

Green Trails PTO Meeting

Meeting Minutes: 9:30-11:00 AM

In Attendance: Andrew Ging, Rene Sommers, Katie Nagus, Brooke Senior Arianne Martinez, Martha Hicks, Emily Frese, Leah Curran, Caroline Hoff, Kathy Lake, Katie Rees, Laura DeWoskin, Jennifer Heinz, Shelly Nelson

Principal's Report: Rene Sommers

1. The teachers really appreciated the PTO back-to -school gift. Thank-you cards were shared with the board.
2. As part of our school's recognition as a 2018 National Green Ribbon school, 30 delegators will be visiting our school in October to learn about what makes GT a healthy, happy school.
3. With some budget rollover, the school is considering fixing the garden fence as well as purchasing a new school marquee. The marquee requires specific city permits that Rene is researching.
4. Curriculum night is Thursday, August 30. Rene will introduce all staff. PTO members will be introduced as well.
5. The board had a discussion regarding school Facebook pages. The school as a Green Trails Facebook page that Brooke Griffin posts on. Additionally, there is a GT parents page and GT grade level parent pages. The parent pages are used for families to connect with other GT families. Kindergarten and first grade teachers also create grade level pages. Grade level pages are not implemented past first grade.
6. All teachers are required to send a weekly newsletter.
7. New buzzbook format based on infinite campus data is still being researched.

President's Report: Kathy Lake

1. Kindergarten registration is scheduled for 1.23.19
2. Gator run 5K is scheduled for 10.6
3. Curriculum night is 8.30
4. PTO board voted to support the no tax increase Parkway bond issue slated for November. The bond issue focuses on building improvements and safety measures. The board approved a donation of \$1/child in support of the bond issue. Katie Nagus motioned to approve and all board members approved.

President-Elect Report: Leah Curran

1. Volunteer extravaganza is scheduled for 9.13. Tables will be set up by when a volunteer is available. For instance, for volunteers who can only help on weekends, or help with opportunities from their homes, during the day etc.
2. Additional recommendations regarding information to gather that evening includes volunteers who have donation resources and volunteers who can share their talents or strengths.

3. Also available at this event is the required volunteer training that Rene will facilitate.
4. The group discussed the possibility of a welcome night for new families to GT.

Secretary Report: Emily Frese

1. The secretaries worked with Rene and Denise to obtain a new student list (not including kindergarteners).
2. All new students received a welcome bag with a t-shirt for each new student in the family, a magnet and a PTO welcome letter.
3. 31 bags were distributed at the Meet The Teacher event.
4. Denise will regularly provide new family names to Risa and Emily for the creation of new welcome bags as new families come to our school.

Treasurer Report: Laura Dewoskin, Shelly Nelson

1. Electronic PTO money form is now available. The forms can be signed and submitted electronically. Receipts will need to be also submitted either in person to Laura or by taking a photo of the receipt and submitting with the form. Laura will email the money form to board members.
2. A new format for the budget was introduced.
3. The new budget that was discussed over the summer was reviewed at a high level.
4. Several of the areas received increased budget amounts.
5. Shelly reviewed with the board that we've done a good job staying within budget the past couple of years and we have some flexibility to increase budgets and accommodate additional spending if applicable. The board discussed the implications and the importance to abide by all bylaws that govern the budget and retainer.
6. The board discussed the possibility of increasing PTO budgets as well as supporting larger initiatives like the garden fence or items on Rene's wish list.
7. If the board maintains over \$50,000, certain tax implications go into effect.
8. The board tabled the budget vote until next meeting.
9. All board members are to review the new budget, ask questions, recommend changes to the presidents by next meeting.
10. The group discussed the possibility of sending a survey to better understand what parents would like to see the PTO fund.

Fundraising Report: Katie Nagus

1. GT Trivia planned for February 23, 2019. The theme is GT Stock, aligning with the 50th anniversary of Woodstock.
2. Primary clothing company is sending home brochures and is offering 20% of sales as a back to school fundraiser
3. Paypal account is still active. Katie is researching special rates and setup for non-profits.
4. Green envelope is still active and GT has received its first donation through Green Envelope!
5. Katie would like some time to discuss fundraising at curriculum night.

Programming: Martha Hicks

1. Carnival planning is well underway. Discussed custodial support. Martha will work with the secretaries to make sure support is confirmed.

2. School store; pre-ordered school supplies were successful. If we place an order with the company by Aug 31 for next year, the company will give 10% back to GT PTO.

School Services: Jennifer Heinz

1. Discussed school parties and possibly changing the winter party to a school event focused on random acts of kindness.
2. The board discussed the 5th grade luau and the importance of scheduling a school event at a time to accommodate the luau.
3. Winter party would be on December 20, now a half day instead of initially planned full day.