

PTO Meeting Agenda/Minutes for 11/8/2018

In attendance: Jen McNamara, Tim Pinto, John Ramirez, Linda Hagan, Heather Halabu, Sherry Grant, Mary Cooper, Marguerite Dillard, Mandy Hutton, Alfuilur Kristjansdottir, Leslie Calhoun, Ben Ewy, Kara Greenawalt

1. Called to order: 8:01am
2. Minutes – Jen McNamara reviewed previous meeting's minutes -
3. Motion to approve minutes: Tim Pinto
  - a. Seconded: Marguerite Dillard
  - b. Vote: All agree
4. Principal Report - Mrs. Cooper - Mrs. Cooper thanked everyone for being here. King teachers are in the middle of parent/teacher conferences and we are having great turnout for these. Report Cards to go out soon and teachers are prepping for this. Thank you for the dinner the other night for the teachers during the evening of parent/teacher conferences. Thanks to the garden committee for the salsa that was made and shared with children. Thank you for being here and all you do and your support.
5. Spirit Wear - Ben Ewy – Spirit Wear updates given. Ben is excited and things it's a good time schedule to get gear out and back for the holidays. Would like to get order forms out before Thanksgiving, will work with Jen to do this. A little history about spirit wear: Ben came in 4 years ago and changed things up a bit and made nicer t-shirts. Although the prices for these t-shirts of better quality went up, sales have taken off. There was a dip last year but for 2018-2019 there are a couple changes. There will only be one graphic this year. The extra graphic doesn't often get utilized and then we are charged more for this. Based on feedback, we'll be adding pink and a brighter blue – will not do the North Carolina blue. This year more a Tahitian blue. A new t-shirt and fleece vendor is being utilized this year. Last year, an incorrect link was sent out and this year we'll specifically make sure the link is correct and hopefully shorter. In addition, will do a take home flier. If we have extra funds, we may have extra t-shirts printed for different events at King to sell. Maybe we can utilize these for kids who can't afford them. Link should go on PTO and Facebook site. We went through the designs, colors, etc. For all kids there will be tie dye shirts – note that these run about a ½ a size small, the rest are true to size. Voted to add in a girl's style t-shirt. Baseball t-shirts incorporated and hoodies for kids. For adults: Men's t-shirts, men's hoodies, women's t-shirts, women's sweatshirts (feedback regarding last year's women's sweatshirts around "too much clavicle") so a new hoodie incorporated in this year. The group approved the work and Ben will proceed with pricing. The money we make can go into the next year or for ordering more t-shirts. Discussion regarding if we would do a second in the spring but have not done well with sales in the spring so we should announce this when we advertise that we will only be doing this once this year.
6. Teacher Report - Mrs. Hagan - Thank you from the teachers, they are so appreciative. The food on Monday was delicious.
7. Treasurer Report - Tim Pinto – No updates on the budget. Tim is getting the hang of getting in reimbursement requests and getting the check back out in a timely manner. The group collectively agreed that Tim has been doing a great job with the turnover of checks. Literacy night is coming in the fall and spring and wasn't on the approved budget but was discussed prior to that. Tim found funds from another budget line to offset this cost and will

write this into the budget for next year as a separate line item. Mrs. Cooper noted that Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> will be literacy night for Young 5's through 1<sup>st</sup> graders. Many families already registered and King Care for the event.

