

**Keller Elementary PTA  
General Meeting Minutes  
September 11, 2023**

**Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm.**

**Introduction to PTA, Executive Board, overview of meetings**

- Executive Board:
  - President: Carie Hooker
  - VP of Communications: Jennifer Streamer
  - VP of Membership: Melissa Berry
  - Secretary: Jennifer Brown
  - Treasurer: Sarah Lutz
  - Member-at-Large: Charity Gingell
- Meetings are held the second Monday of each month at 7:00 pm.
- We follow Robert's Rules of Order.
- Processes and more information are found on our PTA website.

**Approval of May 2023 Minutes**

- Sarah Lutz made a motion to approve the minutes; James Gingell seconded. Minutes approved.

**Principal's Report – Marcie Dryden**

- Thank you for your support on Wednesday with the early dismissal.
- Upcoming late starts: 9/13, 9/20, 9/28
  - Homework Club and PTA clubs start at 8:20 am.
    - Students should go to their same morning lines; supervisors will come out to get the students.
  - Late Start breakfast begins at 8:55 am
- Curriculum Night is Wednesday, 9/13. Parents/Caregivers only!
  - Grades K-2: 6:30 pm
  - Grades 3-5: 7:30 pm
- Picture day is 9/26.
  - Order forms will be going home this week.
- Thank you for the Stock the Lounge donations.
- The new 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade teacher is Maria Jarecki.
  - She will be here for Curriculum Night.
  - Thank you to Mrs. Lutz for stepping in to start the year.
  - Mrs. D. is now teaching middle school science.
- We also have a new art teacher, Laura Hemmingsen.
  - She will be starting on 9/18.
  - Mrs. Eovaldi left to take a job closer to her home.
- Reviewed red "go bag" that teachers carry for emergencies.

- In the event of an emergency, the contact procedure is as follows:
  - Email sent to main contacts
  - District call
  - Seesaw message
  - If student is not picked up, then Emergency Contacts will be notified.
- Lockdown Drills
  - All new staff trained with Officer Yerke.
  - All staff also had refresher on lockdowns upon return to school.
  - Required to have 3 drills per year.
  - Parents/caregivers will be notified via email the day prior to the drills this year, instead of the day of as in previous years. The email will include talking points..
  - Procedures are always being reviewed and worked on with the police department to ensure best practices.
    - An officer is always within location to arrive in less than 1 minute.

### **Board Member's Report – Deb Anderson**

- ROPAC's first meeting this year is September 19 from 6:30 – 8:00 pm at the Administration Building.
  - From their webpage, "A group of parents passionate about the education and well-being of our children. ROPAC welcomes any parent to join them to make our schools a destination for students receiving special education services to thrive."
- Back to School Welcome Week was a huge success.
  - Staff used valuable time in professional development sessions, including school safety.
  - More than 70 staff presented their knowledge and expertise to lead sessions with their colleagues.
- Thank you to the PTA for the "Stock the Lounge." It made the teachers and staff feel so welcome as they returned to school.
- We have a new School Liason Officer this year, Officer Lipscomb.
- Please make sure your contacts, including how you wish to be contacted, are updated in MiStar. The district's system pulls current data based on parent choices when mass notifications are sent.
- State of the Schools Address is September 28 at 6:30 pm at the Board Office.
  - Superintendent Mary Beth Fitzpatrick will present the Strategic Plan, a year-long process taking a good look at our goals and strategies to support our school community.
- Next Board of Education meeting is Thursday, 9/14 at 6:30 pm at the Board Office.
  - All new staff members are invited to a 6:00 pm reception before the meeting.
- Deb can be contacted at [deborah.anderson@royaloakschools.org](mailto:deborah.anderson@royaloakschools.org)
- Deb likes to volunteer when asked by PTA.

### **Teacher's Report – Laura Stankiewicz**

- Everyone really enjoys the stock the lounge. Thank you!!

### **President's Report – Carie Hooker**

- Overview of some committee work.
  - We have 25 committees. Thank you to the chairs for your time and energy.
  - Some committees are an all-year commitment; others are a limited time.
- How you PTA is up to you.
  - The Website has a ton of information.
- Emily Bogart is the Late Start Coordinator.
- This year's first PTA Restaurant Night is 9/21 at Panda Express.
- Reflections Arts Contest is returning this year.
  - Theme is "I am hopeful because..."

### **Treasurer's Report – Sarah Lutz**

- 2023-24 Budget presented, needs to be approved by general membership
  - Belem Morales made a motion to approve the budget; Pilar Calderon seconded. Motion passed.

### **Committee Reports:**

- Composting
  - Trays and milk cartons currently being collected for composting. Food will be next.
  - Volunteers are needed. Time commitment is 11:20 am – 1:20 pm.
  - Already generating 20 less bags of trash per week!
  - For questions or information, contact [claudinegoeddeke75@gmail.com](mailto:claudinegoeddeke75@gmail.com)
- Parent/Adult Social Event
  - Chairs are James and Charity Gingell
  - "Great Escape" themed Parent Social is Saturday, 9/30. Flyer will be sent home soon.
  - Will begin at Lockhart's at 6:00, with the event underway at 6:30.
  - Event includes two sessions/groups at Breakout Escape Rooms.
  - Will end at Royal Oak Brewery.
- Huskies Run
  - Chairs are Jessica Kammann and Melissa Berry. This is their 5<sup>th</sup> year. Erin McNitt, Sarah Lutz, and Brandon Piwko will be joining them.
  - Run is Friday, 10/6, in the afternoon.
  - \$75 fundraising goal per student. \$24,000 is the total school goal.
  - Registration will be through Givebacks (formerly known as MemberHub).
  - Student shirt sizes are needed ASAP, by 9/13, so they will be here in time for the run.
  - All students will get a shirt and a ticket for registering, even if they raise \$0.
  - Volunteers will be needed.
  - Shout Out signs will be sold on September 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> for \$5 each.
- Winter Market
  - Winter Market is Saturday, 11/4.
  - Currently looking for vendors.
  - \$15/table, up to 3 tables per vendor.

### **Old Business**

- Vote on Bylaws, as amended in the April 2023 meeting (dues changed to \$10 individual/\$18 family)
  - James Gingell made a motion to approve the amended Bylaws; Marisa Linn seconded. Motion passed.

### **New Business**

- August Membership Contest – One \$50 gift card each for Lily's Seafood Grill & Brewery, Made in the Mitten, and Sidetrack Bookshop (one gift card per winner).
  - Winners drawn by Melissa Berry:
    - Yamile Berry
    - Jon Knoppe
    - Collin Hall
- September Membership Contest happening now. Winner will receive a \$25 gift card and a Keller Huskies tote bag.

**Next Meeting: Monday, October 9, 2023 at 7:00 pm in the Keller Learning Commons**

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:52 pm.**