

Ensign PTA
Monthly Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes for Friday, March 10, 2023
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Attendees:

In-Person: Melissa Brownell, Harry Fishleigh, Betsy Garlish, Kyanne Gochnour, Therese Huhtala, Erik Jacobson, Elizabeth Lucas, Lauren McBrier, Amy Picklesimer, Juliette Tennert
Zoom: Melissa Kendrick, Elizabeth Payne, Devon Musson Rose

Excused: Ashley Anderson, Lisa Mangiapani, Emily Neuman

Conducted by: PTA President (Lauren McBrier)

Notes taken by: PTA Secretary (Therese Huhtala)

Welcome and Introductions (Lauren McBrier; 11:38am)

- Therese mentioned updating the by-laws (i.e., VP versus commissioner titles and how that affects voting/quorums). The board will discuss this offline.
- Discussion of future meetings, including the May budget meeting(s):
 - Therese requested that all board members/commissions/VPs be present at any/all budget meetings.
 - Multiple members acknowledged that we would schedule the budget meetings differently this year and ensure the key players were present during budget discussions.
 - Lauren will schedule the meetings in a way that fits this discussion to address the concerns discussed.

Dates to Note:

Lauren shared the agenda and upcoming important dates:

- Friday, Mar. 10: Book fair teardown
- Saturday, Mar. 11: Ensign Band performs in St. Patrick's Day parade
- Wednesday, Mar. 15: 1st/2nd C&A class performs the National Anthem at U.S. Naturalization Ceremony at This is The Place
- Thursday, Mar. 16: Short Day; SEP (Student-Educator-Parent) conferences
- Monday, Mar. 20: SCC Meeting with SLCS D's Brian Conley & discussion of school closings
- Tuesday, Mar. 21: Spring Picture Day & Girls on the Run returns
- Mar. 22-24: College and Career Week
- Wednesday, Mar. 22: Ensign Talent Show Dress Rehearsal
- Thursday, Mar. 23: ENSIGN TALENT SHOW 2023 at 6pm
- Mar. 27-31: SPRING BREAK
- Friday, May 5: Ensign Gallery Stroll at 5-8pm

Officer Reports

1. Treasurer's Report (Elizabeth Lucas)

- Elizabeth mentioned outstanding reimbursement requests; i.e., for the popsicle party, for which Melissa Kendrick said she had receipts (and has receipts for the clothing racks).
- Elizabeth requested that the chairs/commissioners start preparing budgets; she stated that people can look at the reports she sent out as they are preparing budgets.
- Arts account (Feb. 1 through March 10): *Amounts provided from the March Treasurer's Report (not this meeting).
 - Beginning balance: \$22,509.91
 - Deposits: none (there is a \$144 reimbursement from the general account for bus overpayment)

- Checks/debits (total: \$4,129.66)*: art/pottery supplies (\$322.50), garden field trip bus (\$144), Jan. music (\$856.80), field trip bus (\$1,148.00), ceramic supplies (\$152.74), Write Your Heart Out (\$29.07), spelling bee (\$50), STEAM fair (\$202.55), Feb. music (\$1,224.00)
 - Outstanding: none
 - Current balance: \$18,524.25 (includes outstanding/upcoming)*
 - We only get deposits for Gallery Stroll (once a year), so no deposits is not unusual.
 - General account (Feb. 1 through March 10):
 - Beginning balance: \$24,586.02
 - Deposits: \$3,968.98 (total)*
 - o Arts: \$3,663.56
 - o Mighty Cause: \$22.98
 - o Kroger: \$186.93
 - o Amazon Smile: \$76.32
 - o Stripe: \$19.19
 - Spending (checks/debits): \$2,228.28 (total)*
 - o Arts/Music teacher reimbursement: \$1,402.37
 - o Staff lunch: \$94.40
 - o Teacher supplies (owl pellets, ceramics): \$312.32
 - o Banners/stickers: \$250
 - o Admin/ink: \$42.92
 - o Teacher appreciation: \$126.27
 - Outstanding: \$1,293.46
 - o Yearbook 21/22: \$182.20
 - o STEAM sign: \$279.12
 - o Staff lunch: \$178.12
 - o Pottery clay: \$152.74
 - o STEAM fair: \$202.55
 - o Feb. music: \$1,224.00
 - Current balance: \$24,107.99 (includes outstanding/upcoming)
 - Lauren mentioned we would be getting a check for the Chip fundraiser.
2. Faculty Rep's Report (Amy Picklesimer) *This report was done mid-Treasurer's Report.*
 - Thanks to the PTA for the SEP dinner; it was delicious.
 3. President's Report (Lauren McBrier)
 - Lauren mentioned the after-school Spanish program as something they are still trying to organize (i.e., they need to find a teacher/facilitator).
 - PTA has a state leadership conference on May 10-11 in Layton in case anyone is interested in attending.
 4. Secretary/Legislative VP (Therese Huhtala)
 - Prior meeting minute approvals:

Therese Huhtala motioned to:

- 1. Approve the December and January minutes by unanimous consent; and**
- 2. Vote to approve the February meeting minutes that she emailed yesterday.**

Lauren McBrier seconded. APPROVED by majority vote.

- Therese provided a quick legislative update, including several education-related bills that may impact schools/teachers (i.e., voucher bill, full-day Kindergarten, school letter grading removal, teacher salary increases, mental health/school safety improvements, constitutional amendment for education funding, parental notification for library books).

