

**Keller Elementary PTA
General Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2024
Online via Zoom**

In Attendance: Carie Hooker, Jen MacKenzie, Deb Anderson, Jennifer Brown, Sarah Lutz, Laura Stankiewicz, Margaret Blount, Marcie Dryden, Charity Gingell, Belem Morales, Sarah Culpepper, Jennifer Streamer, Edna Lorenz, Laura Shultz, Pilar Calderon, Melissa Golpe, Melissa Berry

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Approval of December 2023 Minutes (No January 2024 Meeting)

- Deb Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes; Sarah Lutz seconded. Motion passed; minutes approved.

Principal's Report – Marcie Dryden

- Last month was School Board Recognition Month
 - Thank you to Deb for her commitment not only to Keller, but to Royal Oak Schools as a whole.
- Upcoming important dates:
 - 2/14: No late start for students; Husky Packs
 - 2/16 – 2/20 – No School, Mid-Winter Break
 - 2/27: No school for students, staff professional development
 - 2/28: Late start for students
- PTA Founder's Day
 - Thank you to the PTA for the dinner ticket.
 - Claudine Goeddeke was recognized for starting the composting program and continuing it.
 - Thank you to Claudine and all the volunteers who come in to help run the program.
 - Northwood is now interested in starting a compost program too.
 - Composting club will be starting after the break.
- Wednesday will be classroom Valentine's Day parties.
- For more information on Husky Packs, the topics and lessons are always included in the newsletter the Friday immediately after the Husky Pack. (This week will be on Thursday)
- Kindergarten and DK Information night was held last Wednesday for 2024-25 kindergarteners.
 - There was a great turnout. About 100 people or so attended, representing 55 families.
 - Thank you to kindergarten/DK team for a great presentation.
- One of the things from the Kindergarten group about their Community Helpers IB Unit was how they can connect with senior citizens in the community. After reaching out to Royal Oak Senior Center, they were very excited to work together.
 - Tomorrow Kindergarten will be taking their first field trip to the Senior Center.

- Kids are excited for the bus trip and lunch there.
- Hopefully we can continue this every year.
- Family Field Trip was rescheduled to 2/29 at American Polish Cultural Center from 4:10 – 5:30 p.m.
 - QR code to register is in the newsletter.

Board Member's Report – Deb Anderson

- Royal Oak High School has the musical “Freaky Friday” coming up 3/1 – 3/3. ROMS has “Alice in Wonderland” coming up 3/8 – 3/10.
- Enrollment for next school year is ongoing. The district hopes all incoming families will enroll soon in order to adequately plan staffing for next year.
- Schools of Choice application period is 3/1 – 3/29. There are limited seats for grades K-8; students must reside in Oakland County to apply.
- All enrollment information is online, and the process is nearly all virtual. Anyone needing assistance can contact Gina Harwood at the board office, and she'd be happy to help.
- Upcoming community events:
 - The Rotary's Scholarship Auction is 4/20 at Club Venetian. They're celebrating 100 years as a club, and it's the 40th annual auction.
 - This event is the Bill Sullivan Memorial Event. He was a longtime Rotary member, and we lost him this past year. He was also a longtime member of the Historical Society. His passing was a big loss to both organizations, as well as the entire community. See any Rotary member or Mary Beth for more information.
 - Blessings in a Backpack is having a trivia night Friday, April 12, at the Royal Oak Elks. Blessings provides nearly 200 bags of weekend food every week.

Teacher's Report – Laura Stankiewicz

- Thank you for Founder's Day dinner. Mrs. S's student teacher also attended, and he felt very welcome.
- Kindergarten:
 - 100th day of school was celebrated today. Students made shirts with 100 items to model for their classmates.
 - First field trip is tomorrow to Royal Oak Senior Center to make care packages with the seniors and eat lunch together. The kindergarteners are very excited to ride on the bus.
- 1st Grade:
 - 100th day of school was celebrated on Friday with a Construction Day.
 - First graders got to build 100s of things at different centers. They got to wear hats and tool belts/aprons, which were donated for the kids.
 - Some parents from Mrs. Smith's room donated picture frame and chalkboard kits for the kids to take home to build.
 - The kids also got a caution cone to take home.
- Teachers are planning their act for this year's Talent Show.

