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**PTA Meeting Minutes**

Sep. 18, 2018, 7 pm, Kenbrook Elementary Cafeteria

**Call to Order**

7 pm by President Brandye Cobb

**Members Present**

Cheryl Lebovitz, Heather Mortlock, Dianna Gabbana, Erica Williams, Brandye Cobb, Jamie Hobart, Christine Ferguson, Julie Kaminski, Julianne Bishop, Rick Bishop, Cherita Martin, Darlene Williams, Charity Bogosh, Cornelia Bodea, Mindy Tache, Neli Kelley, Danielle Ilyasov, Natalee Topolewski, Farmington Area PTA Council Representative Jenn Garland

**Secretary's Report**

The last general meeting minutes, from May, were approved at the Board Meeting in June.

**Treasurer's Report**

Copies of this year's budget were distributed for review. There were no questions.

**Principal's Report**

Dr. Kaminski heartily thanked the PTA and all the parents who have supported Kenbrook thus far, particularly for all the assistance restoring classrooms after the reconstruction and getting the school year off to a great start. She indicated that she and all the Kenbrook teachers and staff are looking forward to working with the PTA for another great year.

Dr. Kaminski also gave an update on construction. She emphasized the enormity of our renovation project; the Kenbrook upgrade is the most substantial renovation of all FPS schools to date, except for the high schools. Although there are so many improvements we can see, there is so much more we can't, such as heating and cooling, roofing, drainage, etc. Some parts of the project were delayed due to delays at the permit department, but these were not the fault of the contractor or FPS. The extensive renovations will likely continue through the December break.

There was a question about playground equipment, whether Kenbrook would be getting more, and whether the PTA would be funding any playground equipment. Kenbrook is not planning on additional playground equipment. They are waiting on parts to fix the slide. The PTA cannot put money into the playground because it would become FPS property and could never be moved anywhere else. We can do equipment, like balls, jump ropes, etc.

**Unfinished Business**

Welcome Back Event – This event will take place on Thursday, rain or shine, from 6 to 8 pm. There will be three bounce houses, popsicles, and tables with information about and representatives for many clubs, activities, and services. Board members will be staffing the bounce houses and some stations and should arrive by 5:30.

### **New Business**

Fun Run – This is our biggest fundraiser of the year! This event has a coordinator and two co-coordinators, and things are underway. The students will learn more about this year's Fun Run at Friday's community meeting and information has been sent home and posted on the listserve. There are great incentives for the kids all along the way. This year's "rewards" are monsters. There will be a need for volunteers on the day of the Fun Run, Oct. 12, in the morning. As usual, a signup genius will be sent out. If we reach our goal of \$14,000, then we get to ice cream sundae a teacher.

There was a question about whether we can give volunteers a copy of our tax-exempt status so that they can use it for volunteer/service requirements at work. The answer is yes; we can.

Enchanted Hike – The Enchanted Hike fifth grade parent committee is due to meet Wednesday (tomorrow). In the past, the PTA has given \$300 in financial support to the committee to help get the event started. The fifth graders organize and coordinate the hike, and all the admission proceeds go into the fifth grade account to pay for end-of-year celebration activities. Fifth graders have the first chances for trick-or-treating stations. If there are still spots available, they are opened up to the rest of the school. There will be a call for candy donations. Kids who bring in a bag of candy will get a luminary bag to decorate. The bags are placed along the path during the hike.

Reflections – Melissa Churill submitted the following summary of her plans for this national PTA contest.

The theme this year is "Heroes Around Us." The due date for Reflections entries will be Nov. 2. The Gallery Breakfast for all entrants and their families will probably be Nov. 8. Entries for the 3D category will have to be a smaller size than last year. I will make sure that information is highlighted in entry packets. Additionally, with the theme of Heroes Around Us, entries will have to be careful about copyrights and no use of logos. I am looking into getting t-shirts for all participants and trophy awards for winners.

I'd like to keep the same budget. I want to plan a couple of art nights at the school where we could have an artist, dancer, writer, etc. come in and share with the children how they get inspired. There would also be art supplies handy for getting creative, i.e. markers, colored pencils, and/or watercolor paints.

I plan to generate buzz about the contest by speaking at the community meeting this Friday, Sept. 21, using Listservs, and having morning announcements with student winners from last year's contest. I will also decorate a bulletin board.

Library Support – The library renovation is almost finished. The shelves and furniture are in place. The books will be moved back to Kenbrook at the end of this week or early next week.

