

**EARL B WOOD School PTA
PTA Meeting (2/13/2024)**

Date and Time 2/13/24 time 7.00pm

Attendees:

Principal: Heidi Slatcoff

PTA members: Keya Sau, Heather Ruzmetov, Ade Hutapea, Rachel Schiffenbauer, Jill Dash, Winona Lennon, Carlota Cox, Renee Stake, Jennifer Ferguson, Cindy Garman, Roxie Hill, Priscilla Paez, Erika Hutko, Jennifer Hair, Julio, Emily Wood

1. Welcome note by PTA President Keya Sau

2. Principal Updates:

- We had a packed cafeteria with rising 6th graders meeting.
- We will be pulling some students to participate on the climate issues discussions using surveys and involving students.
- Social media and internet issues – working to get through inappropriate behavior.
- Feb 29 – Nice evening for Black History Month, opportunity to share dish.
- March 14th – hands on Steam activities. Presenters still needed.

3. Treasurer's Update:

- We didn't have much activity in January – Mustang Mingle expenses did not come in until February.
- Checking Balance at the beginning was \$18,984.89, at the end of January is \$19,008.61, total bottom line is \$20,095.84.
- We received Grant for \$1,250 for the Healthy Mind program and need to make a motion to approve the income line and also to approve the expense line.
- Motion to approve the income line and to approve the expense line: 11 agreed – unanimous vote, no one rejected.

4. Discussion on Budget for Healthy Minds Program

- We received a grant of \$1,250 for the healthy minds program. We've met with some of the board members on hosting this event and sharing the responsibility to put it on.
- We would like to buy food for vendors and speakers, pay for speakers, print some flyers, rent a space at Wood (rental is approx \$1000).
- A proposed map of the event is shown. Issues to address: Confidence, Peer Interactions, bullying, Anxiety, Depression, Isolation, Grief, Focus, Resilience, Safety, Family Justice.
- Motion to increase the budget by \$500: 15 agreed – unanimous vote, no one rejected.
- Discussion about selling food at the event by inviting food trucks.

5. Updates, Announcements & Upcoming Events

- We were able to help a few teachers buy books from the scholastic credits because of the book fair. The scholastic book fair credits could be used by the school to purchase books or other items for the school or provide scholastic bucks gift certificates to kids who otherwise could not purchase at next year's book fair.

Ms. Bowman has been able to use the scholastic credit to stock the media center.

- Next event is Skate Night on Feb 21st. Skating is between 6-8 and then grab burgers between 5 and 9 at Five Guys.
- Articles about mental health issued by CDC – this should be shared.

7. Listening/ Focus Group session to be held on February 15th at school to gain community input into the Healthy Minds programming topics.

8. Jennifer Ferguson would like to bring up a discussion topic – cyber bullying.

Mrs. Slatcoff stated that she and her team are implementing the no phone policy as much as possible. If there's any teacher letting students use their phones and not stopping them, please let her know. Internet cyber bullying is very hard to stop, because the user is unknown and in this case kept changing the username and because the platforms will not take the sites down. To help inform parents around this and related topics and to help parents keep their kids safer when online, the PTA is bringing in Joe Dugan from the Internet Crimes Against Children State Task Force to talk on March 20th. This talk was arranged by the PTA specifically to address this issue that was brought to the attention of the PTA.

A parent talked about her son going through a bullying issue right now at school. Suggestions were provided and all meeting attendees were made aware so that action can be taken to stop the issue.

The meeting ends at 9pm.