

Eastern Elementary PTO
Meeting Minutes
DATE: November 10, 2020

Call to Order: 632 pm

Officers Present: Laura Ashton, Kylie Croon, Lydia Potthoff

Staff/Parents Present: Biz Ruskowski, Sarah Odette, Julie Edwardson, Kathleen Ferguson, Kathy Radakovich, Jennifer Layne, Weslee Shembarger, Lindsay Annelin, Heather Asiala, Terri Lutes, Abbey Kaufman, Mary Fak, Deb Feaster, Lexa Femill, Sarah Gano, Jessica Rubino

Review of Minutes: Approved, Lydia Potthoff and Heather Asiala

President's Report:

Halloween: Successful! Positive feedback from staff and students. LaBarre's costume slide show was a huge hit - students loved seeing each other in costume. Students were resilient and still had great Halloween festivities at Eastern.

Auction: Raised \$7,500+ Wahoo!!!

Virtual Events: We have really great virtual events lined up for November and December!

November 19th: Spanish Night!

December: Kaufman Trivia Night, McNulty Survivor Series

All Star Read Program: Activities and Crafts to come. There is a children's book that follows along the same story, as well as a Spanish version of this book made available to students.

Principal's Report

- Shout Out: Thank you to Laura Ashton for organizing an incredible online auction
- Shout Out: Thank you to PTO and parent support to staff during this unique school year
- Virtual Learning Preparedness
 - Middle and High School will go virtual this Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday
 - Elementary will be reassessed this Friday (11/13)
 - It isn't necessarily Covid case count of students, but overall cases including supportive staff (bus, cafeteria, cleaning, substitutes, etc) that affect whether we need to go virtual
 - Dr. VanWagoner held a board meeting yesterday, Biz encouraged parents/staff to view at <https://livestream.com/tcapslive/board>
 - TCAPS is doing daily check in's with schools regarding Covid cases and preparedness
 - Anticipated Virtual Schedule: 830am-145pm, 12-1 lunch, specials provided by our Eastern staff
 - Anticipate if we go Virtual: PreK and ECSE stay open, extended day cancelled
 - Parent support with virtual:

- Let teachers take the lead, depends on age of student how much parent support is wanted, should have a predictable schedule
 - Let time with teacher be “sacred”, let parental enrichment time be after school
 - Quality may look different than in person, but that’s ok! Ok to let teacher lead and redirect students as needed.
 - Tips for parents: Be proactive with creating a positive educational environment! Have a designated learning area, immobile chair, no television, their own space away from kitchens or siblings.
 - Recorded classes not being planned due to confidentiality and student safety. Student will be marked absent if they do not attend virtual learning.
 - PLEASE reach out if parental work or family situations are preventing your child from attending virtual learning - we may be able to help!
- Student Council has started! Elections in the next week or two.
 - Zoom meeting, no mingling between classes
 - Plan for canned food drive soon

Treasurer’s Report

Checking/Savings: \$9076.31

Total Cash on Hand: \$19634.53

Anticipated Spending: none

Previous Month Spending: Financial Software renewal and Soccer balls/goals for outdoor recess “zones”

Fundraising: Awaiting final amount, but raised over \$7500 in online auction!

Committee Reports:

Holiday Giving:

1. Encourage students to write a holiday card to staff. Drop off or mail in. More details to come.

2. In lieu of Giving Trees, pick a gift card to give directly to teachers and staff (don’t forget about our awesome supportive staff!) from Meijer, Amazon, Target

3. Front Office Staff are arranging a Sign Up Genius for our Eastern Family Giving. Note the very specific date that will be listed that items must be brought to school in order to prevent exposure, wrap, and have for families by the holidays.

Next Meeting: December 8, 2020 at 630pm

Adjournment: Adjournment approved: Ruskowski and Asiala @ 729pm