

MEETING MINUTES

EAGLE School EPO Meeting

March 8, 2016

Board Members Present

Jodie Johnson (President), Tanya Buckingham (Vice-President), Irene Ong (Treasurer), Dia Caulkins (Secretary), Laura Dry, Patti DuBeau, Helen Lee, Mahr Malik, Scott Mason, Alperen Ozalp, Chad Thums

Guests Present

Carole Mason (Director), Nancy Barbaras, Amy Bina, Gwen Cassis, Marjorie Cuthbert, Stella Krall, Jerry Neviasser, Daniel Siehr, Chris Turner,

Presiding

Jodie Johnson

Call to Order

Jodie Johnson called the meeting to order at 8:32 am.

Minutes

The minutes were approved online as written.

Director's Report

Carole shared that conferences are coming up right before Spring Break. The timing for Spring conferences will be a little different in future as this year there were 25 make-up conferences which were necessary to schedule at alternate times due to scheduling conflicts. This becomes quite an undertaking for the teachers. Carole informed us that a new set of security doors has been ordered along with a new keypad for entry. Each person will have a code to use in order to gain entrance to the building. Also, there will be two video cameras watching the entrance ways and three panic buttons mounted which will notify the police immediately if depressed. All of this will come together when the doors are installed. In addition, there will be a new set of doors placed on the back of the school sometime this summer. Carole also reported that she spoke with the Executive Board about the bleachers in the gym. At the moment the school board is not interested in embarking in taking on additional debt in the amount that would be necessary to install bleachers in the gym. Carole will go back to the designers and get a solid design and figures for current costs to build. It is a multi-year fund raising project that the EPO could take on should they wish to. Carole will continue to advocate for the bleachers but at the moment they are not a priority for the Executive Board whose primary goal is providing academic challenges for the students of EAGLE. Carole shared that there will be some shifts in the teaching staff at the school, but that will be finalized in April. There is a need for a couple of half-time teachers in Spanish and Maths sections due to the increased number of students in the school. Carole will continue to use past hiring practices which allow for flexibility to find an excellent teacher who is an expert in his or her field, has gotten teaching credentials or is near to them at some point, and who would work well with exceptional students like those at EAGLE.

Treasurer's Report

Irene Ong went over the budget. Irene reported that she received \$154 from Rocking Jump. There was one cash out for \$80.99 for Alumni Night. She suggested that we send out a reminder to unit parents about Teacher Appreciation Day.

New Business

Laser Tag: Helen Lee said that we are currently both a few chaperons and students short. She is waiting to hear back from some people. There was a suggestion to open it up to the 3/4s or perhaps split the shift to garner more people.

Box Tops: Dan Siehr reported that there were \$745 worth of Box Tops submitted so far and that there will probably be between \$800-\$900 in the end. He will make sure that the final count is listed in the Aerie-Gram. The student council talked about wanting the money raised to go towards some lighting for school dances, so that is the manner in which the money will be spent.

Scholastic Book Order: Dia Caulkins stated that the final order of the year will take place after we return from Spring Break.

Spring Fundraiser: Jerry Neviasser reported that planning for this event is moving along. There will be both an online and in-person auction. There will not be a text message component to the online bidding this year as the online auction is new this year. They do have a plan in place for items that do not sell at the online auction. There will be a pre-sale raffle again this year and Bill Buckingham is working on the layout, logo, design, and printing of the raffle tickets and information. He will then be getting everything together in envelopes and delivering them to the student lockers. Jerry also reported that there will be announcements in the lunchroom about the raffle. Holding with tradition there will be karaoke again this year. In order to keep things organized Jerry has been using a computer program to layout all the tasks so nothing is missed and it is easier to keep on top of everything. The Spring FUNdraiser committee are also using a better documentation process to help new folks in future, including a feedback portion at the end so that they can report on what was successful and what wasn't so that each new person is not having to reinvent the wheel.

Internet Safety Speakers: Tanya Buckingham shared that this will take place on a Thursday in April. Susan Finley will talk about social media. Susan Finley and Jack Maloney will talk about internet safety. There will also be two university students there at this presentation which is aimed at adults.

Soarin' Awards: Gwen Cassis said that these have not yet taken place. The reason that they were created was to recognize the many people who do a lot of work to support EAGLE school but are not on the board. This was set up to be secret and happen twice per year, once in the fall and once in the spring. One of the best ways to find parents who are helping is to go and talk to the teachers and find out who is really helpful. Then names of people are put forward and then the EPO votes on two of the nominees. Perhaps in the future this award might look different and include EPO members because they do a lot of work as well.

Board Member Search: Tanya Buckingham is working on figuring out terms and who is doing what over the next couple of years. She has sent out emails and is currently collecting information so that she can determine where the greatest need lies. There is a concern that many of the board members are parents of older children and those children will graduate leaving holes in the board. There is a need to find parents of younger children who would be interested in joining the board.

Lawn Signs: Gwen Cassis is looking into the cost of purchasing about five – seven durable lawn signs that can be put out on the lawn at the pick-up locations announcing things such as EPO meetings, Game Night, and the Spring FUNdraiser, etc. This will make it harder for parents to miss these events, and potentially increase participation.

Old Business

Funds Allocation: Jodie reported that parents were surveyed about where they would like to see funds

spent when the time comes for allocation. The outdoor classroom is no longer in the running so we are back to a top three with technology and scholarship receiving the greatest amount of support. Science was also an area which received support and the teachers have expressed an interest in a “Weather Bug” weather station. This is a weather station which would go on the roof and would collect data about weather in a variety of ways which would then be combined with curriculum the teachers could use in class. The cost for the program, which includes wiring, installation, etc., ranges from \$7,500 with the fewest options to \$15,000 which includes a lot of curriculum options. The version in which the teachers have expressed an interest is in the middle of that range, and the science teachers might be able to come to a future meeting to answer questions about the system.

Community Building - Fuddruckers Family Benefit Night: Helen Lee reported that Fuddruckers brought in \$125 and people reported that they enjoyed it.

Announcements & Adjournment

Jodie thanked everyone for coming. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dia J. Caulkins, EPO Secretary