



Kenneth Butz Elementary School

KBES PTA Meeting

Monday, November 4, 2019

1. **Call to Order at 7:05**

General Attendees: Susy Whitney, Debra Polise, Monica Gasnarkova, Kate Soporowski, Jennifer Marshall, Meghan Johnson, Sukhveen McClain, Melissa Curtis, Christa Fritz, Susan Klotz, Kelly Apruzzi, Jon Lock, Kristen McMullen, Michelle Stouffer

Board Attendees: Paul Soporowski, Kari Kirkpatrick, Bobbi Bromley-Matthews, Renee Solderitch, Wendy Juniper

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **Secretary Update**

- September 2019 minutes were approved by Michelle Stouffer and Kate Soporowski seconded the motion to approve.

4. **Treasurer Update**

- Audit/Banking/Budget update
 - Taxes are being prepared for filing, Bobbi will be signing the taxes November 5
 - The PTA currently holds a CD worth \$5000 that the board has decided to move into the general budget with membership support. Present members agreed.
- Check cashing timelines for events
 - Checks are collected by the office secretaries. The PTA volunteers who are on the committee running the event then come in to collect the checks. It can be several weeks before checks are deposited. Most checks are not deposited until after the event or fundraiser they are collected for.

5. **Vice President of Volunteers Update**

- Takeaways from the Book Character Party, which was the first major volunteer opportunity.
 - We had about 65 volunteers working on the holiday party.
 - It's always best to have as many kids go home the "normal" way as possible. No students will be picked up after the winter celebration due to event timing.

- Sign ups for book fair went out at 6:30 on Nov 4.
- Notification for signups for Giving Tree, holiday shop, winter celebrations are coming up soon.
 - Approximately November 26/27 for Giving Tree tag distribution, and the permission slips for Giving Tree will go out next Monday, Nov 11.

6. General Vice President Update

- Spirit Wear sale is all online this year. Ornaments are new this year. The sale is open now through November 12.
- SquareOne Art sale orders are due on Friday, 11/8.
- Membership was asked for opinions about the PTA hosting a Robot assembly in February/March 2020 (tentative). This assembly would show students what is a robot, real world applications for robots, how robots are used for police, military and nasa, and drone robots. We would host two 45 minute programs for our student body, broken up K-1 and 2-3 on the same day. Membership was in support of this assembly.

7. President Update

- Recognition and thanks of volunteers
 - Gina Baudoin completed the parent directory.
 - Kari Oswald and Natalie Klockers did our audit.
 - Thanks to volunteers who helped at the Book Character party and the fall festivities held by the ESU student teacher.
 - Jesse Schwab for his work chairing the STEAM night.
- Event and Initiative Recap
 - STEAM Night
 - ESU Primary II project
 - Box Tops
 - Susy and Natalie report that \$109.70 scanned from the new Box Tops app and \$379.30 from paper boxtops for 579.90 total. Miss McCarron's class won the most recent box top challenge. The next challenge starts at the beginning of November and runs through February 24. The app lets you figure out ways to earn even more boxtops by purchasing certain quantities of products.
- Upcoming Events
 - Scholastic Book Fair (Begins 11/21). Signups went out tonight.
 - Teacher Lunches during Conferences - signups went out.
 - Poinsettia Sale - Melissa Curtis is working on contacting a greenhouse.
 - Holiday Shop (Week of 12/9): Setup will occur Thurs/Fri 12/5 & 12/6
 - Concerts are also this week.