Then comes the task of reshelving all those books! Many hands will be needed to complete this task quickly. There will be a signup genius coming out, so please look for it.

There was a question about whether the library had additional shelving and whether or not the library needs more books. The answers are unknown. The library may need more books as, during the last school year, the tattered and worn books were pruned out, and children were given the opportunity to take them home. The PTA will be happy to help the library purchase more books.

There was a related question about whether there were book fairs. Kenbrook does three book fairs. The first one comes up in November and coincides with parent-teacher conferences. The second one is around Valentine's Day (fall in love with books!), and the best one, the BOGO book fair takes place in early May, and should coincide with teacher/staff appreciation week.

Chair/Committee Meet and Greet – We had hoped that some of our event chairs and committee members would be able to attend our meeting so we could put names and faces together and so that committee members could meet each other. There were only a few folks in attendance and no committees to introduce to each other. We asked them to hang back for a couple of minutes after the meeting so we could briefly chat. In the future, we would like event chairs and committee members to plan to attend the PTA meeting before their event date to provide an update on their plans and/or to ask for assistance.

### **PTA Council Update**

The Farmington Area PTA Council member who is the Kenbrook PTA liaison, Jenn Garland, was present. Neli Kelley is the Kenbrook PTA Council representative. She attends four PTA Council meetings each year and reports back to the Kenbrook PTA. Jenn and Neli encouraged everyone to attend the meetings, as they are filled with beneficial information. The first PTA Council meeting was yesterday. Some highlights are:

Junior Optimists supports a lot in our district. They hope to form a club in each school where the kids volunteer in the community. We got \$100 to start a club here at Kenbrook. They are asking for two parents to help with this. There is training to teach you how to run it. It's not a huge commitment. A call for interested volunteers will be posted on a listserve.

Farmington/ Farmington Hills Education Foundation sponsors a lot of events, give a lot of grants and fund a lot of projects. The Foundation raises money with an annual gala fundraiser. Each FPS PTA organization donates a basket (with a theme) for the gala raffle. The Kenbrook PTA will need to take care of this soon.

PTA Council events are listed at the bottom of the meeting agenda (and at the end of these minutes).

FAAPN offers free tutoring on Saturday mornings, for all ages, all schools – ANYONE can go – at Maxfield Center. More information is on the FPS website.

Warner will be undergoing renovations next year. Those renovations will take approx. 18 months and will begin in spring 2019.

## **Announcements**

Movie nights – We will be hosting a few movie nights this year. Family movies will be shown in the cafeteria. Wear jammies, and bring blankets and popcorn or whatever. The PTA will provide milk and cookies. The first movie night will be on October 18. The movie might be Hocus Pocus.

Amazon Smile – Kenbrook does have an Amazon Smile account. (It is listed as Kenbrook, Lathrup Village right now. We will try to fix the location.) We also have accounts with Busch's, Kroger, etc. These easy fundraising opportunities are listed on our website, kenbrookpta.com.

Other Fundraisers – The PTA organizes a few smaller fundraisers through the year. These are more of an opportunity for the children to play together outside of Kenbrook. One is the Lifetime Fitness fundraiser, where the kids get to participate in high energy activities for a couple of hours one night (in November or early December). It's a good chance for parents to do some holiday shopping or have a nice dinner out.

Another fundraiser will be Zap Zone in March. We are also trying to plan an Airtime date.

Last are a few dining out fundraisers, like Jersey Mikes (incredibly generous – 100% of the donations go back to Kenbrook) and California Pizza Kitchen (not only do we get a portion of dining receipts, CPK also generously donates food for teachers during parent-teacher conferences). These are great fundraisers that give some extra support to PTA activities.

## **Adjournment**

8:12 pm by President Brandye Cobb



## **Upcoming Dates**

- September 20: Welcome Back Event
- October 12: Fun Run
- October 26: Enchanted Hike

## **Kenbrook PTA Meetings**

- Nov. 27, Jan. 15, Mar. 12 (elections), Apr. 16 (elections), May 21

## **Farmington Area PTA Council 2018 -2019 Dates**

- Sept. 24th, 2018 Truth Tour Stop with Bridge
- Oct. 9th, 2018 Safety Forum for Parents with FHPD, FHFD and the FH Emergency Preparedness Commission (Details forthcoming)
- Oct. 23rd, 2018 BOE Candidate Forum (Subject to change)
- Oct. 27th, 2018 PTA Council Fundraiser
- Nov. 5th, 2018 General Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.