



Minutes

EAST PRAIRIE PTA GENERAL MEETING

September 5th, 2017

Attendance: Abby Tumang, Claudia Lopez, Angel Weiss, Jessica Hornick, Roni Sung, Meredith Krause, Erven Jocson, Dick Pardilla, Rachel Coppola, Beth Negronida, Tamara Strumfeld, Karen Gavrilovic, Regina Yonan, Jill Kempner, Nineveh Ewan, Tammy Manta, Janet Jaleco, Joel Concepcion

1. **Call to order/Welcome:** Claudia called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.
2. **Treasurer's Report:**
 - **Review audit of 2016/2017 finances:** Angel went over the audit process and the results of the 2017 audit.
 - **Review/approve 2017/2018 budget:** Angel went over the 2017/2018 budget. Note: Membership amount is less because IL PTA contribution increased, but we kept our dues the same. Also, consideration of a gift to the school to benefit the new school building, allocation of funds this year to combine with next year for a total gift of \$10,000 (anticipated). Beth N. asked about gym clothes-we are handing gym clothes ordering back to the school (Ms. Mertz). Tamara moved to approve the budget. Roni S. seconded. The budget is approved.
 - **Monthly reports for July and August:** Angel explained the line items on each month's report.
3. **President's Report:** Last week was the first FULL week of the 2017-18 school year! The PTA was out all week welcoming back families and signing up members. On Wednesday, we handed out lollipops to help usher in the school year. We're looking forward to a great year!
4. **Secretary's Report:** Nothing to report.
5. **School Report:**
 - Dr. Madl and Mrs. DeBettencourt talked about family/community engagement. The teachers and administration designed a tshirt showing the theme for the year "East Prairie Celebrates Everyone." Mrs. DeBettencourt showed a short presentation about Open Source Learning at Stanford about learning math, How to Learn Math: For Students (6 lessons, 20 minutes each). Dr. Madl and Mrs. DeBettencourt asked for feedback on whether a program like this would be attractive to offer to students.
 - Dr. Madl, Mrs. Stein, Jordan Stephens and Debra Yasutake are going to attend PTA meetings on a rotating basis.
 - There will be a Remember the School event in advance of the construction.
 - November 21st there will be a meeting of XX. Please RSVP to Dr. Madl if you are interested in attending.
 - Construction update: Core design team has finalized a plan for the new school and the plans will be submitted to the village for approval this Thursday (3 step process; 1st step is appearance (passed), 2nd step is planning (This week), 3rd step Board of Trustees). It will be a 3 story building to house K-8, as well as administration. HB760 is on the governor's desk and he has until Sept 17th to sign or veto. If he takes no action by that date, it will go through. Gas lines have already been worked on, soil cores have been taken. The two houses on Dobson that are owned by the school will be demolished in the Spring. The library and the small gym will be demolished over Winter Break. Timeline is for the new building to be complete Fall 2019. Rachel asked about outdoor recess and gym. Dr. Madl responded that they are being very creative and have an agreement to use Hamlin Park for some recess and outdoor activities.
6. **Committee Reports:**

