soon to collect information from anyone else that wants their family information in the Directory.

Playground Committee- Keelan McNulty is organizing a playground committee and will present at our PTO meeting in November. Sarah E would like to talk about doing a school garden as well in the spring

Book Fair- Heather Asiala is considering doing an outdoor book fair, so reach out if you are interested in helping. she will have an online option as well.

Upcoming...Holiday PTO giving to adopt a couple eastern families

Treasures Report

Class Startup: the majority of last months expenses \$18 per student goes to each teacher for class start up at the beginning of the year.

We may consider adding to teacher start up after JAG but not until we revisit spending for the rest of the year.

Cash on Hand	
Checking Account:	\$0.00
Savings Account:	\$11,479.94
Total Cash On Hand:	\$11,479.94
Income:	
	Month
Interest	\$0.12
Total Income	\$0.12
Expenses:	
Hospitality	\$947.34
JAT	\$199.64
Staff Start Up	\$9,560.00
Total Expenses:	\$10,706.98

Adjournment: 7:34pm