El Sierra PTA Meeting Agenda 2025-2026 School Year
2/17/25 at 6:45 PM @ the El Sierra Library

- Welcome- 6:47pm
  - Mission Statement
    - The El Sierra PTA (Parent Teacher Association) is a partnership between the families and El Sierra staff. Our mission is to work together to provide quality programs, including both educational and social activities, to help enrich our students' experiences at El Sierra.
  - Norms
    - Honor the agenda and time limits.
    - Treat one another with dignity and respect.
    - Make sure everyone's voice is heard.
    - Celebrate accomplishments and each other.
  - Attendance
    - Brienne Harris, Jen Abraham, Liz Shields, Jason Lynde, Annie Ernst, Alicia Holmes, Rodrigo Rodriguez, Elena DiVenti, Christina Radun, Maura Hesness, Alysa Kocek, Jenny O'Keefe, Mary Ellen Walker, Mike Monte, Carly Lilja, Emma Cecchin, Cathianne Kafka, Jackie Day

- Principal Report
  - Thank you to the PTA for the food for parent teacher conferences!
  - PTA is funding our Wheel of Wisdom assembly coming up Feb 24
  - Construction: phase 3– have to remove everything from the school before they start/ think about this when we purchases supplies (extra tables, etc)
    - AC in gym, new exterior doors, renovated entrance
  - 5th and 6th grade clapout will be at same time outside the gym doors– 5th grade walks one direction and 6th grade the other
  - March- Illinois Readiness Assessments for 3-6 grade students
    - Goal is to be completed by spring break
- Teacher Talk
  - Mrs. Zimolzak– Math Night, Wed March 11 6-7:30–theme is Pi Day
  - Teachers from El Sierra and NHS students from DGN and DGS coming to help run games
  - Fair Game will be here with games
  - DG Public library here for the first time!

- Approve minutes from prior meetings
  - December 16, 2025
    - https://docs.google.com/document/d/1abBFNSzZO4odfBA3RP6x5mX2hzxjnG4eKAiwj1hy0uQ/edit?usp=drivesdk
    - Motion to approve: Jenny O'Keefe Second: Mary Ellen Walker/ unanimous approval

- Officer Reports
  - President (Brienne Harris)
    - District PTA Meetings Information
      - Legislative Breakfast at O'Neill
        - 2/20
      - 5th/6th grade transition/ questions
        - 2/25 meeting with Dr. Russell
    - PTA Training
      - Any PTA member can take PTA training
      - Required for executive members, reach out to Brienne for more information

  - Treasurer Report (Alison Cagle)
    - Bank Balances as of 02/11/26
      - Checking → $9,324.99
      - Savings → $18,454
    - Monthly Bank Reconciliation Report (see the end of the agenda)

  - 1st VP Family Programing (Alicia Holmes & Elena DiVenti)
    - Spring Event: Sunday April 19- (there is a Cub Scout meeting here 5:30-8:30pm inside gym)
      - Location: El Sierra
      - Set up 9 or 18 hole mini golf course here/ music. Company sets up and takes down
        - Discussion of moving to Friday April 17, but Cub Scouts meet indoor that evening
      - Kona Ice truck?
      - Possible bounce house as additional activity

  - 2nd VP Fundraising (Leticia Porter & Gina Swabowski)
    - Pickleball mixer at Pickled! on 1/24 was a Huge success!!
      - Sold Out!! (58 tickets)
      - $250 profit
    - Spring Adult Fundraiser Dueling pianos with speakeasy vibes & theme
      - 3/7/26, 7-11p at the Moose
      - Ticket sales are now LIVE for the Spring Fundraiser, Dueling Pianos on 3/7/25 PURCHASE HERE, if you plan to buy raffle tickets please buy them in advance on Givebacks so we don't hold up the check-in line.
      - Teacher Experiences are live on Givebacks (ends March 3rd)
      - Vision Board also sent out today.
      - We need empty liquor bottles for the event. If you can please save any empty bottles for us and email elsierrafundraising@gmail.com so we can coordinate pickup.

        - Help with set up and takedown is needed - Please— 9am set up day of event

    - 3rd VP Membership (Sharyn Mihalik)
        - If you have not yet registered, please go to: https://elsierraschool.givebacks.com/.
            - You can also donate to the PTA through the site.

- Additional Topics from Committee Chairs
    - Yearbook (Sharyn Mihalik)
        - We need your school event photos. Please upload to Tree Ring!
        - Yearbooks still can be purchased.
            - Last day to order is 4/7

    - Fun Lunch Dates (Rachel Blume)
        - All Fridays: 2/20, 3/27, 4/24, 5/22, Field Day TBD
            - Shadow secured: Jackie Day

    - Restaurant Night Fundraising Dates (Meghan Litko)
        - Dec. (12/16): Panera
        - Jan (1/22): Lantern Pizza
        - February (2/17): Wayback Burger
        - April, May TBD
            - Still booking restaurants for the second half of the year so if people have suggestions please send them to Meghan
        - Do-Rite Doughnuts are confirmed for (3/8) the morning after our March Adult fundraiser

