

Garfield Elementary PTA Board Meeting
September 11, 2023
Meeting Minutes

Meeting started at 6:30

Attendees:

- Karen Deckard - President
- Marianne McIntosh - Vice President
- Megan Christopher - Bookkeeper
- Brendon Chertok - Principal
- Terra Sullivan - Secretary
- Gina McCune - Treasurer

Approval of Minutes - No corrections or objections

Financials -

- Reimbursements for last year end of year - booked in June of last year
- No new expenses/revenue so far in July. Money Minder and movie licensing were paid.
- Note included in Financials document for designated funds - theater and playground structure
- Move to Approve - Karen. Approved unanimously

Brendon Chertok / School updates

- Two positions that still need to be filled: DLC position was posted today; 1-2 Position, have a staff member in place but will go through a formal posting process, should be decided within the next week
- Third position, music teacher: hired but incoming hire can't start yet, hoping this will happen soon. Have interim coverage until incoming hire begins
- PTA fundraising for playground, very excited about this. Have a question to staff regarding some other possible funds, plus the funding from the district. Will need to get a small group together to review potential purchase options. Narrow to 3-4 options and then have kids weigh in. Hope to do this soon and looking for hopeful mid-year install
- Parent Involvement. Looking to expand parent involvement and address academic needs. How we have done this in the past and how we can shift approaches to address academic needs. May include doing a curriculum night, working to confirm a date with staff within the next month or so. Community member has offered to host a math night for families. Grant for music experience with kids (similar to last year African drumming).

- Fence was installed over the summer
- Questions:
 - Staff support liaison role for PTA? Brendon will work on this.
 - Playground funding - how did the the specific number come about? Would be a good idea to reach back out to Hillary Seidel. Fence funding came from safety funds.
- Science Fair - Mr. McIntosh and Mr. Finney - later winter or spring, date TBD. Mr. White also thinking about an Art Night. This would be an opportunity for PTA involvement and connecting with families

Programs and Events

- Increased family involvement with PTA and events this year will be a big priority
- Paper sign up worked well in past, plan to send something out so that families can give feedback on activities they are interested in
- Track Stars - are recess schedules the same? AM: 10:20 (3-5), PM: 1:20 (K-2). Gina & husband will take lead on organizing volunteers, need to set up a handoff with Kate. In past years have started in October, but could begin any time we are ready. Ideas: bulletin board (there is an existing board with last year track stars info) and connect with Capital City Marathon. With fence, may be doable with fewer volunteers. Could also have some students help. Earn a shirt? Or other incentives.
- Fall Fundraiser - sales or pledge type? Could also do a passive option (like Mod Pizza, Barnes and Noble) - Emily can set up. Discussion of options. Will reach out for more info from See's Candy. Open for any other suggestions
- Book Fair - similar to last year
- October Staff Appreciation - similar to past year, opportunity for broader group to participate, ideas welcome. Lunches, dinner, etc.
- Fall Fling - fall carnival, do as a trunk or treat, have more folks (PTA/community members/classrooms?) decorate or set up a table/booth. We have the same games/activities as last year. Combined timing with book fair was good last year.
- November - first Movie Night this year. December - thinking about a paid option with child care (drop off). Thinking about other food/treat ideas, bake sale or cotton candy machine? If PTA purchases a snow cone or cotton candy machine, could be used for different events throughout the year. Research prices and discuss in more detail at an upcoming meeting, review budget for general funds options.
- Winter Giving - consider supporting only students of Garfield age and below (current students and younger siblings), so older students would apply through their middle/high school or could be directed to Mr Mo for support. General agreement on this

approach, and one clothing item and one toy OR gift card option (\$25). Will start outreach and make sure application goes out to families ahead of time. Can do with another PTA board member or parent volunteer to shadow/partner with.

- Student Store - community donations, some help from PTA last year with kids selecting, wrapping. Idea for this year - combine with BINGO night or movie night and have a craft option that kids can do and have an option during school hours (a few hours, 2 or 3 hours each) for kids who don't attend in evening. Can Brendon get feedback from staff? What works for students/schedule, ideas or thoughts, feedback from DEI staff group?
- Science on Wheels - Grant Funded through org. Provide dates no later than October for options in January timeframe. Several options to choose from, have heard that Blood & Guts option was good. Megan will work with Brendon on dates, aiming for January, good lead in for science fair in spring

First community meeting

October 5, 6:30 PM

Superintendent Murphy looking for dates to meet with parent groups - Nov, Dec, ...
Will make sure this is up on the web site along with regular board meetings.

Other discussion

Paperwork for Bank Account - need to coordinate a time to update board members on bank account.

Meeting adjourned 7:50 PM