

MINUTES

Durant Road Elementary School PTA

| Nantucket Grill | *Meeting called to order by* President, Donna Kuni at 6:40 pm

In Attendance

Donna Kuni	Collette Meador	Stacey Fenton
Kyra Walgos	Jennifer Smith	Theresa Dew
Prudence Neugebauer	Jennifer Hicks	Stephanie Elias
Janet Kehoe	Laura Robinson	Tracey Vander Meer
Devorah Granow	Leigh Gipple	
Neil Harrington	Abigail Filorimo	Kassie Kehrer (YMCA)
Karen Dunton	Ashley Wise	Kristen Burnett

There were 20 members in attendance; a quorum was reached. No guests in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

No minutes to review as this is a new school year.

Board President

Welcomed old and new members. Introductions of each person took place as we had 20 individuals in attendance; several of which were new attendees.

As many new attendees were present, Donna briefly reviewed each of the PTA's planned events and activities for 2016-17.

Principal's Report

Principal, Janet Kehoe, presented her report.

MakerSpace:

The space was created based on 2 factors (1)goal of the school is to become more innovative (2) the school is using more portable computer equipment— desktop and laptops were sent to classrooms. With the new available space in the computer lab the kids can do more STEAM initiatives and collaboration in MakerSpace.

GreenScreen room to create pre-recorded “news”; WCPSS IT helped set up the space

Budget

Budget cuts by WCPSS could mean some changes at school;

- Unaware of what those changes could include as the WCPSS will be making systemic changes
- What we know for Durant is that we need 815 kids to justify the number of teachers/staff. We might lose a teacher if we drop below 815. If you know anyone who should register for school, please let them know that they need to do that immediately.

Specialty Staff

- Julie Sargent-Full Time Literacy Coach
- Ms. Shearer-Full Time Math Coach

End of Grade and other testing

- Preliminary test scores are looking good so far (EOGs). Looking like goals will be met. Common Core was introduced as requirement in the past few years.

Class Dojo

- Using Class Dojo school wide (committee decision by the school-not a principal decision); most teachers using Twitter now
“Tech Tuesday” 1st Tues each month for Teacher In-Service

Budget

The proposed budget for the 2016-17 school year was distributed by Kyra Walgos, PTA Treasurer, and Devorah Gunrow, PTA Past Treasurer, and reviewed by the executive board and PTA members in attendance. In tonight’s meeting, we discussed the budget to be presented to the General PTA on July 26, 2016.

- We have a bit of a surplus of \$2800 from the previous school year. It has to be spent as we cannot carryover funds.

Income projection is \$82,000 for upcoming school year—Kyra briefly covered the main budget line items.

- We received a request for walkie talkies for each teacher/classroom. Request is \$1786.36 for 60 Walkie Talkies. Theresa Dew moved to accept the request as presented for the purchase of the walkie talkies (see attachment). Jennifer Smith seconded. Unanimously Approved.
- Request from the Boosterthon committee for funds for Boosterthon T-shirts for every child and Teacher in the school. \$750 has been fundraised from two sponsors. Theresa Dew made a motion that if Boostethon should need additional funds of no more than \$3000 that PTA would pay for those t-shirts. Jennifer Smith seconded. Unanimously Approved.
- Audit Committee (Devorah Grunow; Val Leary; Kris Hague) will be reviewing/auditing the 2015-16 budget.
- Check signatories were changed over for this fiscal/school year. New signatories completed required paperwork.

Committee Reports

Grounds Committee

Karen Dunton, PTA Grounds Committee—works with Mr. Williams. Focus currently is on the front of the school. Planted a pollinator garden that was planted with perennials for self-sustaining purposes. Would like plantings in the beds next to the portico. Karen has received many donations to cover plant and mulch costs. The committee may eventually need funding to cover some items. The budget line item for Grounds is approximately \$200.

No Fuss Fundraising

- Will continue with Box Tops; Shoparoo (maybe); Harris Teeter; Publix; Kroger; Lowe’s; Office Depot; Amazon Smile
 - Spirit Nights: Planning a Spirit Night for every month.
First spirit night for this school year is August 11th at McDonalds (Falls and Durant) from 4:30-7:30. All sales (drive thru included) will be counted and no flyer is necessary. Teachers will be helping out and we will be selling sundaes for \$1 of which we get to keep 100%. If it goes well we will ask to do it again in the Spring.

- Labels for Education: it mostly ended with the last school year. We can still collect through June 2017. With the points earned Prudence and Donna “spent” points on needs for school Specialists-- playground equipment and electric pencil sharpeners, etc.

Other Business

- PTA Survey Results presented by Collette Meador (see attachment)
70 respondents.
Discussion: Boosterthon, should we continue as our main fundraiser? What else might work and get the same funds without putting stress on the PTA members. Let’s discuss other options. We are locked in for this school year. Will need to decide by September 2016 if we want for the 2017-18 year as contracts have to be signed.

Will have paper copies and on-line available at Curriculum Night

- PTA Goals: Donna reviewed the goals set by the board. (see attachment)
- Committees (filled/needs): Donna reviewed which committees still need a lead or committee members.(see attached)
 - Priorities for Chairs or Help:
 - Kindergarten Picnic Chair— Collette Meador and Laura Robinson will take the lead on this
 - Kids Coaching-weekly reading with children whom need a little extra help
 - Community Partnership Chair— working with local business
 - Square 1 Art Chair— facilitate the ordering and helping Ms. Mason, Art Teacher
 - Translators
 - School Improvement Team Rep— meet once per month after school
 - Always need help with Boosterthon, Field Day, Spring Carnival (committee members for planning as well as help during the event)
- DRES events calendar: In an effort to keep parents better informed. A calendar of events for the year has been put together. It will be distributed at the Curriculum Night/General PTA meeting, posted on the website, and sent out as a calendar to families.

Announcements]

1. Teacher appreciation donations will be asked for in the next two weeks. \$5 per student. Requests will go out in the next Monday folder for Tracks 1, 2, and 4. Track 3 will get those when they track back in late-August.
2. Spirit Wear: Leigh Gipple showed the new SpiritWear t-shirts that we will have available for purchase.

Next Meeting

DRES media room

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm. Minutes prepared by PTA Secretary, Collette Meador