

Dennison PTA General Meeting Minutes

Date: March 17th, 2016

Place: Dennison Elementary School, Cafeteria

Presiding: Jenny Meade, President

9:00am Call to Order: Jenny Meade called the meeting to order at 9:01am. Anne Warren was present as secretary.

9:00 - 9:00 Welcome and Introductions: 17 members were present. ALL have a K student!

Library update for Goodnight Dennison - need tables for kids to be more orderly next year. About 200 people attended and 6 boxes of books were donated. Teachers donated 600 cookies! It occurred on a caucus night. Need new Chairs for next year.

9:01 - 9:02 Approval of Minutes: The January 21 minutes were reviewed by all attendees and approved by Brandi Sciacca.

9:03 - 9:05 Treasurer's Report: Crystal Frigo presented the report. She did an audit and came up negative, not where we thought we were, but there is money there. Ensuring checks written in fall are being cashed (or not). Working on budget for next year and want your input at next meeting on April 21. A workshop will occur at year end as we need to document the leader / budget / playbook per event. Recruiting additional parents and recruiting teachers (morning is a good time for 6th g) to attend meetings.

9:06 - 9:16 Principal's Report: Debbie Morrill presented the report. Piloted digital teacher librarian special as 4th rotation after 4/2015 approval. Helps us prepare our students for 21st C, with better focus on library and tech and 40 extra min of classroom instruction, Mrs. Yeoung has Master's in Tech. *The Tech special survey* respondents were students, parents, and teachers. The survey questions to each group were driven by school board requirements on efficacy.

The results: majority of students & parents responded positively all or most of the time to each question. Teachers responded over 80% on 100% scale to each question. The 4th special addition proved to be a good thing and so it is continuing next year.

Make my voice heard survey was anonymously taken on line by students and measured relationships 3.54, school/district climate 3.29, rigor and relevance 3.34. This is on a 4 point scale with midpoint at 2.5. Specific questions per category were enlightening on parental involvement, work on bullying, challenge, safety, & aspirations. Overall the scores are stable from previous year. It looks good for the students, teachers & parents. We have engaged learners, gaining life skills and preparing to be successful. As a result, the students will have more choices.

Check out great Science Fair results in Eagle Express today.

Destination Imagination (DI) 4 teams competed regionally and 2 are moving on. This is also in the Eagle Express today.

Publisher of math books for K-2 didn't have enough so we moved purchase priority from Open Court reading books to math. Following research and review at the school the math purchase is now in district final approval meeting on March 31.

District calendar 2016-17 is approved and different. **Dennison starts Tuesday August 16th.** On Thurs/Fri **May 18-19 no school due to state track meet.** Registration will again be online. New carpet installation is occurring.

9:17 - 9:40 President's Report:

GoodNight Dennison - books to Eiber Elem library (see above as Ms. Yoeung had to present early)

Intro to new team (did during welcome)

Staff Appreciation - April 25th - 29th presented by Shawn Wine. Doing with Cynthia Richardson. Stick with True Grit theme. Running John Wayne movie in staff room. Dressup on Friday with donations toward PTA. Used CO company for teacher gifts. Donated Einstein, Starbucks, grill lunch from Karpinski's restaurant, hot dog cart, Ted Politte doing breakfast burritos for staff (57!) & sign up genius is coming out for drinks. Doing fun raffle. Setting up before school athletic classes (via Kim in facilities & Lisa in gym).

Eagle Bolt \$1000 Scholarship - D'Evelyn apps coming in. Sent inquiries to counselors/Senior class administrators at other surrounding HS regarding Dennison grads. Need 2 volunteers to help judge with Anne Warren & Lisa Land.

PTA Breezeway Board - Update acrylic boards right at entry way once a month showcasing volunteers, and asking for new specific help.

This could also fulfill a need for posting community needs (i.e. play dates, carpool, health, finance). Perhaps combine with Student Council who has boosted service aspect in recent years. And/Or Build a non school / separate from PTA FB page. Launch with welcome committee and packet pick up. Mandy Mainwairing will Chair.

Trophy cabinet redesign- presented by Mary Sorkin. She wants to use one spot for features such as Achievements, Grit, Successes, Gratitudes. This is beneficial as we cannot put non school or non PTA accomplishments in District publications. Start with teachers at beginning of school year to get best traction.

Science Fair - See Eagle Express.

9:40 - 9:50 Committee Chair Updates:

- Yearbook Chair- Pretty much complete.

- Young Writers-?

- Boxtops and Milk Caps-?

- Staff Appreciation Week- See above in President's report.

9:50 - 10:00 New Business: We aim to start a quarterly volunteer breakfast next year that has specific agenda and discussion each meeting (separate from the social Mom's breakfast).

Announcements and Adjournment: Members agreed the next meeting can be in the morning. Anne Warren made motion to adjourn at 10:07am.

Next meeting will be 9:00 AM April 21, 2016 (NOT at 6:30pm)