#### 8. Committee Reports

- a. AAPAC (Parent Advisory Council) - Liz Batteh – no report
- b. Academic Games - Vivian Lin - No Report
- c. Bagel Friday-Cori Peng and Jas Kalsi - The next bagel Friday is this Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:10am in the cafeteria. Come join us for bagels, coffee and community! You can still buy bagel bucks!
- d. Bingo Night - Jen McNamara - Bingo night date has been set for Thursday, Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> in the MPR. We hope to partner with Space Camp to hold the chili cook off but that has not yet been set.
- e. Book Fairs - Mandy Hutton, Dana Habers, Lisa Mitchell, Gayle Green - Book Fair is the week of December. It will start with online sales on Tuesday, Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>. The sign up genius will be out soon. The theme is the enchanted forest and the team will be looking for help to staff the event. Will put information in newsletters. Marketing success has come through taking sample books to librarian to be read to students. Tim Pinto raised question about making it obvious that you can buy books for teachers. The table worked really well where parents could just pick up the book and buy it. Teachers had filled a box with books they want. There was parent feedback to take away the decision process from parents – add recommendations that are visual so parents can get in and out. Asking Mrs. Cooper on books regarding kindness and empathy based around anti-bullying club. Mrs. Cooper to look into this as Scholastic doesn't send a list beforehand.
- f. Box Tops - Don't forget to save your box tops. They'll be turned in at the end of the year!
- g. By Laws Interpretation - Jamie Haberichter - No Report
- h. Communications/Enotes - Fernanda Pires - If you want to put a blurb in the next eNotes, please email by this evening! [fpires.ag@gmail.com](mailto:fpires.ag@gmail.com)
- i. Community Action Network Liaison - No report
- j. Disability Awareness Coordinator- Katie Baidel - DAW is next week, Wednesday, November 14. A big shout out to Robyn who has worked hard to set up the schedule for the 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes for DAW day. It is quite complex, so her brain power on this is greatly appreciated!!! It is crunch time for filling our volunteer slots. A few more spaces remain open, please consider signing up or spread the word to others. No experience necessary; but volunteers should be comfortable engaging in learning activities with students. The sign up can be found at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0c4eaca82eaa8-disability>
- k. First Day Packets - Jen McNamara - No Report
- l. Grocery Cards - **OPEN POSITION**
- m. Harvest Moon - Renee Tall - Harvest Moon was a huge success. Thank you to those who joined us and thank you to those who volunteered! Another thank you

to the learning garden committee for their joined efforts to make this event a success.

- n. Ice Cream Social - Monica Jones, Emily Nelson - Looking for 3rd co-chair - No report.
- o. International Night - Marguerite Dillard - All King students are welcome to SIGN-UP to participate in any performance practices. So far 81 kids have signed up so far. The deadline to sign up for performances is Friday, November 16th. Please note, King Care children are all welcome to register. Practice will take place at King Elementary for 1-2 hour / week - unless specified otherwise - and will begin the week of Monday, November 26th. The date for International Night is Saturday, February 23rd starting 6PM at Pioneer High School.
- p. Landscaping - Dan Beard – Work has started in the courtyard and great progress has been made. Tricia Guest's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class is working with Dan to work in this area as well.
- q. Learning Garden - Sherri Grant, Angela Bulman, Valeria Cuda, Becky Locke - We are closing up the garden for the season after a very successful fall harvest. Every class had a learning/working session in the garden this fall. We were able to partner with Isalita for a delicious tasting of pumpkin/tomatillo salsa and chips. Looking forward to spring planting season.
- r. Math Club - Lakshmi Narayanaswamy - no report
- s. PTO Thrift Shop Liaison - Anita Shelgikar -  
We earn money for our PTO by promoting the PTO Thrift shop! In order to earn credit using our Promo, you must
  - 1) Use our current promo (can be found on our webpage at [a2prothriftshop.org](http://a2prothriftshop.org)) as a full-page ad
  - 2) Include it in a publication or email that is distributed to your entire school.
  - 3) Promos used in emails must be embedded. They will not earn credit if they are used only as an attachment.
  - 4) You must email a pic of your publication or forward your emails to our No-Reply Email address: [a2ptoPROMOS@gmail.com](mailto:a2ptoPROMOS@gmail.com).  
Don't forget to join us this Saturday, November 10th, for our Veteran's Day Raffle! We will be drawing the winning tickets at 5:00-5:30 pm. Hope to see you there!
- t. PTO Council Rep - Leslie Calhoun - I (Leslie Calhoun) attended the first PTO council meeting on Monday October 15. This month was an overview of the role of PTO council. Also, Dr. Swift gave a district update. The powerpoint from her presentation can be found at the following URL: <https://www.a2schools.org/Page/14065> The presentation focused on the following topics: (1) AAPS student achievement and closing achievement disparities (analysis of test scores, graduation rates and suspension rates). On-time graduation rates have gone up since 2013, suspensions have gone down since 2010; (2) Early childhood and Young Fives-- this is the first year

