

TES Parent Teacher Group Meeting

September 13, 2018

Present: Ramona Cline, Amber Shireman, Michelle McDowall, Lindsay Anderson, Sarah Trent, Kimmy Bixby, Pamala White, Sasha DeLeon, Kathryn Anderson, Natalie Moon, Laura Cherry, Christina Wolf, Tricia Tallman, Stephanie Wilcox, Brianne Jenkins, Lisa Magnus, Janae Hanan, Brianna Contapay, Nicki Gorham

1. Lisa called the meeting to order at 6:05.

2. Introductions

a. The board introduced themselves: Lisa Magnus, President; Stephanie Wilcox, Vice President; Tricia Tallman, Treasurer; Brianne Jenkins, Secretary; Nicki Gorham, Principal; Kathryn Anderson, Teacher Liaison.

3. Principal Update

a. Mrs. Gorham stated enrollment for this school year is down a bit. She has been looking at the grade levels and has quite a few students on the waiting list. There are 14 Kinders on the waiting list. She wants to be mindful of adding students and does not want to overload the classes.

b. Fall assessments are currently happening. This is where we get an idea of where our students are at academically.

c. A new buzz-in system is currently being installed and implemented. Every school in the Springfield School District will have this system installed. At a particular time in the day, all doors in the building will lock. There will be a black box by the front door, a camera and intercom system. Someone at the front desk will have to buzz-in a person requesting access and may require photo ID. Things are going to feel more tightened. We want to make sure the person with your child should be with your child.

d. Due to the new system, some things that have been in place at TES may be changing. For example, parents will sign-in for morning meeting and parents will not be able to wait in the lobby during pick-up.

e. A new volunteer/visitor sign-in system called Help Counter will also be implemented at the front desk instead of a sign-in sheet. It will be a web-based system and volunteers/visitors will sign-in on an iPad. This program also allows us to email volunteers if there is a need to fill. All volunteers must fill out a background check form before volunteering.

f. A question was asked about when the back gate will be locked in the morning. Due to safety, the gate will be locked at 9:00 or 9:15.

4. District Update

a. See notes about buzz-in system above.

5. Teacher Liaison Update

a. Mrs. Anderson passed around a thank you note from the group of teachers able to attend the neuro-education seminar over the summer. They were so grateful and many said it changed the way they teach.

6. Budget

a. Lisa reviewed budget highlights from the 2017-2018 school year. Contributions from the Parent Teacher Group that were able to truly enhance the academic and community experience for Thurston Elementary.

b. A copy of the budget was distributed by Tricia. All attendees were asked to review the budget to approve it for the year. Lisa motioned to approve the budget for 2018-2019. Stephanie gave a second. All were in favor.

c. The issue of track maintenance was raised. This year maintenance is due. Mrs. Anderson is looking into this and talking with teachers about their opinions of if maintenance is needed and also talking to Mr. Frame. Lane Forest Products performed the maintenance in 2013 and the cost was \$1,800.

d. 2018-2019 budget requests or needs evaluation: None requested at this time.

7. Calendar Review and Highlights

a. A copy of the 2018-2019 PTG calendar will be published on the school website and Facebook page.

b. Kindergarten SOB Social - The social was very successful! Laura Cherry did a wonderful job organizing the event and there was great feedback from parents and teachers. A question was raised about holding an event the evening or weekend before the first day of school for parents who have to work or cannot attend the morning of school. Lisa said we can absolutely hold events like this, we just need the volunteers to step up and organize them. Sara Trent offered to look into organizing this for next year.

c. Jog-a-Thon - The decision was made this year to move the jog-a-thon to the fall so it hopefully won't be as warm as the spring. It will take place September 28th. Britta Wyatt has offered to coordinate the jog-a-thon. She may need parent volunteers to help.

d. October is Socktober!

e. Friday, October 5th is the first Popcorn Day. Popcorn volunteers are needed for all popcorn days throughout the year. A sign-up sheet was passed around.

f. Watch-Dog Fridays - The first Watch-Dog date is Friday, October 12th.

g. The first SCRIP order will be October 22nd.

h. A Civil War Box Top Contest will take place during the month of November.

8. TES Event Wish List

a. There are several events the PTG could host, if parents would be interested in volunteering to organize them. A few of those items are: Splash! night, STEAM/STEM night, Kinder weekend social, outdoor movie/food cart night (partnering with Food for Lane County). Sasha DeLeon offered to look into a Splash! night for February, Sarah Trent offered to look into the Kinder welcome night, and Lisa will look into organizing food cart night.

9. Volunteer Needs

a. Popcorn

b. Family Fun Night

- Raffle Basket Coordinator: Stephanie said Andrea Brandsma may be interested.

Lindsay Cantlen also did a great job last year and may be available.

- Thank you letters for donors: Sasha DeLeon

- Bounce Houses: Laura Cherry

- We will be moving FFN to April in order to increase the volunteers able to help.

c. Other Fundraisers

d. It was requested if anyone knows of parents who would like to volunteer, but can't come to the PTG meetings, encourage them to contact the PTG.

10. Curriculum Night

a. Will take place on September 26th from 6-7 pm. The format is still being determined by TES staff.

11. Tasting Tables

a. Mrs. Gorham received an email from Nutrition Services. They would like to introduce tasting tables to students to encourage them to try new foods. A volunteer was requested to organize this project. It would take place during lunch time. Brianna volunteered to coordinate this project. Mrs. Gorham will contact the district liaison and let her know we are interested. We can put out a call for more volunteers on Help Counter.

12. Parking, Drop-Off and Pick-Up Update

a. The Springfield Police were contacted for help with determining solutions. Lisa will be working with Lieutenant McKee to come up with Solutions. They will be doing a walk-through in the next few days. We also asked about placing cones in the areas on Thurston road where cars should not be parking.

b. A letter will be going out to parents about the parking procedures. A lot has been done by teachers this year to improve the process and it is much appreciated.

c. Teachers will be out patrolling along Thurston Road over the next few days as well to remind parents about parking procedures.

13. Meeting was adjourned at 7:15.

Submitted by Brianne Jenkins