

PTO Meeting Agenda/Minutes for 9/17/2018

In attendance: Jen McNamara, Leslie Calhoun, Liz Loomis, Angela Bulman, Jennifer Brose, Carly Ly, Sara Schneidewind, Cori Peng, Jas Kalsi, Beth Konrad, Baris Ozgurel, Pelin Ozgurel, Tarun Gehani, Tedros Desta, Subodh Damle, Kanchan Manohar, Grace Wu, Walter Wu, Nathan Mar, Lakshmi Narayanaswamy, Shantha Ihalaranaweera, Rama Thakar, Monica Dalmia, Heather Halabu, Linda Hagan, Mary Cooper, Meenu Nair, Fernanda Pires Gamboa, Denise Fernandes, Sapna & Satyen Nichani, Srari Parlapalli, Yan Lei, Koty Velivela, Valeria Cuda, Marguerite Dillard, Monika Titus, Dan Berger, Mandy Hutton, Kana Greenawalt, Sherry Grant, Becky Locke, Shalini Jayasundera

1. Called to order: Jennifer McNamara
2. Minutes - Reviewed previous meeting's minutes - Kate reviewed meetings from June 2018.
 - a. Motion to approve minutes: Carly
 - b. Seconded: Leslie Calhoun
 - c. Vote: All Ayes
3. Principal Report - Mrs. Cooper - Great start to the school year. Kiddos have great joy and energy. Mrs. Cooper has been in each classroom reintroducing and getting to know new students and getting to know one another to help them feel safe and that is part of the work Mrs. Cooper does. One of her important jobs is to know all the kids names, and kids are really excited about this. Often gets asked how she knows all the kids names - she falls asleep with the photo directory :). Have 522 student enrolled, 22 classroom teachers, and looks forward to seeing parents at Curriculum Night. Introduced Heather Halabu as Assistant Principal at King. She has also been traveling around and meeting children, reading books, etc. She's still working on names - they quiz her at lunch where she spends much of her time with them.
4. Teacher Report - Mrs. Hagan - As always, on the partnership between teachers and families - so valuable, really appreciate everything the PTO does and the support provided.
5. Treasurer Report - Tim Pinto - Will be here in October. If you are a new parent, you may not realize that we are one of the few schools in AAPS that does not get a back to school list. This is because the PTO gives mini grants to teachers to get materials and supplies to children. PTO also pays for field trips and other projects around school. We sent out an "ask" for donation at the beginning of the year. Two big ones are: Book Fair and Silent Auction. This promotes equity in the classroom, which we hope we can continue. Tim will give a more specific update next month.
6. Committee Reports
 - a. AAPAC (Parent Advisory Council) - Liz Batteh - open to the public, district wide. We can add to e-Notes.
 - b. Academic Games-Vivian Lin - AG is off to a great start with 38 students signed up so far! Our first tournament, at which we will compete in the Equations game, will be Sept 29 at Dossin in Detroit. States will be March 4-6, 2019 in Grand Rapids. Nationals will be April 25-30, 2019 in Orlando. For 4th and 5th grade students.

- c. Bagel Friday-Cori Peng and Jas Kalsi - Join us for the first Bagel Friday on October 12th! Bagel Friday at 8:10 in the King Cafeteria. Bagels, muffins, juice and coffee will be for sale. Come and socialize with other King families. All dates are listed on the PTO website.
- d. Bingo Night - Jen McNamara - A fun family evening of Bingo! Students and their families gather by grade level to enjoy a night of fun. Everyone plays Bingo until they win. Chili fundraiser for Space Camp!
- e. Book Fairs - Mandy Hutton, Dana Habers, Lisa Mitchell, Gayle Green - fall book fair is scholastic. Spring includes used children's book. This is an event that **really** needs volunteers to make it go! This also fund the Scholastic News papers that go home and that all the teachers use.
- f. Box Tops - Ying Liu - We collect these throughout the year and kids are asked to bring them in in the Spring. Class with the most gets an ice cream party.
- g. By Laws Interpretation - Jamie Haberichter - Making sure that we are following our by-laws properly.
- h. Communications/Enotes - Fernanda Pires - eNotes are one week, the following week is the Principal's Newsletter. Every other week delivery is a bit more manageable in terms of information flow.
- i. Community Action Network Liaison - **OPEN POSITION** -
- j. Disability Awareness Coordinator- Katie Baidel - Save the date! Wednesday, November 14 from 8:30am-1pm. We need many volunteers to assist 4th graders as they do a variety of activities which stimulate different types of disabilities. It is a powerful learning experience for both the students and the adults! Work with volunteers from the Center for Independent Living.
- k. First Day Packets - PTO sent out forms on the first Friday of school. Please review and look for information on donations and options for volunteering.
- l. Grocery Cards - **OPEN POSITION**
- m. Harvest Moon - Renee Tall - Wednesday, October 24. A celebration of fall festivals from many cultural groups and for the first full moon in early October. Children can come in costumes and there is a lantern parade to end. Many volunteers are needed!
- n. Ice Cream Social - Monica Jones, Emily Nelson - **Looking for 3rd co-chair** - Pizza and Ice Cream for purchase, Clague Jazz Band plays, and it is a celebration of the end of the school year. Another co-chair is needed - someone from a lower grade possibly who can take over in the future.
- o. International Night - Marguerite Dillard - King International Night is an amazing celebration of cultures from all around the world. It takes place at Pioneer HS on Saturday, February 23 at 6pm and is an evening of over 20 on-stage performances: dancing, singing, instruments and more ... Every year, about 200 children at King Elementary participate. All children are welcome to sign-up for weekly practices to perform on stage. There will be a committee meeting: Monday, September 17th 5:30PM-6:15PM King Room 100 and all interested parents are welcome to attend. Be on the lookout for a signup genius for parent's interested in leading performances and then for student sign ups.