- **Boo Hoo Breakfast** - Kindergarten families joined us for breakfast on the first half day of school. Parents were able to register as a PTA member, meet new parents, and enjoy some coffee and treats. Thank you to Meredith Krause for purchasing and setting up the breakfast this year! A big thank you to Starbucks for their coffee and bananas donation.
- **Box Tops** - Thank you to all the families who turned in their Labels for Education last year. We received \$650.00 in Visa pre-paid credit cards! A big thank you to Caryn Tono, our box top coordinator, for organizing and mailing in the labels. The cards will go right back into our programs for the 2017-2018 school year.
- **Bulletin board** was done by Regina Yonan. Thank you!!
- **Calendar**- Calendars are available! Thanks to Kasima Imamovich for collecting photos and putting together the calendar. The price of a calendar is included in your PTA membership dues. If you have already paid for your membership but have not received a calendar, please contact Elizabeth Gilbert (eps.pta.membership@gmail.com).
- **Cultural Arts** – Jill Kempner will again be coordinating the cultural arts program. Many thanks to Jill and we are looking forward to another great set of programs this year. Updates will be forthcoming.
- **Family Art Night** – Family Art Nights are held in the winter and will be coordinated by Ms. Wade-Kuzwayo, EPS Art teacher. More information will be provided ahead of the events!
- **Family Picnic**-Last year's family picnic was a great success!! Thanks to Tammy Manta and Sarah Evans for coordinating, as well as all the volunteers that made the picnic happen!!
- **Family Reading Night** – This event going to be replaced by International Night in 2018. More details to follow. Thank you to our new coordinator Zhanna Soleveychik and Mrs. Wydmanski for bringing this wonderful idea to the PTA board.
- **Fundraising** – The fundraising committee is currently discussing potential fall fundraisers. If you are interested in participating in this committee, contact Claudia!
- **Fun Fair**- Tamara Strumfeld-2017 Fun Fair is set for September 23, 2017, from 11 am to 2 pm. There will be three bouncy houses, games in the gym, redemption prizes, a balloon artist, professional face painting, airbrushed tattoos, food in the cafeteria, and a raffle. Wristbands for the bouncy houses and games will sell for \$15. Individual tickets will sell 4 for \$1. Tickets will be required for balloons, face painting, and air brushed tattoos. The raffle will be set up so people can drop in their tickets for the items they want. There will be several gift cards, a gym membership, and hopefully an electronic prize or two. Food for sale will be pizza, chips and ice cream; drinks: water, juice boxes and sparkling water. Beth Negronida is handling the volunteers. The save the date flier will go home in folders this coming Thursday or Friday. The raffle flier will be go home the following Thursday or Friday.
- **Panther Days** – Panther Days are being coordinated by Erick Tumang. This fundraiser identifies a local restaurant that will donate part of its proceeds on a designated night, usually the night of parent teacher conferences. More information will be provided near the event dates.
- **Gym Clothes** – Thank you to Carmen Tan for coordinating gym clothes orders for the 2017-2018 school year. This is the last year the PTA will handle the orders. Mrs. Mertz and the school will now take on gym clothes orders.
- **Ice Cream Social** - Our 3rd annual ice cream social was held outdoors this year and the families really enjoyed it. Jump ropes, chalk, and ice cream were provided for all K-2 students. Thank you to all of our volunteers: Beth Negronida and Cindy Payne.
- **Membership** – Elizabeth Gilbert-Thanks to those of you who have joined the EPS PTA! We've currently have 202 paid members, with more joining every day. If you haven't joined yet, please do! With each paid membership, you'll receive an East Prairie 2017-18 wall calendar. Just fill out a membership form, put it in an envelope with your \$10 dues (cash or check made out to EPS PTA) and write "PTA Membership" on the envelope. Send it to school with your child, or

drop it off at the school office-they'll make sure we get it! Your calendar will be delivered to you via your student.

- **Room Parents – Sara Evans**
- **School Supply Prepacks** – Prepacks were a great success this year! 161 total prepacks were ordered. Orders were received, sorted and distributed to classrooms without a hitch! Many thanks to Kathy Byron for coordinating and thanks to our distribution volunteers: Beth Negronida, Lindsey Saxe, Cassie Payne, Roni, Ellie and Cara Sung, Jill Kempner, Cindie Anderson and kids Breanna and Mason, Diana Evonitz, Kelly, Dylan and Joshua Lam, and Noelle, Joe and Jessie Byron. Thanks to Bonnie and Mark and maintenance staff for all of their help!
 - It was mentioned that the local stores did not have the EPS supply lists, despite many other schools being there. Perhaps we can coordinate getting the lists to local stores.
- **Spiritwear** – Abby T. and Jessica H. - A Spiritwear order will be taking place in the next few weeks. Look for a flyer to come home shortly. Tote and/or duffle bags were suggested. Meredith noted that the fliers were not super clear last year, so we will work on making them better this year.
- **Website and Communications** – We do have a Facebook page as well as a twitter so please follow us on whichever social media you use!
- **Partners for Learning**
- **Volunteers**
 - Volunteers rode the buses with children all week to help them get comfortable with the process and find their way safely home! Thanks to Beth Negronida for coordinating and for all the volunteers: Sarah Evans, Karen Gavrilovic, and Gina Lorenz.
 - If you are a committee coordinator for an event that requires additional volunteer help, Beth can help to recruit volunteers for you! Please contact her (Beth Negronida bnegronida@comcast.net) at least 2-3 weeks in advance of the event to discuss!

7. **Unfinished Business**-none

8. **New Business**-We have 10 door prizes. Names were drawn and the winners chose prizes.

9. **Adjournment**- Meeting was adjourned at 8:12pm.