

Eastridge Parent Teacher Organization
Monthly Meeting
November 1, 2016 7pm Eastridge Media Center

Welcome & Introduction,

Members in attendance: Emily Dutter, Lora Carpenter-Janike, Paul Welsh, Lisa Hoffman, Cara Frost, Sian Jones-Jobst, Lauren Kolb, Melissa Zahourek, Ann Bender, Tracy Boothe, Deb Dabbert, Laurie Holman, Megan Paul, and Chris Hansen

Approval of the Minutes from 10/4/16: Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report, Kelly Braswell: No report due to illness.

Principal's Report, Deb Dabbert: First quarter went by quickly. Thanks to Ann Bender for the success of the Fall parties. Red Ribbon week was last week. Movie Night is this coming Friday. She introduced the LPS District Strategic Planning survey which will be e-mailed to families in the next few days and the Propelr Card fundraiser.

- LPS District Strategic Planning: The School Board is working on their strategic five year plan for years 2017 - 2022. Statistics regarding the changes in demographics and student performance of the last five years were presented. An e-mail with a link to the survey will be sent to families. The survey consists of five guiding questions which touch on pertinent concerns in education over the next five years. The link will expire in two weeks. Parents, staff, students, and community members will be contributing feedback.
- Propelr Card for LPS Foundation: A handout was provided giving an overview of the propelr Card program. The card is reloadable and can be used for payment at various merchants. A certain percentage of money spent will go to the PTO. Mrs. Dabbert will research if the Lincoln Public Schools Foundation keeps back a specific percentage.

Teacher's Report, Lauren Kolb: Ms. Kolb discussed the way chrome books are used in the classroom. Third grade has integrated them into every subject for use. Students have also been learning to input data into a spreadsheet and create graphs from that information.

Old Business/Committee Update

1. **Eastridge Earnings Update, Chair: Wendy O'Brien:** No report.
2. **School Directory, Chair: Sian Jones-Jobst:** The directory is done and was distributed in Friday folders. A goal for next year is to move toward digital submission of information while maintaining confidentiality of personal information online.
3. **Fall Family Fun Day (Oct. 6th), Chair: Emily Dutter:** The event was moved inside due to inclement weather. The String Beans performed in the gym and the families in attendance had a lot of fun. There were not many sales of Spirit Apparel at the fun night.
4. **Classroom Parties (Oct. 13th), Co-Chairs, Ann Bender:** The parties were held on Oct 13. The students enjoyed the activities and crafts. The consistent organization of activities per grade level worked well. The next parties are for Valentine's Day. A co-chair is still needed.

New Business

1. Dine Out Nights, Chair: Emily Dutter for Tyler Dutter: A check for \$250.00 was received from Runza. We received a check for approximately \$90.00 from Noodles and Co. for a dineout night event last school year. The upcoming Noodles dine out night is Nov. 9. Families will have to let the cashier know they are with Eastridge. Volunteers are not needed for this event. Maggie's Vegetarian Cafe will be having a dine out weekend Dec 3 and 4 with 10% of sales to Eastridge.

2. Skate Nights, Chair: Emily Dutter for Heidi Widner: This will be held Nov. 15. The theme will be announced in this week's Friday folder.

3. Movie Nights, Chair: Melissa Zahourek: Zootopia will be showing Nov. 4. Concessions will all be \$1 for ease of making change. Concessions will open earlier and the movie will start a little later than previous movie nights to make the concessions process easier. It is being asked that pop not be taken into the gym due to spills and extra work for the custodial staff. It was discussed to place the recycling containers closer to the trash so they are noticed and better used.

4. Eagle's Nest Committee, Co-Chair: Lora Carpenter-Janike: The planting boxes are still producing with cold season crops. Produce will be offered via school messenger to Kindergarten and ELL families. These are the student groups that did the planting. Grant writing is on-going. Back packs with nature-based curriculum for each grade level will be developed to add activities outside of the growing season. It was suggested that Modern Woodmen of America may be a good resource for learning packets and matching of funds.

5. Holiday Lights Drive 2016-2017, Co-Chairs: Emily Dutter for Angie Alesio and Bob Reeker: Drive will kick off Nov. 15. 10% of this year's earnings will be donated to Lincoln Firefighters Operation Warm. Lincoln Journal Star has started promoting this. KZUM will be doing some free promoting as well. The website gogreenholiday.com provides details on the drive. Volunteers can still sign up for picking up of lights from drop off location.

6. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting, November 10th, Emily Dutter: Parks and Rec is holding a board meeting Nov. 10th at 4 pm at their offices at 27th and A regarding the proposed relocation of Taylor Park Playground. Community members are invited to attend.

7. Spring Adult Fundraiser, Co-Chairs: Emily Dutter for Bob Reeker and Juliann Riley: The tentative date is April 29, 2017. The hope is to reserve the same venue as the last adult fundraiser, Holmes Lake Clubhouse.

8. PTO Bylaws Committee, Emily Dutter: Proposed changes to the by-laws were introduced for review. The changes include: limiting membership to parents and guardians, and staff; no membership dues; timelines for auditing have been adjusted; money counting and check signing guidelines were clarified. The annual meeting has been defined as the May meeting. Approval of these changes will be brought forward at the December PTO meeting.