

MEETING MINUTES

EAGLE School EPO Meeting

February 9, 2016

Board Members Present

Jodie Johnson (President), Irene Ong (Treasurer), Helen Lee, Laura Dry, Patti DuBeau, Alperen Ozalp, Scott Mason, Chad Thums

Guests Present

Carole Mason (Director), Amy Bina, Jimlene Pleva, Kris Schwartz, Gwen Cassis, Nancy Barabas, Jerry Neviaser, Chris Turner, Jenna Boyd

Presiding

Jodie Johnson

Call to Order

Jodie Johnson called the meeting to order at 8:35 am.

Minutes

Dia will send out the minutes for January's meeting to the EPO board via email and they will need to be approved electronically.

Director's Report

Carole shared with us how Eagle students are excelling outside the classroom as well with school sponsored clubs.

- Last week the Eagle Math Counts team placed 3rd in its competition.
- The Robotics team advanced to the state-level competition and competed both in individual and group events, with the Eagle team finishing 17th overall.
- Carole dropped off Eagle students submissions for the Yahara River Writer's competition.
- NHD at Eagle occurred yesterday.
- This Saturday, the Science Olympiad team will be competing in OshKosh.

She also shared that the school is still conducting Nest visits. They currently have 30 applications for Nest spots for the 2016-2017 school year. The past couple of years, the Nest classes have not filled (there are 14 openings for each of the two classes). There is still some uncertainty as to how to deal with young Nest applicants (those with late birthdays). Someone asked if a child is able to repeat his/her Nest year, and Carole said it's possible and that it would have to be looked at on a case-by-case basis. But she emphasized that the Nest class was not intended to serve as a 4K program. Carole is also currently working on putting together the Eagle summer program and is still looking for teachers or parent volunteers to fill in some available days/spots by teaching an area of expertise they may have whether it is hobby or occupation related. The summer program is scheduled for the last two weeks of July. She will need to make a decision soon whether or not the summer program will take place. On Thursday, February 18th (Early release day), there will be a performance by flutist Dionne Jackson in the auditorium from 10:40-11:20. Parents are invited to attend. Carole shared that the Security

Committee has begun to receive quotes on some of the security measures they are looking to implement. The school board meets Sunday and will need to decide how much the school will be able to cover. It has been decided that front door security will require access codes and not a card.

Treasurer's Report

Irene Ong went over the budget. She reported that the only deposit made was from the Noodles & Company fundraiser. A few family dues were deposited, while reimbursements for Game Night were paid out. Not all units have been using their class funds so far. Gwen Cassis will remind Unit Parents that those funds are available to them.

New Business

Fuddruckers Benefit Nights: Helen Lee said that these nights will be held Thursday, February 11th and Tuesday, February 16th. On either of these days, whether lunch or dinner, Fuddruckers in Middleton will donate 15% of identified sales back to the school. Two days were requested to better accommodate families' schedules.

School Board Meeting: Jodie Johnson shared that she will be attending the next school board meeting on Sunday, February 14. She will be sharing with them a presentation regarding the potential school gym expansion. Jodie will report back to the EPO the feedback she receives from the school board.

Parent Conferences Dinner for Teachers: Jenna Boyd reported that she is still working on the details for the dinner provided to the teachers on Conference day. She will be sending out a sign up email soon. Jimlene Pleva offered to help out with the planning of the event. Carole advised to avoid Italian cuisine.

Spring Fundraiser: Jerry Neviasser reported that planning for this event is in full swing. The kick-off meeting occurred about 1.5 weeks ago. Chairs for the various committees have been selected and planning for the silent auction has begun. He assured the plans/steps are being well-documented for future Spring Fundraiser planning. Jerry will send list of Chairs to the EPO board. They are considering having a theme for the Fundraiser this year – “Connecting Families”. They are also considering having each unit parent take charge of an aspect of the event. One major change from previous years they are looking into is having the non-visual (experiential) auction items to be moved on-line. This will allow a longer period of time for these “items” to be bid on as well as free up some space in the gym for other things such as eating. They also are considering changing what takes place on the main stage by moving the karaoke to a separate classroom and having performances and featured acts on the main stage. The goal of this change is to bring more families and people to watch the main stage. All other areas/rooms will remain mostly the same as previous years. Carole shared that a TGIF (that same day or another date nearby) will be an instrumental and vocal showcase of student acts and performances so it may be good practice for the Spring Fundraiser. Jerry is also looking to the EPO to select/recommend a fundraising goal for the event. He would like to be able to direct “general donations” to a particular cause/goal. There are still plans to have the laptop raffle as well as the roving raffle. It was suggested that Auction bid updates be projected on a screen.

Old Business

Rockin' Jump Community Building Event: Helen Lee reported that \$154.50 came back to the school for this event. There was some positive feedback from parents at the meeting that this was a good replacement for the Keva Night held previous years. In future years, the organizer should consider whether this should be continue to be spread out over the entire weekend or if the facility should be rented out for a few hours for Eagle only in order to provide a stronger opportunity for community building. It was decided that there are pro's and con's to both scenarios.

Alumni Panel: Patti DuBeau shared that the Alumni Panel was held on Wednesday, 1/27 and hosted/moderated by Susan Findley. The panel was open to students and parents from any grade, although it is usually attended by 7/8's and their parents. High school freshmen, juniors and seniors came from West (3), Memorial (3), Edgewood (1), and MCDS (1). They spoke about workload, transitions, security, etc. Overall turnout of current Eagle students was light.

Movie Night: Jenna Boyd and Scott Mason shared that the Movie Night was a great time for both kids and parents. It provided an opportunity for parents to interact while their children watched the movies. There were about 50 kids that attended – a smaller turnout than last time this event was held, but less chaotic. Gwen Cassis requested that Unit parents be asked to send out reminders to parents about the event.

Book Fair Update: Ellen Bunn shared the results from the Barnes & Noble Book Fair held in December. There was a great alumni turnout for performances. Next time, Ellen and the book fair committee will look for ways to get the families of younger students more involved. The school earned \$3,000 in B&N gift cards based on identified sales that day. These gift cards will be used to develop specific areas in the library collections. The B&N book fair also allowed Eagle to raise \$350 for the We Need Diverse Books organization – this was raised through donations made at the gift wrapping station. It was suggested to utilize room parents to better communicate what will be going on at the book fair (activities, performances, etc.) Next year, the school will hold an Usbourne book fair December 2. The book fair will be held in the resource room next to the library.

Communications: Scott Mason is still working on an App to make information like the Aerie-Gram available on mobile devices. He is still making some minor tweaks and is looking to send out a link to parents to try out through the AerieGram.

Box Tops: The collection period has officially started.

School Supplies Project: After further research, the only potential supplier required supply lists to be turned in to them in January, which does not work with Eagle's timing. So it was decided that, although the idea was good, it will no longer be pursued.

Announcements & Adjournment

Jodie thanked everyone for coming. The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Helen Lee, EPO Board Member