5. Principal's Report (Erik Jacobson)

- C&A update (1st/2nd grade):
 - Because C&A is not a district-supported program and Ensign's C&A class is losing its teacher, there won't be a 1st and 2nd grade C&A class next year.
 - There is no support in district for multigrade classes.
 - Erik hopes to get someone for the year after next and bring 1st and 2nd C&A back.
 - Erik wants to hire someone to run interventions (with Ms G); hopefully, we will have Ms. Romney as well; all certified teachers running interventions.
 - Lauren asked about the best way to get the word out to parents to advocate for maintaining C&A/bringing it back.
 - Elizabeth mentioned class numbers and keeping older kids in the school.
- School consolidation discussion:
 - March 20 is the SCC meeting, and Erik would like to see as many parents attending as possible; Erik met with the SCC chair to discuss talking points.
 - There are 12 areas up for consideration, including enrollment, facilities, geographic location, special programs, school success, cultural aspects of the school (support structures, student growth, etc.).
 - Erik explained the process that will be used (quadrants, open enrollment, nearest-boundary schools from Ensign, etc.)
 - Implementation will occur fall of 2024.
 - Goal of consolidation is to have three classes per grade level (including C&A).
- Comprehensive needs assessment committee (currently Lauren, SCC/SIC members) is working on next year's school improvement plan (SIP):
 - If someone wants to work with Erik on that committee, let him know.
 - Erik created an initial draft and has slides for people to review.
 - Next year, the plan is to utilize coaches to have more teacher collaboration.
 - Erik wants to get the science coach back next year (for 2 weeks); she will pilot a sustainability program at Ensign if we get the grant.
- Elizabeth mentioned the substitute teacher shortage; maybe we can recruit more subs from our parent pool; Erik mentioned the district has hired more subs (230ish), but others explained there are still shortage issues.
- Erik mentioned it would be good to have someone help with early reading intervention.
- Assessment/testing update:
 - Some testing data not where they should be, especially in 2nd and 3rd grade.
 - Teachers are looking at assessments by state standards now to help them figure out where teachers should focus their instruction.
 - Coaches will be there next year to help support these assessments.
- Spring break is coming; there have been a lot of behavior issues/challenges this month.
- Budgets look good; we have COVID relief funds that can go to additional paras next year.

Talent Show Update (Scott Riding)

- The show will be an hour-long event for kids to show off their talents.
- Flyers are going out now; Dani has them for teachers.
- A main goal is to make sure the time between sign up and performing is minimal.
- The rehearsal will be Wednesday after school.
- The main event will be Thursday at 6pm in the auditorium.
- Prerecording option (like what we did last year) mostly out, but could be an option for kids with risk concerns.
- Lauren offered to put it on Instagram.
- Scott said he asked for parent phone numbers to streamline the planning this year.
- Elizabeth mentioned that PTA has \$150 budgeted for school-wide events; Scott said he did not have expenses last year but will keep that in mind.
- Lauren offered to do the certificates.

Chair/Commissioner/VP Reports

1. Building Community (Lauren McBrier reported for Elizabeth Payne, who had to leave earlier)
 - Gallery Stroll:
 - Shared Elizabeth's Powerpoint; Emily will put it up on the website.
 - Elizabeth is trying to distribute the responsibilities; there is additional volunteer interest.
 - A calendar is included on when things should happen (March-May).
 - One change will be with class baskets: if the basket exceeds a certain dollar amount, it will be added to the silent auction so people can bid on it.
 - Discussed PTO idea again (i.e., Indian Hills has PTA and boot); it's good to talk to other schools about how they raise money.
 - Erik mentioned that Heather deserves to be nominated for (special education) teacher of the year award.
 - Lauren mentioned that we need more people to help with Tinikling (Friday at 8:15).
2. Academic Enrichment VP (Harry Fishleigh reported on grants)
 - Harry is working on finalizing the Artist in the Classroom grant; he and Ashley are working on it and will meet one more time to go through it.
3. Supporting Teachers VP (Melissa Brownell)
 - Erik thanked PTA/Supporting Teachers for the staff lunch, SEP dinner, and letters day.
 - Eagle folder discussion:
 - Melissa needs to know how many folders we need; she doesn't know how much they cost or where to buy them.
 - Erik said if we have 350 total that would do it.
 - We will need about 127 next year.
 - Elizabeth said she can contact a past president to ask her about it (or give Melissa her contact info).
 - Avenues Street Fair update:
 - The committee is having its first meeting tomorrow to set up applications and fees.
 - Melissa will continue to provide updates but will not be in charge of or running Ensign's booth.
 - Melissa said she doesn't know if they give a discount to schools; in the past the cost has been around \$150.
 - Teacher Appreciation gifts for March will be out by the end of next week.
 - Book fair:
 - The book fair raised \$9500 for the library.
 - Melissa explained that not having SEP during the book fair hurts the library (splitting SEP across two weeks means only some parents are there during the book fair).
 - Erik mentioned his survey for the SEP conference split.
 - Funding requests: Additional teacher supplies have been requested.

Melissa Brownell motioned to fund \$500 in teacher supplies in addition to what has already been approved*; Elizabeth Lucas seconded. APPROVED by majority vote.

Additional Discussion: Putting a banner up at Lindsay Gardens was discussed briefly.

Melissa Brownell motioned to adjourn the meeting; Amy Picklesimer seconded. APPROVED by majority vote.

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

*After the meeting, Therese agreed to provide an accounting of additional approved amounts to Elizabeth L. *COMPLETED*