    - Updated PTA Website (Maura Hesness & Michael Monte)
        - Site updates are in progress: https://sites.google.com/view/el-sierra-pta/home?authuser=0
        - We will be taking headshots of the Executive Team and incoming Exec Team to help new families put names with faces at the February meeting.
            - Rodrigo Rodriguez volunteer to take the photos
        - Sign Up Genius yearly subscription
            - $269.89– register the PTA with up to 10 administrators (less 20% for tax exempt)-- $216 after discount
            - Single link for all El Sierra events (Field Day, Family programs, parent teacher conference food, etc)

    - Kane County Cougars Reading Program (Gina Swabowski)
        - Started in January
        - Saturday, 5/9, 6:30p
        - Sunday, 5/31, 1p (NOT Memorial Day weekend)

- Old Business
    - Spending $13,000 in excess funds from last school year

        - The Executive Board met on 1/20 to review options and present for a vote in February to discuss further
        - All PTA spending must be approved by a majority vote of the General PTA Membership. NOT decided by the Executive Board and all spending must be accounted for and explained in our yearly audit.
            - Mats on the wall
                - $7,500 - summer 2027
                - Waiting to hear back from the Park District about what part of the cost they may cover...
            - Bobcat Mascot costume: ($500)
            - K, 1st, & 2nd grade field trips (152 students plus chaperones): *we need to make sure we can repeat for future years*-- Alphabet Soup productions at Tivoli May 12? (~$1800 + bus cost at a later date)
            - Carryover 40% of our budget (currently $8,000 - would bump up to $20,000)
            - More long tables ($500)
            - Frames for the Adult Fundraiser ($300)
            - Trees for primary side ($2500)
        - Voting on all of the above: Motion to approve Christina Radun, Alicia Holmes second– unanimous approval
        - Next month: Talk about moving $8,000, Mats on the wall ($7500), Buses for K-2 field trip (Cost TBD)

- New Business
    - Sign up genius ($216)
        - Motion to approve Alysa Kocek, Annie Ernst seconded
        - Unanimous approval
    - BPAC work with PTA on events next school year
        - Discussed perhaps a Daddy/Daughter Dance, but need equitable events for all students. Perhaps an all student dance
        - Introducing BPAC would necessitate all the BPAC students in the district, alternately we keep it within the El Sierra school

- Adjourn
    - 7:50pm

El Sierra PTA
1/31/26
Treasurer's Report

Balance per Bank as of December 31, 2025				**$11,452.13**
Receipts:				
	1/9/2026	Givebacks Payout (Pickled)		$96.48
	1/16/2026	Givebacks Payout (Pickled)		$289.44
	1/23/2026	Givebacks Payout (Pickled)		$770.74
	1/31/2026	Deposit - Checking (Spring Fundraiser Sponsors + Restaurant Nights)		$1,999.44
		Total Receipts		**$3,156.10**
Expenses:				
	1/2/2026	Bank Fees	$13.00	
	1/6/2026	Check #4092 (Medieval Times, 6th Grade Field Trip)	$1,919.40	
	1/12/2026	Check #4089 (DG 58, Teacher Grants, Blue Tooth Speakers)	$223.76	
	1/12/2026	Check #4097 (DG 58, Art Appreciation)	$77.48	
	1/22/2026	Check #4098 (Gina Swabowski, Class Parties)	$72.00	
	1/23/2026	Check #4086 (Christina Radun, Class Parties)	$56.43	
	1/23/2026	Check #4101 (DG 58, Teacher Supplies)	$128.34	
	1/26/2026	Check #4099 (Emma Cecchin, Class Parties)	$35.16	
	1/26/2026	Check #4100 (Sarah Hutchison, Teacher Grants, Airpods)	$205.19	
	1/26/2026	Check #4107 (Sarah Hutchison, Recess Equipment)	$59.94	
	1/26/2026	Check #4108 (Pickled, Adult Fundraiser)	$590.00	
	1/30/2026	Check #4058 (Aurelios, Fun Lunch)	$919.50	
		Total Expenses	**$4,300.20**	
		Adjusted Balance @ 1/31/26		$10,308.03
Our balance				**$9,023.36**
		Difference		$1,284.67
		Check 4102 - DG58	$100.00	
		Check 4103 - Rachel Blume	$31.27	
		Check 4104 - Aurelio's	$919.50	
		Check 4105 - Jackie Ensign	$36.48	
		Check 4106 - DG58	$99.99	
		Check 4109 - Kelly Francis	$25.92	
		Check 4110 - Kendra Meyers	$50.00	
		Check 4111 - Gianna Smith	$21.51	
		Total Uncashed Checks		$1,284.67
	Our Balance + Uncashed Checks			$10,308.03
Balance per Bank as of January 31, 2026				**$10,308.03**
				$0.00

Robert's RULES 101

Steps to keep meetings on track.



Voting Procedures

Motion

Member makes a motion: *"I move that we have a welcome-back picnic!"*
Second (every motion requires a second)
Discussion: *"Great idea!"*
Vote: Motion passes

- President doesn't make motions but can call for one: *"Do I hear a motion to..."*
- President can vote but usually doesn't
- No cross talk—speak to the chair. This helps everyone keep track of discussion.

Motion With Amendment

Motion: *"I move that we have a welcome-back picnic!"*
Second (every motion requires a second)
Discussion: *"Great idea!"*
Amendment: *"I move that we make it a barbecue!"*
Vote on amendment: Amendment passes
Vote on amended motion: *"Let's have a welcome-back barbecue!"*
Amended motion passes

PTOTODAY