

OAK RIDGE ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL MEETING MINUTES - November 12, 2024

Attendees:

Executive Board: Krissy Kilty (Vice President), Rachel Holler (Secretary), Jessica Moehrle-Focht (Treasurer)

Kristen Mazurek, Teacher Liaison

Board Members (Committee Chairs): Keri Ehrlich, Michele Haytko, Joslyn McKenna, Amy Rossi, Danielle Wichert

- Krissy Kilty called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.
- Approval of Minutes. Minutes were linked in the October-November smore News in a Nutshell.
- Board vote to adopt current/existing by-laws. No changes were proposed.
- Officer Updates
 - Jessica shared a [Treasurer update](#). In addition to reviewing the budget, she also mentioned that the Home & School purchased new shirts for the teachers. 5th grade t-shirts were also just purchased so that they can wear them throughout the year.
 - Rachel noted that the next smore will go out next week (hopefully next Wednesday).
- Principal and Teacher Liaison Update
 - Mrs. Mazurek thanked everyone for the teachers' t-shirts. They arrive on Thursday.
- Committee Status report
 - **Clothing Drive** is on Monday 11/25, with active collection from 9am to Noon. The truck is scheduled for the Noon to 1pm time slot.
There's a Signup Genius linked on the website right now for volunteers to help on collection day, and we encourage bringing Oak Ridge kiddos to assist.
A collection bin will be available 11/18-11/22 in the vestibule of the office entrance for those who would rather drop off in advance M-F during school operating hours.
Share with your friends and neighbors! We had a great turnout last year and we'd love to repeat.
 - **Lip Sync**: no real updates/planning until December. Keep an eye out for updates then.
 - **Gardening Committee** - The mums were discarded and the scarecrows will remain outside in the display.
 - **Homeroom**- all leads have been assigned and classroom volunteers from Directory have been contacted.
 - **Ice Cream Social**- Joslyn shared that the next ice cream social is planned for next Friday, November 22 before the Thanksgiving break. Money will be due on Wednesday, November 20. Scooping will take place on Thursday, November 21.

- **Fundraising-** box tops, clothing sale, holiday workshop (attending). Amy shared several updates:
 - Today was the deadline for the Philadelphia Sports Team order sale. It was a successful sale with over \$2,500; hopefully \$300-500 profit.
 - Floral and Hardy winter container workshop on Wednesday, December 11th will be announced tomorrow. Flyer is being printed. Will post on social media and the website. It is a private shopping event. Any purchases between 6-7:30 PM make 10% commission. For the container event: the tent is heated. It is \$62.54 to participate. The container event starts at 6:30 PM. We need at least 10 people to hold the event. Bring gloves and pruning shears.
 - Box Tops - we reached our first goal of \$750 in record speed of 4 months. We set a new goal of \$1,000. Amy said that she would like to do a pajama day when we hit \$1,000 and anticipates that we would reach that milestone by February. Crescent rolls are a bonus item this month. A new initiative is coming up - Baking Spirits Bright with Chef Oakie. You will be able to post pictures of your children and Oakie baking. There will be a random gift card winner.
- **Yearbook-** Yearbook is up and running - we are just looking for photos from events like Character Counts Week, Fun Run, and Oak Ridge Spirit Days. The 5th graders will soon start the cover contest which runs through November with winners picked at the end of November. If your child missed picture day, please plan to get a photo taken on retakes day.
- **Oakie's Caring Hearts** - We had our first ever volunteer event in the community on Monday, October 14th at the Garden of Health food bank. The event was moved indoors due to cold temperatures. We had 9 people attend. Students and families organized and helped load provisions for just over 2.5 hours. Thanks to their help, food and paper products will be distributed to over 200 cars/families in a drive through event run by the Keystone Opportunity Center. We are looking forward to more events and greater participation in the new year! Here are the upcoming dates for late winter/early spring. - Mitzvah Circle (new location,) 435 Doylestown Road, Lansdale, Friday, March 7th, 2025, 9:30-11:30am - Living Hope Farm, Harleysville, Saturday, April 19th, 2025, 9-11am
- **After School Rec** hosted 161 students in grades 2-5 with fun STEM and physical activities. Students made boats out of aluminum foil to see how many pennies their boats could hold - some held nearly 200 pennies! - and how fast they would sail across a water-filled plastic container using Wind Power (from a fan). The kids really got creative and revised their designs to improve their boats. These kinds of activities are possible thanks to the amazing teachers and volunteers who actively support these events and we can't thank everyone enough!! We are asking the board to approve the purchase of a new "giant ball" for Mr. Kelly to replace the one that popped during Field Day. Jessica has the info :) We came in very under budget for Rec this fall so hopefully that helps. We will pick 2025 dates soon and will add 1st grade in for this round. We will select PSSA testing days for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade to allow the students to burn some energy. 1st

and 2nd grade will occur in Feb/March, but we'll avoid weeks with lots of activities (e.g. Lip Sync, Presidents Day).

- **Family Fun Night**- Bingo Night was a success and there was positive feedback about starting it at 6 PM. Hobby Night is scheduled for January 17 - we may look to move it to a 6:30 PM start time.
- **Jump Rope**- need help with people signing up!
- **Holiday Shoppe/Flower sale**- Keri shared on behalf of Christine that all is going well with planning for the Holiday Shoppe and the Concert Flower Sale. Mrs. Beebe shared that up to 30 students are requesting financial assistance for shopping at the Holiday Shoppe. Jessica shared that last year we gave each student \$10 to spend at the Shoppe.
- **Hospitality** will be providing a luncheon for teachers/staff during Conferences week. A Signup Genius has been shared with committee members and will also be posted to the Facebook group later this week. Your donations and help are greatly needed and appreciated!
- At the conclusion of the meeting, additional fundraising ideas were discussed. Michele shared an idea about doing a Gala event. Other ideas included a Casino Night or a Beef and Beer event.
- Upcoming Events
 - Annual Clothing Drive- November 25th 9 am to 12 pm
 - Holiday Shoppe- December 2nd-5th, 2024
 - Winter Container Workshop- Adult Social Event at Floral and Hardy- December 11th, 2024
 - Winter Holiday Social (in school)- December 20th, 2024
 - Hobby night - January 17th, 2025- 7:00 pm- 8:00 pm at Oak Ridge
- The next meeting is on Tuesday, December 3rd at 7:00 PM in the Oak Ridge Library.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 PM.