March 5, 2020
PTA General Meeting
Louisa Boren STEM K8
Library

Meeting called to order at 6:45p

President’s Report - Charles Cutter

● PTA Board is actively working to address COVID-19 concerns by evaluating events like Pi Night, PTA Enrichment programs, and the upcoming annual Auction.

● Round of introductions

● The next meeting agenda will reflect community rules:
  ○ Take care of yourself, take care of each other, take care of the space.

● STEM received cleaning supplies and hand sanitizer, but not in amounts sufficient to last for the duration of the spread of the virus. Please contribute hand sanitizer to your classrooms if you have it.

● PTA Enrichment Coordinator, Michelle, can’t fill the post next year, so we are actively looking to train her successor! Thank you, Michelle.

Principal’s Update - provided by Adrienne Ollerenshaw

● Teachers are attempting to have children wash hands upon entering school, after recess, and before lunch, but it’s a challenge.

● Large community events were just canceled. Pi Night canceled. Auction likely also canceled.

● 2020-21 Budget: Very little opportunity to move money around budget line items, so the presentation will be fairly simple.
  ○ Reduction: Zero for Middle School math support position.
  ○ Reduction: Zero for Middle School counselor (is .5 FTE this year).

    ■ Question: Will Ben try to fund funding to continue the .5 FTE Middle School counselor? Answer: Very likely not.

● School Nurse will remain at .5 FTE.

● No parent feedback or request for changes. The teachers vote soon to adopt the school budget.

Playground Committee - Adrienne Ollerenshaw

● Had 90 community volunteers sign-up and we had enough volunteer hours committed to submit the grant.

● Waiting to hear from the City.

Approve February 2020 General PTA Meeting Minutes - Charles

● Motion to approve the minutes. Seconded. Unanimously approved.
Treasurer’s Report - Jess Andre
- We are likely to have a significantly reduced PTA budget for ’20-21 because the Auction is likely to be canceled due to Coronavirus.
- Expecting teacher expenses to come in.
- Budget looks good overall for this year.
- We earned $530 from concessions at the State Robotics Tournament in February.
- Art Extravaganza likely net $3,500. Thank you Colleen, Margo, and Melinda for an outstanding first-time event.

Advocacy Committee - Alicia Prychun
- Hate Speech Report: Roughly 45 responses, about half from one third grade class. The school Race & Equity Committee reviewed the results. The responses showed that hate speech of all kinds, toward all protected classes, exists widely, especially in upper grades.
- Shawna Murphy is going to meet with the kids’ LGBTQIA groups and see what they might like to do in response to hate speech. She’s looking into some small group work, maybe an assembly speaker.
- Suggested documentary for people 8 yrs+ re the ‘R’ word and the impact words have on each of us.

Annual School Auction - Charles Cutter for Robin Graham
- If we have to cancel due to the virus, we will take a $5K hit in deposits. We could do a special “direct give” request to recoup the $5K.
- We would likely hold a mini-silent auction to ensure that some of the procured items like trips that have expirations can be enjoyed.
- Would have to refund tickets. Could ask folks to reject the refund to cover the $5K loss!

Nominations Committee - Angela Wallis
- We have formed the nominations committee: Angela Wallis, Sara Cody-Roth, Erin Knutson. The vote on the PTA Board slate will take place at the May PTA General meeting.

Comments
- School entrance/pick-up/volunteer procedures are not consistently enforced. Charles will discuss this with Ben.
  - Ideas: Volunteer badges - ask Robin for some lanyards to supply the front desk.
  - Office staff aren’t just in the office - they spend the day helping kids, handling emergencies, etc, so it’s a hard thing to figure out security at the school entrance.
  - ACTION ITEM: First PTA meeting - introduce the Volunteer videos, other requirements and ask parents to complete, stress the importance of proper training
- Improve signage on the entry doors?
- Ask front office staff to take on at least keeping the doors locked during school hours? Some inconsistency there.
- We as a community need to hold each other accountable when we see someone without proper credentials.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47p