President's Report – Carie Hooker

- Council Meetings - Executive Board and committee chairs are invited to attend these meetings.
 - Meetings are very informational; Mary Beth Fitzpatrick attends the meetings.
 - Meetings are the first Monday of every month.
 - Let Carie know if you ever want to attend.
- Reflections contest winners will be announced soon; more information to come. (Per the committee chairs)
- Founder's Day Dinner
 - Thank you to those who attended the dinner.
 - Congratulations to Claudine Goeddeke for her award. She was voted on by many fellow PTA members to receive the ABCD Award.

Treasurer's Report – Sarah Lutz

- Paid:
 - annual PTA insurance
 - skating program for Mr. Potter's 3rd-5th grade classes
 - staff meals for conferences
 - \$100 teacher funds
 - 5th grade shirts
- Received:
 - donation from Kroger receipts, \$170

Committee Reports:

- Restaurant Night – Melissa Berry
 - Irish Tavern 2/20, 4:00 – 8:00 p.m.
 - Flyer was posted on Facebook, and an email copy was included in the PTA newsletter. Paper copy will be going home soon.
- Performing Arts/Talent Show – Melissa Golpe
 - Rehearsal at ROMS on 2/29 from 4:30 until about 7:00 p.m.
 - Show is 3/1 at 6:00 p.m. also at ROMS.
 - 66 kids are performing, 36 acts.
 - T-shirts have been ordered; kids will receive them at rehearsal and will be encouraged to wear them to school the day of the show.
 - Each performer received a gold star to decorate and put a picture on. The stars will be displayed in the ROMS hallway for people to see as they come in for the show.
 - Lineup is being finalized now. Parents will get an email tomorrow with details about rehearsal and information about volunteering.
 - More volunteers are needed! A signup sheet has been sent out.
- Staff Appreciation – Carie Hooker on behalf of committee chairs
 - Special treat is planned for staff this Thursday afternoon. There will be "room service" delivery of snacks to enjoy before the break.
- IFFF/Silent Auction – Laura Shultz
 - IFFF is 4/12
 - Received our first donation; it was extra nice because it was unsolicited.

- The committee has been meeting, and some things will be switched up a little bit. There are some new things coming to the IFFF that people will hopefully like.
- Volunteers will be needed.
- For the silent auction portion, donations are needed.
 - If anyone works for a company that wants to donate to the silent auction -- either a good or money for a gift card -- that would be appreciated.
 - If someone has a craft or skill and would like to donate that would be welcomed too.
- Assemblies – Laura Shultz
 - 3/11 Author Visit from Tyler Benson
 - Tyler is a former member of the Coast Guard.
 - He has written a series called “Adventures of Onyx” about his dog and his time in the Coast Guard.
 - Flyer will come home with an order form soon.
 - Books are mostly picture books but wordy and cover all elementary levels.
 - Can order stuffed animal dog too.
 - Meeting with someone who works for Make Food Not Waste.
 - Discussing having an assembly presentation in the fall to tie in with the composting program.
- Book Fair – Carie Hooker
 - Spring Scholastic Book Fair is coming at the end of March – 3/18 through 3/22 – just before spring break.
 - Committee is meeting to plan soon.
 - Sales will be open every day after school again.
 - Watch for more information to come.

Old Business

- None

New Business

- Nominating Committee – Charity Gingell
 - Committee includes Jessica Kammann, Laura Stankiewicz, and James Gingell, along with Charity.
 - Nominations close Sunday, 3/10. Slate will be announced at 3/11 PTA Meeting and voted on in April.
 - 2024-25 Executive Board positions:
 - President – OPEN
 - VP of Communications – Jennifer Streamer
 - VP of Membership – OPEN
 - Treasurer – OPEN
 - Secretary – Jennifer Brown
 - Member-at-Large – Charity Gingell
 - Belem Morales is interested in Treasurer position, will email Charity.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 11, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Meeting Adjourned at 7:41 p.m.