

Prospect Mill Elementary School PTA

Type of Meeting: General Membership Meeting

Date: March 3, 2021

Location: Virtual via GoToMeeting



Panda Strong!

Attendees:

Sarah Penney (President), Laura Lenker (Vice President) Mandi White (Treasurer), Emily Hale (Recording Secretary), Meredith Colburn (Corresponding Secretary), Lisa Rice, Karen Jankowiak (Proud Principal), Lorien Covelly (Assistant Principal), Cindy Powell, Lauren & Miguel Zambrano, Laurie Campbell, Amber Scurti, Erin McCadden, Lisa Herbert, Marla Posey-M, Sarah Penney, Stephanie Stefanoni, Melissa Zorbach

Meeting start: 7:30 pm

Meeting start and welcome– President Sarah Penney
We have quorum.

Request to approve minutes from last meeting (October 15, 2020).

Lisa Rice motions; Miguel Zambrano seconds the motion.

Minutes approved and will be filed.

AGENDA:

VP/Membership Report, Treasurer's report, President's Report, Secretary's Report, Principal's Report, Teacher's Report, Committee Reports, New Business

VP/Membership Report:

Vice President, Laura Lenker, we have met membership goal and nothing has changed.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer, Mandi White, reports that there was a successful Rita's night and Macrons night. We are starting Square 1 Art and the number that is in our budget is from 2020. We are hoping that 2021 will come in even higher. In terms of membership we are at 219 and right at budget. We are normally at much more but this has been a different year. Kudos to Lisa Rice for above budget on spirit wear. Corporate donations are from 2020 but we have some more coming in. While this balance is a lot lower than usual please keep in mind that we successfully paid out our playground. We have plenty for our much deserved Staff Appreciation Week. The 5th grade patriot program may not happen just because of different situations and it is such a challenging time with having extra people in the school. We did not have any entries for reflections which accounts for \$200. We are still in line with all of our other PTA expenses.

President's Report:

President, Sarah Penney: We had our scavenger hunt and had a great turn out and the winners all got their prizes. We got gift certificates donated from Sweet Frog so that all participants will get something - we will hand those out soon. The day that the teachers went back to school we had treat bags for the staff. It had some snacks, pens, and sweet things. We are still talking about possibly having a book BINGO now that the kids are back. We will talk about it and see what we can do either in person or virtual. We got our playground decals and they look great (shows decal). The playground is open and kids are playing on it. We hope to have a playground ceremony where we can have our donors to come. We would like to do it when it is warm – possibly June. If we have a limit on the number of people who can attend then possibly we can have people come in waves. We will do community reports later.

Recording Secretary's Report:

Nothing to report.

Corresponding Secretary's Report:

Nothing to report.

Teacher/Staff Report:

Mrs. Jankowiak asked Mrs. Cindy Powell for a response on the 5th grade patriot program. Mrs. Cindy Powell: We had hopes to have the 5th grade patriot program but we decided to not go ahead with it this year for the logistics of it all.

Mrs. Jankowiak, thank you all for your patience. If you hear parents saying they didn't know that children were going to go back to 4 days a week and they now want to opt in then I am going to respect that and allow anyone who wants to change their minds. We are looking at March 29th for the start of the 4 days per week. We are looking at shortened versions of some of the state testing for 3rd – 5th grades. It is part of COMAR which is regulation for Maryland. Mrs. Covelly has made busing charts for cohorts. Right now we have kids eating at desks but when we go back to four days tables will be brought back in. We do not have plexiglass in the lunch room but we are making sure that surfaces are super clean. We ensure that hand washing and kids will then be 3ft apart. All of the kids are excited to also have free lunch. There is a lot of joy with the kids being back and also we have received so much love from the kids and parents. The car pick up and drop off has been going well and we have had lots of help from others, to include Danielle Spigler. We are loading 15 cars at a time. As for when people can change from virtual to coming back I will be putting out something Friday. The four days will be Monday – Thursday. Fridays will still be asynchronous. If there are LMC (Last Minute Car riders) is acceptable when needed and we are prepared for that and we will make sure your child

will has passes. Thank you for everyone who has sent their child back and we respect those who have chosen not to. Please let us know if there are any questions or need to have changes to your plan.

Mrs. Lorien Covelly: Thank you for your support and let us know if any car riders switch to bus. We can support that but just let us know so we know where everyone is. For parents of 2nd and 3rd graders the COGAT (Cognitive Ability Test) was canceled for last year. Current 2nd graders it has been postponed and I believe it means they will take it as 3rd graders.

Committee Reports:

Yearbook: Sarah Penney reports that we will be doing a yearbook and it will be 5th grade heavy. If you have any pictures please send those in as it will help us build it up. Melissa Zorbach asked if students will be getting yearbook photos this year. Mrs. Jankowiak expressed that there is concern with bringing someone into the building. We will have to work on that and will be sure to communicate with the families.

Teacher Appreciation Committee: If anyone is interested in joining the Teacher Appreciation Committee after this meeting please join us. We have some ideas but a lot depends on how much we can do in person verses virtual. Mrs. Jankowiak states that while we cannot gather to eat and we all eat in our classrooms but we can use Teams to see one another.

New Business:

Marla Posey-M, Maryland PTA President elect, reports that starting next week on March 9th – 11th is the National PTA Legislative Conference and it is \$50 to register. This year it is virtual. You can register at www.pta.org

Meeting wrap: 8:26 pm

Minutes respectfully recorded by Emily Hale, Recording Secretary