

Louisa Boren STEM K8
PTA Meeting
December 12, 2019

Meeting called to order at 6:38pm

Principal Update - Ben Ostrom

- Welcome poem
- This year we've had many challenges finding staffing for experiences for our kids, including band and identifying volunteers to coach sports. We were lucky to have parents, staff, and teachers step forward to make band and sports participation possible for many teams of kids.

Approval of October and November minutes

- Motion to approve. Seconded. Unanimous approval. No abstentions.

Budget Report - Don Knutson

- YTD: income - 72K; expenses - \$42K.
 - Teachers have submitted requests for about ¼ of the budget for classroom PBL funding.
 - We've approved one PBL Challenge Grant to date - for \$250.
 - PTA board is reviewing additional Challenge Grant applications.
- Grocery Store Fundraisers:
 - AmazonSmile - successful so far.
 - PCC - PTA Board will discuss pre-purchase of 10, \$50 PCC gift cards to distribute/sell.
 - Fred Meyer/QFC - program is also set up. Must login to your account online and input the STEM fundraising code.
- Accountant has all documentation to prepare our FY 2018 taxes. PTA membership will approve tax returns at the January meeting.
- Thank you from Robotics parents for PTA funding.

Holiday Gift Cards - Charles

- We are still accepting donations of gift cards to support families during school break.

School Climate Results - Alicia

- Advocacy Committee has received anonymous reports of hate speech at school, regarding religion, race, body size, gender expression - across the board forms of hate speech. Advocacy committee is working with the school Race & Equity team to brainstorm ways to address the speech. The School Climate survey results lacks

answers to the questions we'd like to ask. Hoping to develop ways to bring awareness into the upper grades through programming and a 5-6 question survey with open-ended questions that would draw out student and family experiences.

Mary Bannister's article and the word of the year - Shawna Murphy

- Word of the Year is: They
 - See: <https://time.com/5746516/merriam-webster-word-of-the-year-2019/>
- Mary Bannister's published article: School Library as a Safe Harbor for LGBTQ Students and Families. The link will be available next month.

Art Extravaganza - Margo

- Event is February 6, 2019
- Next preparation meetings are January 15 and January 22nd and volunteers are welcome. Evening will include large, participatory art projects - Artists of Color button-making; Glow-in-the-dark room, and many more.
- Auction tickets will be sold day-of - attendees can pay by check, credit card, or cash. Discount bundles of tickets will be available.
- We have the required gambliig license.
- Goal is to earn at least \$10K
- Come Dressed to Impress, or Dress for Less! No entrance fee or event tickets. The only cost of the evening is optional raffle tickets and small art items.

SWAP Shop

- PTA Board is assessing the utility and organization of a student store. A committee has been formed to make recommendations.

Agenda items completed ahead of schedule so we did introductions around the room.

- Super fun to learn about everyone.

Questions, Comments, Concerns

- Idea to beautify the front entrance to the school. There's money if we have a will. Possibly a large-scale, durable, metal project like was recently installed by a STEM parent at UW Tacoma.
- Friends of the Playground meeting is January 14, 2019 at Ounces on Delridge, 7-8p Will look over example proposals for playgrounds to help determine scope of budget for the project. A small edition would run \$100K.

Adjourned at 7:36pm