

Eastridge Parent Teacher Organization  
Monthly Meeting  
March 7, 2017 7pm Eastridge Media Center

## **Welcome & Introductions**

**Members in attendance:** Emily Dutter, Lisa Hoffman, Erin Chambers, Deb Dabbert, Megan Paul, Paul Welsh, Lora Carpenter-Janike, Wendy O'Brien, Sarah Hanson, Lindsey Stanley, Katelyn Johnson, Alan Eighme

**Approval of the Minutes from 1/10/2017 and 2/7/2017-** January and February minutes approved.

**Treasurer's Report, Emily Dutter for Kelly Braswell:** Current checking account balance is \$12,295.64 with some payments outstanding including Scholastic Books.

**Principal's Report, Deb Dabbert:** Thanks for the success of current events: Edible Car Night, Valentine's class parties, and Science Fair. Students celebrated Nebraska's 150th birthday by each class making a top ten list of what they like about Nebraska and participating in singing Happy Birthday across the state. Planning for classroom distribution for next year has begun. The number of sections for each grade has not yet been determined. Friday, March 10th is the end of third quarter. March is Music in the Schools Month. Each Wednesday is a music themed-dress up day.

**Teacher's Report:** Mr. Eighme talked about how much the Book Fair and the raffle to give books to selected students is appreciated. Mrs. Johnson said the year is going well and the 4th graders are definitely ready for spring break.

## **Old Business/Committee Updates**

1 **Master Calendar 2016-2017, Emily Dutter:** A dine out night for March 29 at the Amigos at 70th and A has been added. This will be held from 5-8 with 15% of sales going to Eastridge PTO.

2. **Eagles' Nest and Grounds Committee Update Co-Chairs: Lora Carpenter-Janike:** The committee has recieved a \$2,000.00 grant from Whole Foods. These funds will be used for seeds and planting materials, extending garden size, and backpacks for class activities. The Eagles Nest project is wrapping up with the completion of Spring projects. Maintenance will be the remaining task.

3. **Eastridge Earnings Update Chair: Wendy O'Brien:** \$315.00 was received from first semester's labels. More volunteers would be appreciated. A scorecard format will be sent home for students to turn in with the box tops to help with organization. Updated information regarding the program will be coming home in the future.

4. **Scholastic Book Fair, Emily Dutter for Cara Frost:** The gross earning is \$4,400. A new co-chair for next year is needed. Lindsey Stanley is interest in co-chairing. Thanks to all volunteers.

5. **Class parties: Emily Dutter for Ann Bender:** Thanks to all volunteers for class parties. Any feedback from teachers or parents is welcome. A co-chair for parties is needed for next year.

6. **Edible Car Night, Emily Dutter:** Event was well organized and there were enough volunteers. More food could be purchased for next years event.

7. **Science Fair, Deb Dabbert reporting:** This event was successful with more participation than last year with 102 students involved.

### **New/Upcoming Business**

1. **Skate Night, Chair: Heidi Widner,** This will be held Mar. 23rd. The theme is "Color your World". Flyers will go home in this Friday's folders. Cost is \$5 plus skate rental.

2. **Bike Rodeo, Co-Chairs: Chris and Sara Hansen:** April 7<sup>th</sup> (Rain Date 21<sup>st</sup>) Great Plains Bike Club will be assisting. The program is coordinated by the Kiwanis. For more information regarding the types of skills and course layout please visit the Kiwanis and County Extension websites. Registrations forms will go home Mar. 24.

3. **Spring Recycling Drive, Angie Alesio and Bob Reeker, co-chairs:** April 22<sup>nd</sup> The drive will be from 10 - 12 noon. Adult volunteers are needed. The website lists items that can be recycled and Christmas lights can be donated.

4. **Adult Fundraiser Night, Co-Chairs: Bob Reeker and Juliann Riley** April 29<sup>th</sup> Please contact either chair if you are interest in volunteering to set up. Cost is \$20 per person..

5. **Walk A Thon, Deb Dabbert reporting:** This will be held May 16 from 6-7 p.m. with a \$10 registration fee per family. This is the last year proceeds will go to support the Eagles nest since it is near completion. This year the goal is to purchase storage containers and more musical instruments for the music area.

6. **Defy Gravity Night, Emily Dutter:** This will be similar to a dine out night with 20% of entrance fees going back to Eastridge. This is in the planning process and is tentatively set for Thursday, April 13. Times could be 5-8 or 6-9. Feedback was the 6-9 may work better for working parents and lateness will be less of a problem since school is not in session the next day.

7. **Give to Lincoln Day 2017, Emily Dutter:** This is scheduled for May 18. UNL has designed a new online platform which will lower processing fees for donations. Emily will attend the training session on behalf of the PTO.

8. **Interview Committees for LPS Principal replacements.** Mr. Eighme participated in the teacher interview committee and Emily Dutter was on the parent interview committee. There were four committees total. Ten candidates were interviewed. Committees were provided with structured questions and then allowed more individual question and response opportunities

9. **Mayor's Run Club: Lora Carpenter-Janike:** Lora and Jim Gustafson will be heading up the club to prepare children for the Mayor's Run on May 6. The participation limit will be 45 students. The club will run every Monday from April 10 through May 8 with the last meeting being a celebration after the race. How to best include sibling groups that want to participate at different age levels was discussed. It was suggested to have a line on the registraiton form to indicate if there are siblings also registering.