

THES PTA Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 5, 2017, 4:00 p.m.
THES library

Present: Eliza Platts-Mills, President; Lisa Robertson, Principal; Dave Lamkin, Treasurer; Gretchen Otto, Secretary; Jonna Ball, Fundraising; Jennifer Cheatham, PSS; Lisa Etzel, 2nd grade teacher

Eliza called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Eliza moved and Jonna seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the October and November board and November general meetings. Motion carried.

Principal's report: The walk-through with Trustee Rodriguez went well. He was very engaged and interested. In the middle of PBL. 2nd grade project is about THES—our culture, traditions, events. 4th and 1st are doing Native American projects and are connecting. How can we share PBL with a broader group of parents? Something in the evening? Feb performance? Mini-meeting happened with Lisa, Carrie, Eliza, Regan, Julie to discuss planning for Jan/Feb. January has professional development. Also getting two new staff members: One for 5th grade DL and one TA. Benchmarks coming in Jan.

Treasurer's Report: See attached report. Final net proceeds of fall carnival \$4665.77. Agreement on not needing 4 custodians for Fall Carnival. Dave's term limit is coming—we will brainstorm replacements in Jan (along with president and fundraising chair—and a few teacher recruits). Dave is making a Treasurer Manual! Yay! No updates on memberships or mini-grants.

Communications: Regan is going to take over doing many of the communication duties.

Advocacy Team report:

Travis Park community is starting to get organized thanks to the effort of residents and BASTA (Building and Strengthening Tenant Action) organizers. Residents are submitting maintenance requests and starting a petition to management. They have also formed a steering committee. Because of the chance of retaliation against resident leaders, we will be ready to support residents in standing up for their rights. Off campus support continues for some immigrant families. Next meeting will be Dec. 13th, 5:30-6:30pm.

Thunderboard Report

Discussions around teacher training, esp. new teachers, esp. ones who start mid-year. Discussion of use of new planning days.

Proposed changes to all four pillars based on feedback/discussion from spring retreat. Key changes in current draft: "Whole Child" more inclusive, "PBL" more descriptive, "BL" few changes. Biggest change is to "Dual Language" pillar, which has been renamed to "Multicultural Engagement" to be more inclusive.

PTA membership meeting postmortem: Small group discussions didn't go as well as as desired. Need to plan logistics more carefully.

Upcoming Events Check-In/Planning:

Plan for remaining 2017 events: Tamalada and Cultural Festival. There will be an Iraq table! Planning great, full steam ahead.

Plan for Spring 2018 Events:

--Young Artists and Young Scientists Days will be combined together as a STEAM event and Regan will coordinate it.

--Science Fair: January 25, Ms. Penney is organizing.

--February and April General PTA meetings, will plan in new year.

--I Heart THES, see separate item.

Fundraising: Team has had a meeting and phone call and have been busy planning for I Heart THES. Proposal to revamp of donation levels, more specificity of what they are paying for. Banners to advertise businesses under investigation. Blurbs on website with info on supporting businesses? More focus on local families donating because that's where most of our donations are coming from. Also: start sooner with advertising fundraiser.

Refreashing play areas: Eliza submitted grant application for KABOOM! to get some funding.

Spanish/English information conversations: looking for parent volunteer to help coordinate this as a PrimeTime activity.

Aside on Primetime funding: We are funded for spring but need to start thinking about how to get funding for 2018-19 school year. AISD has a PrimeTime office where we could get data to support. We will need to go out and advocate for funding. Need to approach city, county, district, etc. Who can we partner with? To be discussed early next year with Advocacy Team.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Minutes by Gretchen Otto, Secretary

Approved 1/9/2018