that Young Fives is now offered at every AAPS elementary school; (3) PLTW and STEAM enhancements-- PLTW is now taught starting in Young Fives, and has expanded to A.P. offerings in high school; (4) International Baccalaureate and Career Program is offered at Mitchell Elementary, Scarlett Middle, and Huron High Schools. These programs are designed to prepare students to take the next steps to career or college credits towards college after graduation. The first group graduates in 2020, and this program is the first of its kind in Michigan; (5) AAPS offers students 7 world languages (Arabic, American Sign, Chinese, French, German, Latin, and Spanish); (6) AAPS is committed to arts education, 100% of elementary school students receive 60 minutes of Art and 60 minutes of music per week. This decreases in middle and high school when art and music become electives, but are still strong programs; (7) this year we will see the opening of the Freeman Environmental Education Center; (8) individual elementary school updates (re-imagining the Bryant-Pattingill partnership, converting Carpenter into a PK-8); (9) Strategic Plan update: this was a survey sent out at the end of last year. 4,362 people participated. The results are in: What parents like best about AAPS is its diverse and inclusive learning environment. AAPS is now working on a definition and plan promoting Equity going forward. This includes looking at the social and emotional wellbeing of each child. (10) Third Grade Reading law: AAPS has placed literacy experts in all K-8 campuses with a focus on diagnosis, monitoring, intervention, and instruction. AAPS does not believe in retaining students (repeating an extra year) as the Michigan legislature would have it and all districts do; (11) Drinking Water Testing Program. See the emails sent directly from Dr. Swift to parents. The number one goal for lead safety is to education children and staff to use trusted sources of drinking water. The District's choice to undergo annual monitoring and testing is voluntary. The District is committed to mitigation and repair of fixtures, as well as installation of filling stations with certified lead filters at each school. King already has two. See the following URLs for more information on lead testing in schools: <https://www.a2schools.org/Page/14020> <https://www.a2schools.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=12747>

Next Month's PTO Council Meeting (open to the public): Monday Nov 12 from 7-8:30 at the Westerman Preschool and Family Center. Topics: (1) AAPS Strategic Volunteer and Partnership Coordinator; and (2) Everything You Wanted to Know about High School Sports.

- u. Science Olympiad - Marguerite Dillard, Yong Miao, Sravi Parlapalli - Science Olympiad is a learning opportunity for King students in grades 2-5 to use principles of science and to work together as problem-solving teams. Parent volunteers lead/coach 23 events.

We are still looking for 4 coaches for the following categories: In Bloom, No Bones about It, Pasta Bridges, Write it build it. The last day for sign up for a coaching positions will be Tuesday, Nov. 20th.

Student registration will begin soon and practices will start Monday, Feb. 25th.

Date of event: Saturday, May 11th: the 17th WESO tournament will be held at Pioneer High-School. [kingscienceolympiad@gmail.com](mailto:kingscienceolympiad@gmail.com)

- v. Silent Auction - Sara Schneidewind -
  - w. SIT Rep - Kiana Barfield, Carrie Bora -
  - x. Student Directory - Megan Olson - King Directory is now updated and available for use. Please continue to encourage families to update their family information if they have not already done so and to sign up if they are new to the directory. We will keep enrollment open throughout the year.
  - y. Teacher Appreciation - Lindy Lee - Thank you to those who donated to the teacher appreciation dinner this week!
  - z. Traffic & Safety - no report
  - aa. Turkey Trot - Cori Peng - The annual King School Turkey Trot will take place on Friday, November 16th. All King students will run/walk laps behind the school. After the children finish, they can enjoy cider and donuts in the gym. You are welcome to join your child! Look for the schedule in this week's eNotes
9. Old Business - None
10. New Business - None
11. Meeting Adjournment @ 8:50am
12. Motion to adjourn: Alfuidur Kristjansdottir
- a. Seconded: Leslie Calhoun