

## Kerr PTO General Meeting

April 4, 2018, 9:15am



**Welcome:** Windy J. Neff

**School News:** Dr. Noro

- Garden has been removed.
- Pick up procedures are changing—go into effect on Monday, April 9. Notification went home with forms for regular walker/car rides—forms due back to the school on 4/5. Busses will be called differently and may get home a little earlier.
- Dr. Noro went through ALICE training. Entire staff will complete it this month. Safe school modules/conversations will continue.
- Getting Go Bags for each room with possible needed supplies in emergency situations.
- PTO received questions regarding the PSSAs, new playground, and police at Kerr and asked Dr. Noro to address these at the meeting.
  - PSSAs
    - *How are the results used?* One piece of a child's record academic. Scores are attributed to schools, teachers, principal, child—used for everyone.
    - *Questions on opting students out:* If a whole bunch of people opt out, then it hurts in the school performance profile and ultimately impacts not only the school but area real estate as school performance is something buyers look into.
    - Student who are opted out complete curricular standard-based activities during testing.
  - New playground at the new Kerr building.
    - Dr. Noro got input from kindergarten and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade on the equipment to ensure that the equipment purchased includes all grade levels.
    - The hard surface area will be ½ basketball court and the other half has 4 square, hop-scotch, etc.
    - Swings are well utilized on the playground and the new play area will also have them.
    - (questions comparing Kerr to the new O'Hara playground) O'Hara has double the population of Kerr and put in a lot of money as they had the worst playground.
      - *PTO inquiry to O'Hara's PTO found that their PTO had fundraised for years and put in \$80,000 towards the playground.*
    - *PTO shared photos of the proposed new playground equipment on facebook.*
  - Police Presence at Kerr
    - Officer Harajea is the school resource officer at the HS and likes to get to know the students and see them in a friendly environment. Other officers stop by from time to time just for a presence and to gain trust/build relationships
    - District school safety meeting will be held Monday, April 16, 2018, at 6:30 p.m. in the Fox Chapel Area High School large group instruction room.

**Budget:** Rob Wilson

- Popcorn brought in \$672.50
- Wildwood Highlands is issuing new check (previous check was returned for insufficient funds)
- Kindergarten field trip request came in.
  - \$3500 budgeted for field trips
  - There is a couple hundred dollars left in the current budget with one grade left to put in a request.
- We are right on budget. Even if everything goes through we will still be in the black.
- Need a vote to increase budget from \$2,000 to \$4,000 (transcribing mistake from last year's budget that was not caught) for Summer Send Off.
  - Bounce Houses \$1,200
  - T-shirts \$1,800
  - Leaving \$1,000 for snacks and supplies
  - Motion to increase: Breanna Mack, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Connie Hendren. No opposed.

- PNC has started to charge \$15/month. Rob will be contacting them to find out why.

#### **PTO Survey:** Amy Cooper

- A few highlights of the community survey currently out. A more detailed analysis is to come.
  - Of those who took it 42 were parents (30 claimed to be members, 9 said they were not, and 3 didn't know)
  - 12 said they have attended meetings
    - Reasons given from those who did not attend meetings: 21 said because the days/times didn't work.
      - However, on the question of what day/time works best—Wednesday evening worked best (18 people—double any other day/time).
  - How to best send information—looking at the most ranked 1 or 2 responses.
    - Monthly email newsletter received 28, 1 or 2 rankings followed by sending a flyer home with 25.
- Question about developing a homeroom liaison position—22 people said that they would be interested in the position and another 5 liked the idea but didn't want to volunteer themselves.
- Question about alternative meeting location—specifically Sharpsburg library.
  - 24 people agreed that the library was a good location. 2 concerns brought up: parking & confusion on location (if meetings were at different locations).
    - Amy Cooper has been in contact with Sharpsburg officials regarding parking. Arrangements can be made for free parking in parking lot very close to the library on meeting evenings.
  - Other answers: 10 people said Kerr Only for location, 6 indifferent, 6 for Panera or Market District as alternate.
- Drawings for the gift card and coupon book. 46 people provided their names—listed in a spreadsheet in alpha order. Online random number generator used to generate corresponding numbers to the list. Computer screen was turned so others could witness the “drawing” as well.
  - Valerie Ewing \$25 Target gift card winner
  - Sean Baldis—KidStuff coupon book winner

#### **Fundraising:**

- Movie Night: \$347.10 fundraised. Thank you Breanna Mack & Jen Dunbar for your hard work.
- Dine & Donates
  - Panera on 3/15. Made \$139.63 (could take 45 days to get the check)
  - Dunkin Donuts is currently happening—take a flyer
  - Chipotle is coming up on May 1 from 5-9pm
  - Looking for a chair to organize the Dine and Donates for next year.

#### **Summer Send-Off:** Committee

- Schedule passed around for review
- 3 bounce houses have been confirmed (\$1,200)
- Coordinator for the day—Jen Dunbar
- Volunteers to plan each of the 40 minute time slots
  - Each class has 40 minutes at each block. Closing Ceremony will be in the MPR with a photo slide show and a snack.
    - Gym Games – Erin Davenport & Jaye Centor
    - Field Games – Maureen Lynch & Margaret Haas
    - Creation Station – Windy Neff
    - Carnival Games – Valarie and Anna
    - MPR –
  - Most likely volunteers will stay with the class.
- Jess DeBruyn sent 2 shirt designs to present.
  - Will put the 2 designs on FB to decide with a poll.
  - Shirts are \$4.75 each. Total \$1,800 used for field trips and summer send off.

- The grade level colors will be:
  - Kindergarten: purple
  - 1st: yellow
  - 2nd: blue
  - 3rd: red
  - 4th: green
  - 5th: Orange

**Nominating Committee:** Pam Seifried (via Windy Neff reading report)

- Vice President Nominees: all have met minimum requirements per the bylaws
  - Dee Dee (Maria) Malloy
  - David Turner
  - April Zeiner
- Treasurer Nominees: has met minimum requirements per the bylaws
  - John Zeiner
- Motion to accept all nominees?
  - Motion to accept Nikki Rimer and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rob Wilson
- The election will take place at our next meeting on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm
- Online voting will be available as well.

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade Committee: read by Windy**

- Left over ice cream from social used for graduation
- Looking into banners as the usual 5<sup>th</sup> grade photo billboard location won't be available due to construction.

**Staff Appreciation:** Windy J. Neff / Jen Dunbar

- Week of May 7<sup>th</sup>, Theme is Movie/VIP
  - Wednesday is dessert day for the lunch already being provided
  - Friday, May 11<sup>th</sup> is sit down breakfast by district
  - Other days: Popcorn bar, nacho bar, supply day, stars
  - Sign Up Genius coming soon

**Volunteer Opportunities:** Windy J. Neff

- Kindergarten Family Fun Night tomorrow, MPR, 5:30pm.
- Staff Appreciation—sign up genius will be set up soon
- Ice Cream Social—will need help. Flyer available.
- ASK Chair(s)—we need ASK chairs for next year
- Summer Send Off—lots of volunteers needed on the day.
  - Margaret Haas suggestion: Send out a reminder to save the date and still time to get your clearances.
- Chapel Gate Night –flyer available

**Motion for minutes to be approved.**

- Rob Wilson motions, Rebecca Born 2nd

**Motion to Adjourn**

- Margaret Haas to Motion to adjourn, and Breanna Mack 2nd

**Present at Meeting:** Windy Neff, Amy Cooper, Nikki Rimer, Margaret Haas, Connie Hendren, Rebecca Born, Dr. Noro, Rob Wilson, Breanna Mack, Alex Slezak