- p. Landscaping - Dan Beard - A “clearing out” party will hopefully be held in early October! Look for a SignUpGenius in the next ten days. The plan is to prep the soil for planting later!
- q. Learning Garden - Sherri Grant, Angela Bulman, Valeria Cuda, Becky, Locke - School Wide watermelon tasting. We plan on getting each class out to the garden to learn and work during the fall season. We are looking to grow our team of volunteers. Please consider helping in our amazing garden even if you don't think you have any gardening experience. We have so many ways that you can help; social media, help in the garden with classes, watering or weeding etc. The King Learning Garden work day will be in October (date to be determined)! Bring your whole family and support our amazing garden!
- r. Math Club - Lakshmi Narayanaswamy - Afterschool club for grades 1 to 5 from 7-8pm on Wednesdays is the current plan. The kids learn about problem solving skills and reinforce math concepts being learned in school. Need MANY more volunteers to make this happen, and to make it successful. Coaches and assistant coaches are needed to make it possible.
- s. PTO Thrift Shop Liaison - Anita Shelgikar
- t. PTO Council Rep - Leslie Calhoun - The first PTO Council event is Thursday Sept 27 at Pioneer at 6:15pm. The event is a Meet the Board of Education Candidates with a Welcome from Dr. Swift. The event begins at 6:15 with music provided by the Pioneer Orchestra. More information can be found on the PTO Council website, and the event is open to all AAPS parents and supporters. Reminder, there is a BOE election on the November ballot, so this is a great opportunity to get to know the candidates and make an informed decision for your vote.
- u. Science Olympiad - Marguerite Dillard, Yong Miao, Sravi Parlapalli - Every year, King Elementary School participates in WESO Science Olympiad at Pioneer High School. WESO - Washtenaw Elementary Science Olympiad – is a grow the curiosity of our children for sciences: every year, over 40 elementary schools district-wide participate in the Olympiad. Thanks to parent volunteers like you, approximately 150 King children from 2nd through 5th grade meet every week to learn about 1 of over 20 scientific topics such as: aerodynamics, building dynamics, nature, circuits, estimation, ornithology, chemistry, vehicle dynamics, computing, botanics, map reading, architecture, anatomy, optics, astronomy, robotics, physics. The date is not yet announced. Look for sign ups for coaching soon!
- v. Silent Auction - Sara Schneidewind - reaching out to find new families to join the Co-Chairs. This is an event that needs a ton of volunteers. At King there is an effort to limit the little fundraisers, by having one huge event. Last year the event made nearly \$40,000, which is about half of our budget annually. PTO supports all school based activities (including before, after and during school). Donations from local and national businesses - who are contacted by volunteers. Donations are also made by families - to tune up bikes, make meals, parties (big, small, MNO, etc). A really fun event to share our King community. Want new to King,

families who can carry on the tradition and learn the software that we use to organize the auction. Creates opportunities for online bidding in case families cannot attend, etc. Lots of great small jobs that can be done at home or at school. Look for introductory meeting in the fall, form sub-committees, etc.

- w. SIT Rep - Kiana Barfield, Carrie Bora - School Improvement Team. Every school must have a SIT Plan, which helps us to focus on areas for improvement using data. This committee includes parents and teachers. All the stakeholders provide information about how to make sure information is presented, clarity is given around SIT goals, and the plan is accessible and shared with community members. Look out for the newsletter. The SIT parent members are chosen for a full school year term. The SIT also presents an academic topic night to help parents understand the curricular approaches/goals.
 - x. Spirit Wear - Ben Ewy - Once a year, King Apparel information goes out for families. Be on the lookout. The goal is to get it out in time for the holiday season.
 - y. Student Directory - **OPEN POSITION** - This can be completely done from home, online and it is a matter of watching some videos and updating information as it comes in from parents. This is an important tool because teachers are not allowed to share family information. The directory can be a place to find the contact information that you need. A really easy job!
 - z. Teacher Appreciation - **OPEN POSITION** - A few times a year we have one or two co-chairs that lead a couple events during the year that show our appreciation for teachers and their hard work. Usually one in the fall that coincides with parent/teacher meetings in November (11/5 this year) and then a spring event. Last year it was making granola snacks for end of year report cards.
 - aa. Traffic & Safety - **OPEN POSITION**- take on issues of concern relating to traffic and safety and how to improve processes at King. If you have questions or concerns or see unsafe behavior please bring it to Mrs. Cooper's attention. Best thing that you can do, is to prevent anything dangerous from happening or get a picture of a license plate to work with local police to follow up with issues with non-safe drivers.
 - bb. Theatrical Play - Ying Liu - If have enough students and volunteers may begin again this year.
 - cc. Turkey Trot - Cori Peng - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Mrs. Arbor will pick a date in November. Students pair up (older/younger) and all run some laps, eat some donuts and drink some cider.
7. Old Business - None
8. New Business - Send your people to PTO!!!
9. Meeting Adjournment @ 7:33
- a. Motion to adjourn: Leslie
 - b. Seconded: Carly