



Explore & Grow Together
**Parent Teacher
Organization**

DOWLING
Urban Environmental Learning Center

Dowling PTO Meeting - VIRTUAL

Monday, May 9, 2022 – 6:30-7:30 p.m.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81357713256?pwd=RGhqM2dJZjVEOU16K0ozbDFaQ3UwUT09>

Time	Topic	Owner
5 minutes	Welcome & introduction Have interpreter teach a few phrases in Somali	Ellie Karr
5 minutes	Housekeeping - ● 5/13: Read-a-thon celebration- Wear your read-a-thon shirt ● 5/30: NO SCHOOL- Memorial Day ● 6/3: Carnival 5:15-7:15 ● 6/9: 5th grade graduation 2:30-3:30 ● Make sure that you are enrolled in membership toolkit to have access to the directory https://dowlingpto.membershiptoolkit.com ○ Great to have the directory for summer playdates!	Ellie Karr
5 minutes	Principal Update ● Prizes for the read-a-thon will be announced over the loudspeaker this week ● Thursday winners for walk/bike/roll to school will be announced (20-25 kids won a prize!) ○ Bike helmet ○ Bike lock ○ Mystery tickets to Mall of America ● Thank you to the PTO for funding the teacher appreciation (60 staff served) ○ Little gift in mailboxes throughout the week ○ Pizza lunch	Kari Page
5 minutes	Treasurer Update ● Fundraising - above projections! ○ Read-a-thon did really well ● Requests from teachers/grants have been below requests ○ Most likely due to a weird year and missing school. ● Doing well financially and able to help continue to support teachers ● Question: 5th grade graduation budget? ○ Yes, \$150 previously, but consider bumping up to have maybe a balloon display and refreshments.	Peter and Tim
10 minutes	Carnival: June 3 5:15-7:15pm ● The PTO Board has decided to host the carnival to celebrate having a great fundraising year–this means that all carnival activities will be free.	Ellie Karr

	● Getting food trucks ○ Attendees will pay for their own food ○ Parkway Pizza (confirmed) ○ Habanero Taco Truck (potential) ○ MPS Culinary services has a food truck (potential) ○ Attendees can also pack a picnic and eat in the green space. ● Any ideas for any additional booths ○ Bouncy house ○ Bean bag/tin can ○ Duck pond ○ Corn hole ○ Potential suggestions: 3-legged race, sack races, water-based activity, bubbles (big tub of homemade bubbles with sticks and pipe cleaners), soccer activity. ● Big orange coolers for water stations ● Maybe spray bottles to help cool kids down ● Popcorn machine? Dowling has a popcorn machine in the teachers lounge - maybe talk to Kari about using it. ● Opening up the ramps playground after dismissal at 4:42 - 5:15 so kids can play with their families until the carnival starts. ● We could do shifts if more people volunteered ○ Sign-up Genius has smaller shifts - more volunteers = shorter shifts. Sign Up for a slot!!	
10 minutes	Dowling Logo rebranding ● The logo needs to say Dowling Community School. ● Maroon does not necessarily have to be the predominant color. Would love the logo to be earthy greens or blues, not maroon. ● Something simple, that could be contained in a square or circle (but not necessarily framed), that is easily identifiable as an elementary school with an environmental focus. Here are some examples of what I was thinking. With our proximity to the river, and our school forest, I like the idea of somehow incorporating that into the design ● The artist would need to gift their artwork to Dowling	Lauren Strash
5 minutes	Co-Chair replacement ● Paige will be done with her co-chair position at the end of the year ● Email Ellie and Paige with questions board@dowlingpto.org	Paige Ware
10 minutes	Questions/suggestions ● Shout out to Steph Johnson who is putting together the Yearbook. THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU for all her work. ● Last meeting of the year. ● Incoming Kindergarten families who would like to host a kindergarten playdate over the summer for incoming K families, email the board board@dowlingpto.org - great way to meet families!	Ellie Karr