

# MINUTES

## Thornebrooke PTO Board Meeting – video conference

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*Date | time* 02/25/2021 / 7:30pm | *Meeting called to order by* Co-Presidents Karissa Martin & Dena Reyes -7:31 pm

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### In Attendance

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Karissa Martin	Jennifer Elzeer	Kimberlie Reinhardt	Karen Francoforte
Dena Reyes	Allison McMullan	Christin Petroski	Lili Brown
Toniann Lentine	Lynne Schaber	Catie Gall	Joanne Grace
Lauren Whittington	Jussara Post	Adrien Hadley	Kristin Allgire
Laura Van Baalen	Liz Rusnak	Irhelma Pietrese	Christopher Daniels
Jennifer Julian	Rebecca Russo	Kristine Skelin	

**\*Board Meeting held via Zoom video conference**

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### Call To Order and Welcome – Dena Reyes

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- Dena welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.
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### Faculty Snack and Teacher Appreciation – Laura Van Baalen

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- We just had our most recent Faculty Snack last week. It was a Grab and Go Lunch provided by Marco's Pizza. They gave us a great deal on entrees and we appreciate that.
  - Another Faculty Snack is being planned before Spring Break. It will likely be a snack instead of a lunch. We are thinking a Fun in the Sun theme. We will probably post an Amazon Wish List as well as a Sign-Up Genius as some people prefer to order and others prefer to drop off items.
  - If anyone is interested, we will be needing a Committee Chair for Faculty Snack for next year
  - Teacher Appreciation Week will be May 3-7
  - We hope to start putting things together for this year but we are still limited as to what we can do
  - We will be using some of the Silent Auction items to raffle off to the teachers, which will be a fun new thing to do for the teachers
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### Spirit Night – Liz Rusnak

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- Our last Spirit Night at Ellie Lou's was a great success. It was one of the most successful nights we have had at Ellie Lou's. We made \$367.
- West Orange Creamery's Spirit Night is Feb 26 from 4-8pm. We are hoping for a good turnout. There are pick-up options there as well for things like Family Packs
- We are working with Grain and Berry to do another by the end of the year.
- We are working on the details for the 2-day event with First Watch. Gina is working on setting it up in their system to allow them to do it.
- NYPD wants to have another event in May. Liz asks if the 13<sup>th</sup> or the 20<sup>th</sup> is preferable. The 13 was answered as the preferable date. That will be the last Spirit Night of the year

- We had talked about doing some sort of virtual Game Night or Trivia Night. Liz reached out to Event Specialists, but they do not do any virtual events. Toniann had sent out some info with a lot of options. The committee will review that and try to plan for after testing.

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### Kindness Shirts & ESE News – Lynne Schaber

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- We are going to do Kindness Shirts again this year. Proceeds go toward supporting the ESE program at Thornebrooke.
- There are two designs available. A screen is shared to show the two options: “Kindness Is My Super Power” and “Have Courage and Be Kind”
- Flyers/Order Forms went into teachers’ mailboxes for distribution for F2F.
- Toniann is going to help with online sales and information blasts. Information is being emailed to Homeroom Parents to forward to their classes.
- Sales are due on March 5<sup>th</sup> so that we can distribute our awareness day for World Down Syndrome Day which we usually celebrate right after Spring Break as well as Autism Awareness Day on April 2.
- ESE News – We still have some funds for this year’s budget. The team has requested some extra supplies for their classrooms as well as some curriculum materials. We should be able to use the rest of those funds for those requests.

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### Guardian Angels – Lynne Schaber

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- We have additional funds due to our generous Thornebrooke families from our Food Drive as well as the Angel Tree and the allocation of funds that were moved into this committee.
- We will be able to provide 39 of our Guardian Angel families with Spring Break Gift Cards from Publix

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### Principal’s Report- Christopher Daniels

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- City of Ocoee holds an essay writing contest for 5<sup>th</sup> graders. All schools participate: charter, private, and public. Thornebrooke had 3 finalists and the overall winner. The ceremony was online this year, it is usually at City Hall with the mayor.
- At the school, we are finishing teacher observations. This round is finishing on March 1.
- March 3 is a long Wednesday
- March 8 is the SAC
- March 12 – No school for students
- March 27 – Picture make-up day
- On Wednesday, Thornebrooke held a remembrance event to celebrate the life of Kim DiMaggio. Her whole family came up from South Florida to see the bench installed.
- Our school budget will be coming out at the end of March. Looking at preliminary numbers at what OCPS is projecting, they are estimating that we will have an additional 100 students over what we have right now. He is not sure where those numbers are coming from, as we lost more students than we expected. He thinks a number somewhere in the middle is likely going to be the true number. We had about 120 fewer students than we expected in August.
- Staff has asked about the new neighborhood being built. With the construction timeline, it will not affect the entire next school year.
- We are planning Field Day. Everything has to be triple approved. We might try to do 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade before Spring Break and then do the other grades a day at a time after Spring Break

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## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade- Allison McMullan

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- Nothing Bundt Cakes fundraiser was very successful. We sold 498 cakes, at \$2/each profit, that was almost \$1,000 raised.
- Reminder to follow up on some communication to submit:
  - A Kindergarten photo or two. These photos should be your child only.
  - 5<sup>th</sup> grade photo (if you are virtual and did not have photos done at school). If they had photos done at the school, we will have those for the yearbook.
  - What they want to be when they grow up.
- Also for the yearbook, we are hoping to get some more photos through the elementary years of children in small groups, with friends, clubs, etc. There is a FB page for these photos to be uploaded. They can also be emailed to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade mailbox.
- Some parents may not be receiving PTO emails. It is suggested that room parents use the teacher's list as some students have been coming and going and the room parent's list may not be up to date.

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## Nominating Committee- Toniann Lentine

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- According to our by-laws, each year the Executive Committee must appoint a nominating committee of 5 members who must be accepted by a majority vote of the Board Members present at this meeting to serve on the Nominating Committee
- The job of the Nominating Committee is to present a proposed slate of Executive Officers for the following school year. The Nominating Committee is to present the proposed executive slate at our April general meeting and then we will vote on that slate at the May general meeting.
- The proposed Nominating Committee members are: Joanne Grace, Amanda Rearden, Danielle McCoy, Lauren Whittington, and Toniann Lentine. Because it has to be approved by the Board, we need a motion, a second, and a vote.
  - Jussara Post makes a motion to approve the Nominating Committee that Toniann has presented
  - Jennifer Elzeer seconds the motion
  - All in favor say aye. All in favor. The ayes have it.

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## Budget – Dena Reyes

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- There has not been much change since it was presented at the general meeting.
- Aside from the faculty snack and other initiatives to support the teachers, there has not been much activity. Everything is in good order

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## Any Questions? New Business

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- Mr. Daniels mentions 2 things: State testing is pretty close to absolutely on. The state legislature can change, but it is not likely. They have extended the testing window to bring in the LaunchEd student. The 95% threshold that has to be met to qualify as an "A" school, that will likely be addressed in the upcoming session.
- Parents should have received a phone message from OCPS to clarify the term they use for security. It was called "lockout". It will now be called "secure". This will mean something happening on the outside of the school where we will shut down until everything is secure.
- For the survey, we met all of the percentage qualifications from parents that we needed.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00pm

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## Announcements

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1. February 26 – Spirit Night at West Orange Creamery
2. March 3 – Long Wednesday
3. March 5- Deadline for Kindness Shirt Orders
4. March 12- No School for Students
5. March 15-19 – Spring Break