

Dogwood Elementary General PTO Meeting
November 12, 2019 at 9:15 am
Dogwood Cafeteria
Recorded by Leanne Howell

Attendance:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elizabeth Gates | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stacy High | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kayla Pence |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Holly Kulp | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Brown | <input type="checkbox"/> Katie Laird |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nabiha Huda | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tina Thorn | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tiffany Smith |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karen Viotti | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hayley White | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annabella Brandon |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Christina Hester | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Midha | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa Navarro |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leanne Howell | <input type="checkbox"/> Ryan Strain | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ellen Moak |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gayle Higley | <input type="checkbox"/> Jamie McGill | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Teresa Price |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paula Bailey | <input type="checkbox"/> Jamie Bialowitz | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heather Fisher |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amy Carter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Casey Carrilo | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joye Phipps |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kristen Boccher | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carie Alley | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carrie Mayrhofer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lauren Wildrick | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amy Wenzel | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kristen Waddell | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debbie Brown | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ann Gee | |

Elizabeth Gates called the meeting to order at 9:15 am and presented gifts to Mrs. Price and to Mrs. Naldoza as a thank you for their service at DES.

October meeting minutes were approved as written.

Mrs. Price, Principal:

- Thank you for reception and for gift.
- First club meetings were held for 4th/5th graders last month.
- There is no set time table for her transition to her new role, nor for her replacement to be named. She is currently working in both her roles part time.
- Thank you to Mr. Smith for a fantastic Veterans Day Program
- A new resource teacher has been added to the staff.
- GEF grant considerations began being reviewed on November 4th. These will be awarded likely in January. DES submitted grant considerations for SEL books, author visits, an outdoor classroom, and a coding program.

Mrs. Fitchpatric, Counselor:

- District is adopting a new program to reduce bullying. Data review is a component of its implementation. Data has been collected from a survey for our 3rd-5th grade students. This info has been shared with our faculty, and with our students as well.
- See attached handout of results to see specific percentages.
- Top two ways for boys to witness bullying: verbal and spreading rumors; top two for girls are verbal and exclusion.

- Nationally and locally, verbal bullying is the most commonly observed outlet for bullying.
- DES students reported the playground and lunchroom as the most common places to observe bullying behaviors (unstructured times).
- 23% of the time, DES girls and boys felt comfortable reporting bullying. This is less than the national average, so improvement will be targeted in this area.
- When students share any type of bullying behavior at home, please report those to the school.
- 3-4% of DES boys and girls reported that they would join in the bullying. We would like that number to be 0%, therefore this will also be targeted.
- Empathy: more than 95% of boys and girls empathized with the student being bullied.
- Fear: 49% of girls and 24% of boys have a fear of being bullied at school at some point.
- Intervention: 49% of boys and girls felt that teachers/staff would stop bullying when it occurs. 27% of girls and 23% of boys felt peers would stop bullying when it occurs.
- You can report bullying to the GMSD tip hotline as well.
- DES classroom instructors will be talking with students by using real life scenarios to reduce bullying, promoted kindness and inclusion.
- This new program, Olweus, will be fully implemented in 1-3 years.

Elizabeth Gates, PTO President:

- Thank you to Mr. Brookshire, Mr. Smith, and Karen Viotti for a great Veterans Day Program and reception. TY also to Holly Kulp, Amy Carter, Carrie Alley and Nabiha Huda for helping.
- Thank you to Amy Carter and Mrs. McIntyre, the teachers/administration, and all the parent volunteers for a great book fair.
- Thank you to Kayla Pence for providing the teacher's dinner on conference night.
- Thank you to Katie Laird for planning October teacher treats.
- Thank you to Holly Barker for coordinating Crazy Chemist day for 5th graders.
- Thank you to Ms. Martin, Mrs. Guntharp and Ann Parker for coordinating Sock Hop and decorating for 3rd graders.
- Thank you to Jennifer Brown and Kathryn Nelson for helping with the Choose to Be Kind Celebration.
- Please volunteer in the health room.
- We have a new cabinet and couch for Nurse Maddie!
- PTO Board, please be tracking your hours.

Leanne Howell, Secretary: please make sure to sign in.

Christina Hester, Treasurer:

- Tax return has been filed, so we are in good standing with the IRS.
- Please text or email Christina when you leave something in the Treasurer's box.
- Let her know at least a week ahead if you need a check.
- When making Amazon purchases using the PTO's account, you still need to fill out a reimbursement form.

- October: \$248 from Marcos Spirit Night; \$1,744 in expenses; \$32,000 will go to appropriations for distribution; \$43,000 left of available funds.

Amy Carter, Book Fair: ~\$17,000 of sales from Book Fair. Thank you to all volunteers!

Tiffany Smith, Ways and Means: Marcos Spirit Night is tomorrow night. November 19th is the Paint a Piece Spirit Night at the school.

Stacy High, Dolphin Tale Ball:

- DTB is Friday, December 6th from 6:30 until 8:30 pm.
- Sign up Genius going out this week for volunteers.
- Amazon supply list sign up going out also.
- RSVP is still active. Please register.
- Email Stacy if you would like to be on the volunteer list to help.

Ann Gee, Room Parent Chair:

- Winter Parties will be December 20th from 10:45 until 11:45 am. Grade level Bloomz info coming soon.
- Chosen Charities: K-adopting another K classroom in another school; 1st-project Night Night; 2nd-Youth Villages; 3rd-Forest Spence books; 4th-Orange Mound Ministry; 5th-Project Night Night.

Annabella Brandon, Yearbook: Ads are due December 13th. Order your yearbook! Send her pictures at Dogwoodyearbook19@gmail.com.

Elizabeth Gates, President: Thank you to Jamie McGill for planning an author visit for Debra Wiles alongside Mrs. McIntyre.

No Old Business

New Business:

Holly Kulp-on behalf of the appropriations committee:

- Dogwood raised \$32,429 through Family Donation Drive.
- Committee was thoughtful in consideration of what to do with this money.
- \$8,419 will be held to use towards our outdoor classroom, contingent upon the approval of our grant for the remainder of the funds.
- The cost of the outdoor amphitheater is about \$25,000.
- If the grant is not awarded, then the appropriations committee will meet again to determine what to do with the \$8,419 that have been set aside.
- We will vote to approve the funds being distributed in this way.

Tina Thorn makes a motion to vote to distribute the funds as recommended by the Appropriations Committee.

Christina Hester seconds the motion.

The motion was passed.

Elizabeth Gates:

- GMSD BOE meeting tonight in the new location! Agenda is online.
- November 18th the HHS basketball team is allowing free admission to all DES students with their issued wristband.
- Next meeting is Tuesday, December 3, at 9:00 am.

Meeting adjourned at 9:56 am.