

# MINUTES

## Thornebrooke PTO General Meeting

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*Date | time* 01/17/2020 / 09:19am | *Meeting called to order by* Karissa Martin & Dena Reyes – Co-presidents

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### In Attendance

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Cheryl Scranton, Eve Pafford, Marlee Jacquette, Laura Van Baalen, Irhelma Pieterse, Karissa Martin, Toniann Lentine, Lauren Whittington, Jussara Post, Anne Hetzel, Danielle McCoy, Lindsay Roth, Alessandra Romano, Julie Soares, Jennifer Julian, Amanda Rearden, Allison Taliaferro, Allison McMullan, Krista Costanzo, Lisa Hiracheta, Kristin Harris, Liz Rusnak, Debra Zambito, Joanne Grace, Sharita Gosa, Beki Russo, Christopher Daniels

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### Old Business

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Karissa and Dena welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming. Meeting called to order at 9:23am.

First order of business - approval of minutes from last PTO General Meeting (08/26/19). Motion to approve by Marlee Jacquette. Seconded by Allison McMullan. All in favor. Minutes approved as presented.

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### The Principal's Report

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- Mr. Daniels thanked everyone for coming and for supporting for Thornebrooke.
- It is a busy time of year with various events and formal teacher observations.
- Budget discussions for next year are coming up.
- He is proud of Thornebrooke's academic achievement. We are in the top 25%. We have top teachers and our math team is also doing well.
- Both Literacy Night and Hearts for Arts nights are coming up (see upcoming dates)
- School staff is still in flux. We are still looking to hire a new registrar and P.E. paraprofessional
- Next week letters will go out asking for parents to complete the AdvancEd parent survey. Please take the time to complete.
- Jump rope for heart fundraiser for the American Heart Association – OCPS encourages participation
- There was an unexpected \$80,000 budget cut based on October student numbers, but Mr. Daniels was able to work with the county and crunch the budget to reduce that to a \$17,000 cut.
- The Florida Legislative Session is coming up where many rules and guidelines are reviewed. Teacher pay will be discussed. There are reports on the news about proposals for change in teacher pay, but any proposed changes must go through committees until approved. Since the recession in 2008, Florida has lagged on funding in education. Per student funding has been the same for about 11 years. Fewer young people are going into the field of education. Generally speaking, pay for teachers is low nationwide. Education doesn't always have the biggest voice, but parents can make a difference. Legislators do listen. Emails help. Mr. Daniels will give an update.
- Any questions?

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## Committee Reports

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- Guardian Angels – Dena spoke on behalf of Lynne Schrabner and thanked everyone for supporting Guardian Angels. In November, Thornebrooke supported families through the Food Drive and Turkey Jar contest. Over \$1600 in change was raised and over 2500 food items were donated. These programs supported 30 Thornebrooke families. Each family received food and also got a \$30 gift card. The Angel Tree was a great success again this year providing gifts to our Angel families for the holiday. Mr. Daniels added that families are touched by the generosity of this community.
- Holiday Shoppe – Laura Van Baalen thanked everyone for volunteering. The PTO made just under \$3000 this year with the Holiday Shoppe – similar to last year’s profits. We are looking for interested people to organize the Holiday Shoppe next year.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Celebration – \$75 celebration fee has been collected by majority of families. There is still time to play for those who have not. T-shirts will be ordered soon. Yearbook dedication page information will go out next month. Yearbook cover design contest submissions due next week. Nothing Bundt Cakes Fundraiser forms will go out next week. Will be taking orders through Jan. 29. Cakes to be delivered Feb. 13 (one day before Valentine’s Day).
- Cashbacks – Please keep clipping or scanning! Discussed new scanning system. While the change has been frustrating for some, it really is easy to scan receipts. Money is automatically sent to Thornebrooke. Next submission is March 1.
- Spring Carnival – Earlier than in years past. Looking for people to help to organize food for the carnival. Letters have gone out to area businesses, but we are also looking for someone to go door to door to gather donations for silent auction. Please see Lisa Hiracheta if you can help. Most room moms have signed up to make a class basket. They will be collected the week of carnival. Eve Pafford is running the teacher auction and mentioned that funds raised go directly back to the teachers. There will be many volunteer opportunities available. There are also sponsorship opportunities. It takes a lot of people to put together the largest fundraiser of the spring! Thank you!
- Spirit Nights – Next spirit night at Creamery on Thursday, Jan. 23. Looking into dates for a February spirit night at Ellie Lou’s.
- Family Dance – This year’s theme is: Boots, Scoot, and Roundup. The Family Dance will be held on Saturday, April 18 at Gotha M.S. We will need many volunteers!

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## Budget

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- Discussed income portion of budget. For accounting purposes, the money last reported under ESE was moved to Spiritwear only to see the numbers together. When kindness shirts close, that money will go back to the ESE line item.
- Expenses - Campus Enhancements line item allowed us to purchase a new vacuum for the school. Educational Enhancements allowed us to purchase 7 new laptops for the school.
- Carnival is a great time for a Treasurer Elect to shadow the current treasurer. Danielle McCoy has been nominated for the role of Treasurer Elect. Motion to nominate Danielle McCoy for Treasurer Elect was made by Toniann Lentine. Seconded by Marlee Jacquette. All in favor. Approved. Welcome Danielle!

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## Standing Rules and Bylaws

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As discussed at the beginning of the meeting, we need to officially vote to approve our Standing Rules and Bylaws. Every three years we go through an in-depth review of both. The Executive Committee has reviewed the existing Standing Rules and Bylaws the past few months and made a few changes. Copies were distributed at the beginning of the meeting for review.

Motion to approve the updated PTO Standing Rules and Bylaws made by Marlee Jacquette. Seconded by Allison Taliaferro. All in favor. Approved as presented.

Questions?

Meeting adjourned at 9:59am

Minutes compiled by Julie Soares

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## Upcoming Dates

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| Thursday, Jan. 23 | Spirit Night at Creamery 4-8pm                    |
| Tuesday, Jan. 28  | Family Literacy Night at Thornebrooke 5:30-6:45pm |
| Tuesday, Feb. 4   | Spirit Night at Ellie Lou's                       |
| Tuesday, Feb. 11  | For the Love of Arts night at Thornebrooke        |
| Monday, Feb. 17   | No School – Presidents' Day Holiday               |
| Friday, Feb. 21   | PTO Board meeting                                 |