

Agenda
EAST PRAIRIE PTA GENERAL
MEETING
February 3, 2015

Attendance: Abby Tumang, Gina Lorenz, Jill Kempner, Kathy Byron, Angel Weiss, and Claudia Lopez

- I. **Call to order/Welcome:** The meeting was called to order at 6:36 pm

- II. **Secretary's Report: Reading/Approval of minutes from January**
 - a. Minutes of January meeting approved motioned by Claudia Lopez and seconded by Abby Tumang
 - b. Website: Please continue to send information regarding upcoming events, call for volunteers etc. to Lara Barros so that it can be posted to the web-site. All information that goes through Mrs. Stein (brochures, eblasts, etc.) is sent to Lara at the same time that it is sent for approval.
 - c. Due to the shortened meeting, a few items that were "Unfinished Business" will be tabled until the March meeting. These include:
 1. Compensation for volunteers
 2. Examining membership procedures
 3. Birthday Books

- III. **Treasurer's Report:** Balance on Hand 16,342.79. There are two outstanding checks totaling \$4,020.21, which pertain to book fair

- IV. **President's Report**
 - a. Founder's Day, the PTA is celebrating a successful first half of the year and invited Dr. Lopez to speak this evening. We thank Dr. Lopez for taking time to share important information regarding family engagement.
 - b. Kathy Meitzer, our PTA district rep has asked Kathy Byron to host the PTA annual meeting for District 21 at East Prairie. Kathy M. will secure a speaker for that evening and we should expect about 25 guests. It will be help on March 10th at 6:45-9pm in the school library.
 - c. If anyone is interested in attending the 113th annual PTA convention, it will be help in East Peoria this April. They will provide valuable workshops and training surrounding the theme, "It's All About Children, Families and Community. Registration is \$75 per person. Anyone interested in attending, please contact Kathy Byron.
 - d. Reminder- The foundation will hold its' annual Dinner/dance March 7th. This year's theme is a Trivia Night. We like to support and work with the foundation, which is made up of teachers, parents, & community members. Please contact Diana Evonivitz for more details.

- V. **School Report**
 - a. Denise Damasco has worked with the PTA reflections program for about 8 years and is looking for someone to mentor into this position. You would work closely with Mrs. Smeeton.. If you would like more information please contact Denise Damasco.

- b. Denise Damasco sent an e-mail regarding the status of the PTA Reflections Program entries. Kathy Meitzer, our district rep, sent all of the dance entries to state and the following student's literature: Maryarita Kobotis, Yasmin Kaiser, Abir Tariq, Inayah Lodhi, Kayshuv Singia, Rosalie Xavier, Daniel Damasco, Elise Damasco. Andrea Smeeton sent letters home with the students on Friday to give to their parents. Kathy Meitzer will inform the people at the state level that last year, none of our students received an invite to the end of the year reflections celebration. Denise will follow-up on the status of the entries if she does not hear anything by next week.
- c. Carolyn Mertz would like to announce that the "Jump Rope for Heart" event is scheduled for Friday, February 13, 2015. It will take place in both gyms during the lunch/recess times (11:40 – 1:00). Ms. Mertz is looking for parent volunteers to help organize and supervise the event. Please contact her if you are interested in volunteering.

d.

VI. Committee Reports

a. Cultural Arts

- 1. Thank you to Jill Kempner who scheduled the next PTA sponsored assembly. Kevin Luthardt, a children's author from Skokie, will present on February 9th . Jill was able to secure this assembly for approximately \$700.
- 2. He will see the students in three groups, separated by grade. She is also working on getting Brian Weissman, who does a physical fitness challenge, to come in May.

b. Family Reading Night

- 1. Scheduled for April 8th
- 2. Planning for this function will begin next Wednesday February 11th at 3:40 in the library.
- 3. Please contact Claudia Lopez or Lara Barros if you are interested in helping with this event.

c. Family Art Night: The January Family Art Night involved families in painting or coloring "unity circle" tiles. The next event is scheduled for April.

d. Membership: Angel Weiss is working on compiling an Excel file that can be updated yearly and used to easily email member families. She is working off of the list that Pat Hayes compiled. Thank you Pat and Angel! We should consider having new/updated registration forms to become a PTA member at the school registration day in May. There was discussion surrounding the approach of becoming a PTA member.

e.

VII. Unfinished Business

- a. Car Magnets: Kathy Byron and Claudia Lopez looked into purchasing "Paw Print" car magnets to be sold at PTA functions. The cost would be approximately \$1 per magnet if over 500 are bought. There are also some general art fees and shipping/handling. The current plan is that the PTA would sell them at functions and through flyers sent home for the price of \$3.00 per magnet.
 - 1. Result of vote: Everyone was in favor of proceeding with the purchase contingent upon an agreement on a mock-up of the magnet. Gina Lorenz noted that a round magnet with the East Prairie panther paw logo was

more appealing. Once the design is created it will be presented at the next PTA meeting.

2.

VIII. New Business

- a. We encourage any parent who takes pictures at school functions to send them to Gina Lorenz with the children who are in the picture listed. Emailing the picture to her implies consent, so please make sure you crop out or get consent of other children in the pictures. Please send to gmdl2008@gmail.com

IX. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm

The next meeting is set for March 3 at 7:00 pm.