- IronPigs Night: Saturday, 5/2

8. Guest Speaker: Mr. Lock - Physical Education and STEAM teacher

Mr. Lock has a masters degree in science education and has taught 5th and 6th grade math and science for the past 20 years. He will be helping to plan the Kindergarten earth day event and planning a program for the fourth grade to come to KBES to use the environmental center. He is planning STEAM Initiatives across special subjects:

- One STEAM rotation with Mrs. Rizzolino involves integrating interactive and dynamic STEAM topics with books. They've done kindergarten and first grades. Second will be next, and third will be before the holiday break. They plan to do at least one more cycle in the spring.
 - Kindergarteners read a book called *Stick and Stone*, and then they built catapults to launch objects.
 - First graders did a lesson on pollination, in which they made a butterfly on an app that takes their drawing of a butterfly and animates it. They cut out their butterflies and "pollinated" flowers with colored sugar with the incentive of getting nectar (applejuice).
 - Second graders will be reading *Balloons over Broadway*, and the students will be learning about simple machines. They will build a lever and then build a shadow puppet.

9. Principal Update:

- Thanks to everyone who volunteered for the Book Character Parade and parties. There was a huge turnout of parents and family for the parade, which was great to see. Parties went very well.
- Thanks to Paul Soporowski and those who have changed the sign out front. Now it will be updated every 2 weeks or so.
- Yahtzee club has started for 2nd and 3rd graders. Mrs. Klotz has 54 students in the club. Kids are making friends, practicing math skills, and having fun.
- Mad science is popular again this year. Over 60 students, 1st through 3rd grade, participate on Fridays.
- Important dates in November:
 - School is not in session for students Nov 5 and 11; the 11 is an inservice day for teachers.
 - On November 12 author Allen St. Jean will visit and host a 45 minute presentation for each grade level, spending some time with 3rd grade at the end of the day for a writing workshop. Forms were sent home with students to order personalized signed books.

- November 15 is the end of the semester, report cards will be given out at conferences.
- November 19 is photo retakes.
- November 22nd, Adrianna Santos (KBES parent) will host an assembly about flamenco dancing.
- Four teachers are piloting using sign up genius for conferences. Three K and one in second grade. If it is successful, the entire school will be scheduling online for spring conferences.
- Digital crayons were purchased for use with the ipads and will be used with a diversity of apps. Seven (7) were purchased by the PTA and five (5) by the school.
- Mrs. D applied for a Blue Eagle foundation grant to request to purchase 30 crayons, and she was approved almost immediately. She ended up getting enough to purchase 42 crayons - 30 for her classroom and 12 to be used for the rest of the school. Ryan Bell at the highschool made us a crayon box using the high school's 3D printer. It printed in the art room where kids could watch
- KBES has a featured character trait for each month - October was kindness. At the end of the month, each teacher nominates one student from their class to receive the character award. November's trait is trustworthiness.
- The new cafeteria reward system for behavior has been very successful. A stoplight on the wall shows green when students arrive in the lunchroom, it turns yellow as a 5 minute warning near the end of lunch to wrap it up. When teachers are arriving, the light goes to red so the kids know it's time to go. Green, yellow and red cones sit on the tables to indicate the table's behavior. Four green cones accumulated by a class equals a token. If a table earns a blue cone, it's an automatic token. Once each class has earned 25 tokens (all except 1 currently have earned 25), Mr. Gridley and Mrs. Apruzzi walk around with a wheel and one child in the class spins it and they earn a special prize (extra recess, special outside lunch, teachers vs. students games, etc).

10. Teacher Representative Update: Mrs. Klotz and Mrs Miller

- Thanks to the PTA for the book character parade and parties.
- Square 1 orders due by Friday.
- Looking forward to conferences.
- Thanks to everyone who helped with the ESU advocacy project.

11. General membership comments/concerns/suggestions from the floor

- Christa Fritz updated the members on NASP:
 - Photos with Santa will be held on December 7 from 11-3. Price TBA. Photos are pet and kid friendly. Light refreshments will be available for sale.
 - Everyone is welcome to attend NASP meetings. The next one is on Dec 9.

- Thank you to all those who volunteered to make and sell food at the glow stick run.
- When will pictures be home? Mrs. A said definitely before the makeup picture date.
- Next General PTA Meeting is Monday, December 9. Mr. Gridley will be our guest speaker.

12. Meeting Adjourned at 7:42pm

- Adjourn Bobbi motioned to adjourn. Debbie Polsie seconded.