

MINUTES

Thornebrooke PTO Board Meeting – video conference

Date | time 03/25/2021 / 7:30pm | *Meeting called to order by* Co-Presidents Karissa Martin & Dena Reyes -7:35 pm

In Attendance

Karissa Martin	Jennifer Julian	Kimberlie Reinhardt	Lisa Hiracheta
Dena Reyes	Lynne Schaber	Irhelma Pietrese	Candace Barnes
Toniann Lentine	Danielle McCoy	Alessandra Romano	Christopher Daniels
Lauren Whittington	Jussara Post	Karen Francoforte	
Laura Van Baalen	Liz Rusnak	Lili Brown	

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

Call To Order and Welcome – Dena Reyes

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

- Faculty Snack- Fun in the Sun themed snack was right before Spring Break. It was a great success.
 - Our next Faculty Snack will be April 9- we are still working on the theme, but there will be an Amazon Wish List posted. That will be testing week as well.
 - Teacher Appreciation (May 3-7) – Lisa and Kirsta are working on everything. It will have a Superhero theme. Working out the details.
 - They are working on finding a boxed lunch option for a grab n' go lunch.
 - Teacher Appreciation Kick-off lunch will be the week before due to testing
 - There will be raffles from Silent Auction donations.
 - There will be fun decorations outside to greet them as they walk in.
 - Trying to keep it low key for the parent portion because there are so many still learning from home. We do not want it to not be overwhelming for the room parents.
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Guardian Angels & Kindness Shirts – Lynne Schaber

- Kindness Shirts were a great success. The teachers loved them too.
- Those funds will go toward the balance for the cost of the shirts and support for the ESE classrooms
- Ms. Bodiford and Ms. Henley are helping us figure out what they need in curriculum and supplies and will create a wish list.
- Guardian Angels – we had a nice response from families
- Mr. Daniels was happy that we were able to provide the families with Spring Break gift cards

Spirit Night – Alessandra Romano

- We have had tremendous success with Spirit Nights this year.
- Ellie Lou's and West Orange Creamery brought in more funds than in the past couple of years.
- Next Wednesday will be at the NEW Tijuana Flats at Maguire and Colonial. We are thrilled to have this new partner.
- April – we are not yet confirmed with First Watch. Still hoping that we can make it happen.
- The last Spirit Night for the year will be May 13 at NYPD. This will be to celebrate the end of the school year and we are also excited to celebrate that NYPD was recognized as the West Learning PIE of the Year.

5th Grade – Dena Reyes

- We want to respect all guidelines, so we will not be able to have a big celebration, but we still want students to get their awards and make it fun.
- We are foregoing the 5th grade fee this year and will provide students with their yearbook/ tshirts
- Making good progress in getting Kindergarten photos turned in
- Hoping in those last 10 days or so of school that they can be recognized with things like extra recess, rewards, special lunch, etc.

Principal's Report- Christopher Daniels

- We received a lot of “no’s” from the district on 5th grade celebrations. The county really only recognizes celebrations for grade 12.
- The 5th grade team feels good about doing videos and potentially 2 classes at a time for some outdoor activities and recognition.
- Letters are going home from Grades 3-5. **F2F**: we will test and stay in compliance for Covid. **Launched**: we will have a plan for them to come in. There is no allowance from the state to do testing at home. The rules are that all students Grade 3-5 have to take a state assessment.
- Mr. Daniels agrees all 3-5 graders should be tested, but he is not going to force anyone.
- He hopes the state legislature meeting now will have some flexibility regarding the accountability for the schools in terms of testing.
- Summer School- about 10% of students will be able to go to Summer School. Details still to come, but we are likely to have one class per grade. If there are not enough students, we may combine a couple of grades. It will be TES teachers and will be a full day with a lunch time. If you did not get a letter about this, it means your student is at grade level or above. Bus transportation will likely be provided.
- CoVid update- we had 2 cases reported over Spring Break, but it was toward the end of Spring Break.
- We have gotten more students back. It is about 80% F2F, 20% Launched
- ESY – Will have over the summer. It is a one-month summer school for ESE students and students with higher needs. There will be 2 sessions
- Working on the budget. It is not bad, but it is not great. He will be able to keep most everything in place for next year. The big thing we are missing is rental fees from after school programs(tennis, golf ASP). Those monies go toward supplies in the summer to purchase: Scholastic News, etc.
- ASP has been cut about 70%.

- Any questions?
 - **Question:** Some parents have been asking about volunteering once parents are vaccinated?
 - **Answer:** He is about 98% sure that answer is no, not for this year
 - **Question:** Have a lot of TES teachers decided to do the vaccine?
 - **Answer:** He cannot ask them, but from how people are talking, he believes at least half have received the vaccine.
 - **Question:** Can you share our wonderful news???
 - **Answer:** Each area of the county (between 33-35 schools) gets to recognize top performers as far as ADDitions and Partners in Education. For the first time in many years, we have 3 very worthy winners for the West area:
- Karissa Martin – Winner of West Adult Volunteer of the Year – recognizes volunteers that go above and beyond over several years
- Dena Reyes- Winner of West Essential Volunteer of the Year – for going above and beyond during the pandemic to support their community
- NYPD- West area PIE of the year
- CONGRATULATIONS AND VERY WELL DESERVED!!!

Budget- Danielle McCoy

- Danielle shares her screen. Not too much to report, asks for people to look over their committees
- The Kindness Shirts were a great success. The income brought in was \$2,296.93. The expenses were \$1,950.29. Since that was much more successful than we budgeted for, we exceed our projected expenses by \$950.25
- Requests a motion to approve to increase the expenses although it offsets the income what we made from the shirts
- Jennifer Julian makes a motion to increase the budget by \$950.25 for the Kindness Shirts
- Lynne Shaber seconds the motion.
- All in favor Say Aye. All say aye. None opposed. The motion passes.
- We will increase the budget by \$950.25
- Danielle scrolls through the budget for all to see and asks that if anyone has questions to contact her

Questions and New Business- Dena Reyes Toniann Lentine

- April 13 will be the next Board Meeting – at this meeting will be the presentation of the Executive Committee for next year
- May 11 will be the final meeting for the year – at this meeting we will do the voting for the Executive Committee. We need to have as many people as possible so that we can have a quorum.
- Any Questions? None mentioned
- Dena thanks everyone for attending.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:04 pm

Announcements

March 31- Spirit Night at Tijuana Flats (New Location)

April 9 – Faculty Snack

April 13- PTO Board Meeting

May 3-7- Teacher Appreciation Week