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Little Cedars Elementary PTA 7.6.32

MINUTES

Little Cedars PTA General Membership Meeting
September 26, 2017

Board Members Present

<i>Presidents</i>	Tyana Kelley	<i>VP Programs</i>	Emily Walker
<i>Secretary</i>	Lindsay McGee	<i>VP Communications</i>	Andrea Vandehey
<i>Treasurer (Interim)</i>	Zack Whitman	<i>VP Fundraising</i>	Emily Lyons
<i>Membership</i>	Erik Wilner	<i>Co-VP Events</i>	Talia Burrell / Gail Schmidt
<i>Principal</i>	Lew Dickert (Mr. D.)	<i>Watch Dogs</i>	Chris Kasteler (not present)

Meeting Called to Order – Tyana Kelley at 7:03 p.m.

Quorum Present

President Update – Tyana Kelley

- Introductions – Everyone went around the room and introduced themselves.
- (TK) discussed how (ZW) was currently the interim Treasurer as the previous Treasurer stepped down. (TK) asked that a motion be made to vote in (ZW) as Treasurer. Motion was made by Kayla Shreve, seconded by Tracy Kays, and passed without opposition.
- (TK) asked that the membership review the minutes from the last general membership meeting (May 2017), and asked for a motion to be made to approve the minutes. Emily Walker made a motion to approve the minutes from the May general membership meeting, Talia Burrell seconded, and the motion passed by membership.
- (TK) went over the changes to the Standing Rules (see handout with highlights). (TK) asked that the changes be accepted as presented. A member of the PTA asked if the Board had considered where that bank statements or other important information might not get delivered in a timely manner to the Board during the summer or winter breaks if the official address is the school, not a house of a board member. This had not been considered, but the Board would think more about this topic. A motion to approve the Standing Rules as written but with a note to follow up about the address change was made by Emily Lyons, seconded by Tracy Kays and passed with no objections.
- (TK) asked the membership review the vision and goals, noting there was not a change to the vision, but the goals were slightly updated. (TK) asked that these get voted in. Motion made by Talia Burrell, seconded by Erin Wilner and passed with no objections.

Budget Update – Zack Whitman

- It was explained that the budget was created last year by the prior year Presidents and Treasurer, along with the current board President and Treasurer. Mr. D also was involved in the budget meeting. This budget was presented to membership in the May meeting and adjustments were discussed during that meeting.
- TK explained that we had added Dance Man into the budget based on a vote in the May meeting, but we were unable to schedule him for the 2017-2018 school year. The board is keeping Dance Man in the budget because he will be scheduled this year for the following school year and money will be needed to make the deposit.

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- A member of the PTA asked what the new line item “Teacher Sponsorships” was. ZW explained this was added to make it easier to identify when people donated funds for teachers to be sponsored for the PTA. It was suggested by membership that this should be moved to be under Membership on the budget rather than under Fundraising.
- A member of the PTA asked if the science fair budget could be increased this year. The budget only has \$100 but in previous years it has been closer to \$400. Last year the budget was decreased because of budget constraints. EW asked that the chair of the science fair propose an action plan before membership votes on changing the budget.
- A member of the PTA asked if the number of teachers has increased since the original budget was created. The Class Allocations line item is based on the number of teachers multiplied by \$200. Mr. D stated that there is one more teacher in the school than what is included in the budget. \$200 more should be added to the proposed budget for Class Allocations.
- A member of the PTA asked if it is normal for the PTA to be operating at a deficit. The board explained that this has been a topic of discussion for the past few years. There have been arguments from both sides where some professionals state the carryover should be one year’s worth of budgeted expenses, while others say it should only cover a percentage of the annual expenses. The board has consulted with local PTAs, their tax accountant, the IRS, and has considered reaching out to the regional PTA rep and has received arguments from both sides.
- Erin Wilner made a motion to approve the proposed budget with adding \$200 to classroom allocations. The motion was seconded by Emily Lyons and approved by membership.

Fundraising Update – Emily Lyons

- Spirit wear made a net \$294
- The fall fundraiser ends this coming Friday and we have brought in \$24,800 gross. LCE gets to keep 70% of funds that are brought in. The fun run company stated that typically a lot of funds come in the last few days of the fundraiser.
- The goal for the fall fundraiser is \$30k. A member asked where the PTA came up with the calculation that if every student raised \$120 the school would meet their goal. EL and TK said the fun run company provided the number, and it was most likely calculated using 50% of students because that is what the company generally sees participating.
- Sign up genius went out today for water tables.
- The top earner from each class gets a party and picture with Blitz, the Seahawks mascot. It was suggested the board advertise this more.
- School supplies – the PTA is going to receive 20% back for all the problems that we had with the school supplies this year.
- In October there will be a Box Top competition to try and increase box top participation.

Events Update – Talia Burrell & Gail Schmidt

- The Glow Dance will be free to enter but there will be more elaborate concessions to bring in money. There will still be music/dancing, but there will be glow in the dark games around the perimeter of the gym along with games in the MPR. A chair is still needed for the Glow Dance.
- Breakfast with your Superman is still in need of volunteers. This event used to be named “Dads & Donuts” and was rebranded for sensitivity for students who might not have a dad to bring. There is also rebranding for Moms and Muffins, as well as Grandparents day.



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- Skate Deck/Alfy's Dine In is coming up. We need to make sure people have the flyer when ordering pizza at Alfy's.
- Cultural Night coming up in November also needs a chair.

Principal Report – Mr. D.

- Classroom ratios are great this year. Classroom sizes are around 20 which is down significantly from last year.
- This is the 2nd year of full day kindergarten and the school felt more prepared than last year.
- Each year the school has focus words. This year the faculty decided to have words that have deeper meaning. The first month is focused on Self Awareness. A key phrase has been "Check Yourself". Next month the focus word will be Compassion. These are important to the school because the staff at LCE feels it is important to make sure the kids feel comfortable and safe as well as making education a priority. These focus words help cultivate that type of environment.
- The school would like to expand the club options available to the students. There is already a great interest and participation in clubs but they are always looking at ways to get more kids engaged. The school currently has band, robotics, strings, choir, and more. There is talk of starting a newspaper and other types of clubs. The school would like to navigate these options with the board and see how we can bring more to the school in regards to clubs and programs. When kids have an affiliation with the school beyond the classroom this keeps the students engaged.
- Open House is coming up this Thursday night.

General Discussion

- The board forgot a raffle was on the agenda. This is typically to raffle off some spirit wear, free popcorn for the year and free ice cream for the year. The raffle will take place next PTA general membership meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Minutes prepared by:

Lindsay McGee, Secretary