

PTA Meeting Minutes

John W. Tolbert, Jr Elementary

Thursday October 1, 2020

7:00 PM

President Rachael Tallerico called the meeting to order at 7:06pm. In attendance were

Rachael Tallerico- President, Theresa Wesley- Treasurer, Zaina Brown- VP Family Events, Dana Laukhuf- VP Fundraising, Julie Bruno- VP After School Programs, Susan Mullen- Principal, Melissa Mehalchick-Dean of Students, Dana Bober- Assistant Principal, Jaimi Hecht- 4th grade teacher, Bobbi Desai, Dabney Erickson- 3rd grade teacher, Victoria Klier- 2nd grade teacher. Ashley Green- 5th grade teacher

Approval of Minutes

The draft minutes were posted on the Tolbert PTA website. There were no changes to the minutes. Julie Bruno motioned for the minutes to be approved from the August 25th PTA meeting and Dana Bober seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Officer Reports

President's Report: Rachael Tallerico

Discussion about t-shirt design

- 10 people submitted designs
- Board narrowed the selection to 5 before the meeting and voted to narrow it down to 3 at the meeting for the school community to vote on

Suggestion for a Chalk Walk

- Looking for volunteers to decorate the sidewalk in front of the school for students returning on Oct 13th and Oct 27th for hybrid learning

Discussion about having a sign for students welcoming them back

- Looking into the possibility of offering sponsorship for a company to place a welcome back sign on the school property

Secretary: Erin Lau (reported by Julie Bruno)

- Erin is working on the next newsletter- contact her if you have any suggestions/ changes you'd like to make.
- Since the newsletter is electronic, links can be added. A link to the library bus and Facebook groups will be added to the next newsletter, contact Erin if you have any other helpful links to add.
- If anyone has anything for the newsletter, email Erin by October 6th.

Treasurer: Theresa Wesley

- Budget- we have brought in \$4700 so far, mainly through membership and sponsors
- Budget- our expenses have been about \$9700, the majority of which went to the purchase of IXL

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- PTA grant money is still available to grade levels.

Vice President of Family Events: Zaina Brown

Book Swap

- This Saturday at Edwards Landing. Hundreds of books have been donated and will be sorted into grade levels.
- We will contact Lisa Bridge, the parent liaison, to possibly donate left over books to Tolbert students in need.
- We also may keep some books if the event is successful and do it again at another date.
- COVID precautions- masks, gloves, socially distant

Scavenger Hunt

- Event will take place Oct. 24th
- Zaina will finalize logistics soon.
- Students will have a list of activities/ items to take pictures of and will submit via a program, not social media
- Sign up genius will be used for participants
- There will be prizes to the winners- possibly gift cards

Reflections

- A link will go in the next newsletter describing this event to families.
- Zaina created a google doc for students to sign up
- Looking for judges not affiliated with Tolbert in the categories of visual arts, writing, photography, music and special education- possibly swapping with another PTA for judges at their school

Vice President of Fundraising: Dana Laukhuf

Fundraising Letter

- A letter will be sent to parents requesting a donation in lieu of fundraising events this year
- Bobbi discussed the possibility of tying the letter with another fundraising idea of “flocking” yards (placing flamingos in yards), which has been successful at other schools in the area.

Discussion about a food truck event

- Dana Laukhuf discussed a food truck event at a neighboring school that was a success, and Rachael will reach out to Rachel Bryson to look into the possibility of doing this a spirit night in the spring.

Vice President of Membership: Sabrina Soto (reported by Rachael Tallerico)

- We currently have 106 members (including staff)
- We are \$130 short of our goal for the budget with membership, but still have time to meet this goal.
- An email went out about the voucher for free a Sylvan evaluation.

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Committee Reports

SEAC Report: Bobbi Desai

- SEAC executive committee will be holding elections soon.
- Looking for more applicants for multiple committees
- The next meeting will take place on Oct. 7th from 6-7pm and Hank Miller from VDOE will be giving information for special ed families.
- Info will go in the next newsletter about the SEAC with a link for more information.

Staff Appreciation: April Wharton (reported by Rachael Tallerico)

- Looking into having a coffee bar or another snack table for staff in the building
- Looking for ideas to show appreciation to staff not in the building
- Still looking to do the pie donations in November and collaborating with Heritage

Principal Reports

- Dana gave the ok to do the chalk walk on school property with social distancing and masks worn.
- Admin is getting ready for students to return for hybrid learning later this month. Ten students will return Oct. 13th/14th and K-2 Oct 27th/28th
- October is Disability Awareness Month- looking for ideas to celebrate
- Susan allowed those at the meeting to ask questions about the upcoming transition to hybrid. Some things that were discussed were that the curriculum and assignments would be the same across both models, decisions about how to handle positive COVID cases comes directly from the health department, recess will be one class at a time outside during hybrid, and students will receive more live instruction through distance learning than hybrid.

Adjournment

- Adjournment 8:49pm