



EPA Board Minutes



Date: 1/11/22

Time: 7:00 pm

Meeting called to order by: Stephanie Sikes

Location: [Zoomhttps://us02web.zoom.us/j/2909697825?pwd=bnd1bW1UMHAvTnJDdHVzZURlajRnOT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2909697825?pwd=bnd1bW1UMHAvTnJDdHVzZURlajRnOT09)

Attendance: Kim Bailey, Amanda Pitoscia, Morriah Mryszuk, Amy Toomey, Kathy Jenkins, Rebekah Joseph, Stephanie Sikes, Amy Cagle, Shayne Brodsgaard, Nikki Risinger, Becki Lee, Lori Thompson, Kristen Meritt

Approval of Minutes: Moved by Kathy Jenkins, seconded by Amanda Pitoscia, unanimously approved

Treasurer's Report: Recent incomes include \$114 from Box Tops, \$382 from spirit events

Old Business:

-Funds for staff support

Stephanie shared that an email was received from Ms. Johnson asking the EPA for funds to help purchase items to help improve morale. (Specifically self-care items totalling @ \$850) It seems she was not aware that we had already agreed with other administration to help fund activities/items with surplus budget. Amy proposed adding this item to our budget so that it would be clearer/easier to manage that budget item. Kathy moved, Nikki seconded and the motion passed.

In discussing this need to boost teacher morale, members discussed teacher turnover and ways we could possibly help. It was brought up that teachers in some schools and districts do not need to use their sick/personal days for days lost due to Covid. The EPA is curious how ESA is handling sick days for staff with Covid. Is there a way for the EPA to help so that teachers would not need to use their days? Stephanie is going to contact the administration to see if we could find a way to use funds to help in this area.

New Business:

-Spring Fundraiser

Morriah and Rebekah shared their thoughts on whether or not we should do a spring fundraiser this year. Two main areas of concern were: a lack of need for facility upgrades and the concern for adding the stress of a fundraiser to the lives' of families and staff. A few suggestions were made for facility upgrades: a stage for the commons area, furniture for classrooms that currently have used/mismatched/broken furniture, and copy machines. Members also discussed ideas to help implement a low-stress event: flat fee for participation (everyone can participate), spirit days in conjunction with the fundraiser and a combination event with field day. It was decided that we WOULD have a spring fundraiser and that the goal for funds raised would be "staff appreciation and facility upgrades". The proposed dates are 3/21 - 4/1.

Committee Reports:

Back to School Supply Kits- Inga Kaidel

Book Fair - Becki Lee and Nikki Risinger

Currently scheduled for the last week of March- format still unknown.

Communications - Kathy Jenkins

Please send pics from Kwench

Community Partnership - Ian Foley

Cultural Events - Melissa Damann

Hospitality - Amy Cagle, Nikki Risinger and Emily Blanchard

The committee is planning events for the recently announced early release days. Staff Appreciation is planned for the month of March (1 event per week). Luncheon will take place but not sure if it will be buffet or bagged. Snacks are planned for 4/4 and 5/2. There will also be a luncheon on the last day of school.

Lost and Found - Amy Toomey

Membership - Kim Soden and Mandy Pitoscia

Looking for speakers for our next general meeting on 3/8

Middle School - Candy Garza

Candy has reached out to the new upper school counselor.

No-Fuss Fundraiser - Rebekah Joseph

Shop and Earn - Lori Thompson, Mandy Pitoscia and Jen Ludgate

Spirit Events - Chantay Stanley and Shayne Brodsgaard

It was decided that Friday 1/21 will be a spirit day to go along with our weeklong event at Kwench. A new event at City BBQ is scheduled for 2/24.

Spirit Gear - Kristen Meritt and Kathy Jenkins

Fleeces are still on track to be delivered in January.

Spring Fundraiser - Rebekah Joseph and Morriah Mryszuk

Stock the Shelves - Kim Bailey and Amy Toomey

Mandy asked if parents can donate any month even if they do not have a child in that grade. Kim and Amy said they would gladly accept donations anytime from any family.

Sunshine Committee - Whitney Carey

Miscellaneous:

Grade level/class parents: could help organize stock the shelves and copying

No word yet on changing the lunch schedule back to 2 grades together in cafe

Administration attending EPA meetings- schedule?

Does the school have plans for 2-22-22?

Can the upcoming early release days become spirit days? (2/9, 3/23, 4,27)

Upcoming Dates:

Spirit Events: Kwench Juice Cafe in Raleigh from 1/17 to 1/22 and City BBQ on 2/24

Next Board Meeting: 2/1

Next General Meeting: 3/8