

**Keller Elementary PTA
General Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Secretary Report, Jen MacKenzie

- March Minutes: Erin Alexander made a motion to approve, Derek Cookson seconded -approved

Principal's Report, Marcie Dryden

- April 20th & April 27th Late Start
- ½ day April 14th - release at 12:05 (five minute stagger) - End of 3rd Marking Period
- No School Friday, April 15th
- Report Cards go live April 22nd
- M-Step for 3rd grade began April 12th, 4th & 5th grade schedule coming soon
- 305 Chromebooks have been distributed, Chromebooks will continue to be distributed once a week as parents fill out the form.
- Free Covid tests available, Covid numbers down, no cases reported in 3 weeks
- Stride and Girls on the Run (3rd-5th grade) run every other day preparing for a 5k race
- Student initiated Clean up Crew - A group of 4th graders gave a proposal to Ms. Kirkwood and 39 students cleaned up the playground during lunch.
- Hopeful to clubs to return next year.
- 8th grade legacy project - 3 former students will read to a group of first graders and then do a comprehension art project. Projects will be displayed in the ROMS library.

Board Member's Report, Tim Ciechorski

- Two resolutions:
 - 1st- recognition of Autism Awareness Month
 - 2nd - recognition of Arab American Heritage Month
- School district and city starting to plan a Juneteenth Celebration

Teacher's Report, Laura Stankiewicz

- Level 3 experimenting with solutions and Old Mother Hubbard writing
- 5th grade teachers - 5th grade exhibition off to a great start
- Mrs. Ault -2nd graders are finishing up the Tales around the World Unit and will be transitioning to Ecosystems
- Kindergarten - virtual field trip to the DIA
- 4th grade
 - started a clean up crew
 - Mrs. Dryden read to some of the 4th grade classes last month
 - Mrs. Miller students are working on Biographies and Multiplying and Dividing Fractions

President's Report, Carie Hooker

- Council News
 - The PTA Council is looking for a President, VP, and Secretary (email Carie if you are interested)
 - The Council meets on the first Monday of each month during the school year and guides all the RO district PTA Presidents.
 - This is a great position for those who are familiar with PTA and is low-key because it's not as involved at the school-level PTA's.
 - Founder's Day usually happens every February to acknowledge the many volunteers who dedicate their time and attention to our PTA's.
 - It was canceled this Feb, but there might be something informal happening later this year.
- Superintendent, Mary Beth Fitzpatrick
 - Next year's school calendar is pending due to teacher contract negotiations, and as soon as it's complete it will be released to families.
 - Free Summer School details are almost complete. Using ESSER funds again this year; will update once it's set.
 - She also mentioned the CCEC is changing to "JEDI" Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion. Look for future updates on this committee in the District Dispatch.
 - Guest Speaker, Val Moskalik
 - Val presented on non-profits, volunteerism, and ways to increase involvement in our PTA's
 - PTA volunteers have been on the decline for many years now, and dropped even more dramatically due to the pandemic
 - Fewer events mean fewer opportunities to gather together, connect, and form new relationships
 - PTA presidents spoke about their individual schools:
 - We talked about how we cannot as presidents run all committees if we don't have enough volunteers to help chair. Although it will be very disappointing to have to cancel events and scale back, we want to make sure the people who are giving their time don't get burned out or overwhelmed
 - Scaling back and cutting events gives us the chance to regroup, build up a strong community of volunteers, and at that time we can start adding more events and responsibilities to the PTA
 - We talked about how we can better communicate opportunities and provide resources for all volunteers
 - We talked about how we want more members to be interested in being involved and attending meetings and how we can successfully recruit.

- We talked about how we need to get PTA news out to ALL families and often, and hope that those who are involved encourage friends to get involved
- Carie is always available to chat, meet up, and to discuss PTA things.
- Survey coming out soon.

Treasurer's Report, Sarah Lutz

- \$100 Amazon Smile donation received
- Paid: Author presentations and books for the library from those authors
- More teachers have used their funds
- Paid: prizes for March is reading month
- Paid: Picnic tables
- Lots of money in and out for Book Fair

Committee Report

- Jessica Kammann & Melissa Berry - Husky Run
 - April 29th 12:40-3:05
 - Q: What about signs that haven't been dropped off yet?
 - A: Bring signs Monday, April 25th and line them up along the drive. They will be moved to the course.
- Jennifer Streamer - Restaurant Night
 - Restaurant Night - Noodles and Company April 29th 4-8pm - 15%
 - May - possibly Kouzina (all funds will be donated to the 5th grade graduation)
- Jessica Kamman - Teacher Appreciation
 - May 2nd -6th
 - Camping theme
 - May 6th Staff camping out on roof
 - More info coming soon - money donations & pies
 - Danielle Lupcke - working on BBQ lunch (Woodpile & Lockharts)
- Jen MacKenzie - IFFF
 - Virtual event this year on Facebook & Helenkellerpta.net
 - April 18th-22nd
 - Booklet will be sent out by the teachers
 - Each day of the week will have a theme
- Spring Book Fair - Carie Hooker
 - Big success, students were so excited to come down and shop the book fair and buy books
 - E-wallets were very helpful
 - Total sales around 9,000 - we get a percentage back in Scholastic Dollars

- \$580 raised for Books for All, Spent around \$1200
- Fall Book Fair will be back to families shopping & Open during Trunk or Treat
- 5th grade
 - Penny Wars raised \$1356.38
 - Mrs. Dziengowski's class gets a pizza party
 - May meeting date TBD
 - 5th grade promotion, Picnic, & Field Trip in the works
 - Q: Will 5th grade promotion be in person?
 - A: 2 options - survey going home, option 1 Car Parade for the whole school, or in person for just the 5th graders
- Libby Hampson - Talent Show
 - June 2nd
 - Wed. April 13th permission slips will go home
 - Auditions will be April 26th & April 27th in the Keller Cafeteria 4-7:30pm
 - Volunteers needed (sign-up genius soon)
 - Tickets will be \$5 for the show
 - Rehearsal is May 26th
- Tina - Fun Fair
 - Friday, June 10th 5-7pm
 - Bounce Houses, Rock Wall, Hot dogs, pizza, chips & prizes
 - Goody bags for students
 - Ice Cream Truck
 - Working on getting a magician, photo booth, dunk tank & face painters
 - Classes will be in charge of Auction Baskets, Room Parents will send out for donations.
- Jen Thorstad - Nominating Committee
 - Almost full slate - still looking for a member at large
 - Voting will take place at May meeting in the Keller Learning Commons

Old Business

- None
- Pilar asked a Q: wants to create a craft for the Wish Tree. Mrs. S asked her to contact her.

New Business

- None

Next Meeting May 9th at 7pm - Keller Learning Commons

Adjourned at 7:47 pm

