

Hall PTA Board Meeting

Larkspur Rec Center
240 Doherty Drive
Larkspur, CA 94939
November 7, 2023

- A. Call to Order - President Jessica Edelen
 - 1. Regular Hall PTA board meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m.
 - 2. Time for sharing gratitude, rumors, etc. included discussion about the recent hiring of an 8th-grade language arts teacher. Board members also suggested a locker cleanout before Thanksgiving break, discussed an issue with a staff member cashing a PTA-issued check at Bank of Marin, and asked questions about the date of the next spirit wear sale.
- B. President's Update and Discussion
 - 1. Walk-A-Thon raised \$52,000 after fees, exceeding the \$50,000 goal.
 - 2. Science teacher Rebecca Newburn has asked the PTA for \$1,500 to help pay for garden supplies. Vice President Melissa Scheeline made a motion to approve the payment, and another board member seconded the motion. The garden supply payment request was approved unanimously.
 - 3. Social Media. Jessica recently attended the DLA meeting and said it's necessary for the PTA to do more social media outreach. Toni said she will check in with Mr. Beach (who handles Hall social media) with questions about posts and frequency of posts to put more attention on the matter.
 - 4. Career Day is Friday 2/16 and Toni is looking for speakers.
 - 5. Talent Show preparations are progressing. Marina and Jessica will meet with the student council. Show is slated for 4/2
 - 6. PTA bylaws update is needed. Parliamentarian Betsy Bennet was not at the meeting.
- C. 7th-Grade Rep (Christina Uriarte)
 - 1. Cleaning out lost and found. Reminder to send kids with paper bags for locker cleanout before Thanksgiving break.
- D. Principal's Update
 - 1. Toni expressed gratitude for walk-a-thon coordinators, volunteers, and donors. She said the school is wrapping up a successful fall sports season and gearing up for basketball registration.
 - 2. The Safety Task Force is talking about fencing and what it might look like. Evaluations are happenings. This would be grant funded. Also discussion around implementing new AI technology to detect weapons that would work with existing cameras.
 - 3. 6th grade dance was successful but there was concern that there wasn't much of a heads up before.
 - 4. Superstar Health Education to present to 8th graders after Thanksgiving break.
 - 5. Spanish teacher Ms. Gascon is joining as the teacher rep for PTA. She'll be

paid \$50 per meeting, and will attend during her regular prep period. She'll be available until 9:10 a.m.

E. SPARK (rep Katie Miller)

1. Giving day is approaching. Donations are slightly behind where they were one year ago. The goal is 70% participation by Thanksgiving.

2. Lots of discussion about the "Reignite SPARK" campaign launched by a Neil Cummins parent. Katy shared how SPARK remains focused on its funding goal and not the parent campaign. SPARK is not aware of how the parent's petition is being received. SPARK has been in contact with legal counsel but advised that "we will never will with him or stop him." Many individuals at SPARK and the broader community have also reached out to this parent to stop the campaign. Lots of additional discussion by board members sharing parent concerns surrounding issues such as audits. Miller emphasized going back to the superintendent's 10/10 email for factually correct details. One board member suggested SPARK might consider a video message, if needed, to help clear up parent questions, concerns.

F. Treasurer's Update (Lara Dillon)

1. Lara suggested the PTA put extra cash in a liquid money market account earning 3.5% interest. Jessica made a motion to approve the suggestion, and it was seconded by board member Amanda Dickerman. The board approved the move to put extra cash into a liquid money market account.

G. Hospitality Update (Erin Alvarez)

1. Erin announced that there will be a staff breakfast on 11/14

H. Membership Update (Rana Lozani)

1. Membership is in a quiet period until SPARK completes its fall fundraising campaign.

I. Meeting Adjourned

1. The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 a.m.