

APPROVED AS WRITTEN

Poplar Tree Elementary

PTA Meeting Minutes March 15, 2018

CALLED TO ORDER: 9:02 am

In Attendance: Melanie Read, Kara Balzano, Nischala Aamidala, Heather Phillips, Rebekah McDonald, Katie Booker, Sue Andujar, Holly Walker, Allison Denenberg, Wanda Radler, Jen McNerney, Larissa "Nickie" Wright, Leslie Bartnik, Karen Prem, Tahany Sameda, Heather Ellison, Garima Jair, Adhuna Mathuria, Susan Lowry, Kimberly Powers

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 2018 minutes approved as written.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT, Sue Andujar & Holly Walker

- Security Update: Tightened up entrance procedure, much more mindful of everyone signing in at office. Met with Fairfax County Safety & Security Representative and they were very responsive. Still trying to finalize some additional security plans, particularly regarding cafeteria. We may do some additional lockdown drills after spring break in the cafeteria, by each grade level. County safety and security personnel are truly outstanding. Fairfax is a model for many in the country for security. Many procedures we use have proven to be successful. Fairfax County as a whole is evaluating safety protocols. All safety and security officers for the County are previous law enforcement or military.
- Regarding after school, doors will remain locked until 6 pm. Other schools have a volunteer for each club or activity to sit in lobby to let parents in for children who are in after school clubs. Contact procedures for after school clubs will be evaluated.

Treasurers Report, Nischala Aamidala

Bank statement reconciled for month of February. Balance as of 3/14/18: \$42,019.43

Committee Reports

Nominating Committee, Karen Prem

- Thanks to all who recommended candidates. We do not have slate of officers to present today. We have a few candidates who are strongly considering both empty positions. We will present the candidates via email to PTA members and vote at the next PTA meeting April 19th.

6th Grade Celebration, Heather Ellison

- June 14th from 12-3 pm, in gym.
- Have 25-30 volunteers. Still need volunteer for slide show to help organize photos.
- 147 6th graders. Budget: \$1500, suggesting \$20 donation per parent.
- Considering fundraising nights.
- Wanda Radler would like PTA to consider reevaluating budget for 6th grade celebration. Melanie said that she can go up to the \$300 without a vote. Also Battle of the Books has \$200 they would like to donate to 6th grade celebration. Melanie suggested that the 6th grade show receive the \$300 additional without vote but if there is a request for more, it must be out to vote to the general membership.
- Wanda Radler proposed the following motion: That \$200 from Battle of the Books budget be moved to the 6th grade celebration, AND an additional \$300 added to PTA budget for 6th grade celebration. (This is an addition to the \$300 that does not need to be approved, so the 6th grade

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celebration would have an additional \$800 if this vote is passed). Melanie Read will send out email to PTA members with proposed budget change.

- Discussion about starting a 6th Grade Fundraising Committee for next year strictly for the 6th grade celebration. Jennifer McNerney said that in other school they had required 6th grade class to have four fundraisers throughout the year for their 6th grade celebration. Kimberly Powers also discussed fundraising at school in California, where they sold trinkets, etc at school functions and holidays (such as a boo-gram at Halloween). Additional discussion about this followed.
- Discussion about 6th grade gift for school.

Fire & Ice, Susan Lowry

- May 11th at Chantilly High School from 6-9 pm. Games start at 7 pm. Participation forms for 5th & 6th graders will go in this Friday's folders.

New Business

- Autism Awareness Event – Christina Alvarez (Girl Scout working on her Silver Award) is working with Rocky Run Middle School bringing event to Poplar Tree during PE using Rocky Run students. Requesting grant from Poplar Tree PTA for \$275. Event in April.
- Bike to School Day – May 9 – Call for volunteer to organize something fun.
- Water Bottle Filling Station – still waiting to hear back from county. (from \$1,000 donation from Patient First)
- Movie Night – considering May or June.
- Wanda Radler – Wednesday June 6th – author scheduled
- Allison Denenberg – Recommended creating an Allergy Committee. Would like more policies in place to protect our children. It's a mental and emotional issue. Would like parents to respect school policies about not bringing in outside food. Would like us to work together to make school a safe environment for all kids. Discussion followed.

Announcements - Upcoming Events

- Talent Show – March 16
- Next General Membership Meeting – April 19
- Fire & Ice – May 11

Rocky Run Social Media presentation – April 26th, 7pm

Search "FCPS On in Action" – see Poplar Tree kids.

Lisa Payne stepped down as PTA website administrator. We need a volunteer who would like to take over website duties.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:10 am