

OES PTA Meeting Minutes
Back to School Nights
September 9, 2014
September 10, 2014
OES Library
Submitted by Audra Hoebler

Present: From the Board: Jeff Wright, Gail Gonzales, Carolyn Culhane, Marcie Martin, Nicole White and Audra Hoebler. In total, there were 39 PTA members in attendance.

The meeting came to order at 7:10pm.

Board Reports

President – Jeff Wright

- Rollout of the 20/20 plan to make the PTA's voice stronger
 - Current OES PTA membership is not very high – approximately 83% of OES families do not participate in the PTA.
 - Average PTA meeting attendance is approximately 10 people.
 - For the 2015-2016 school year, the OES PTA plans to increase overall membership in the PTA by 20%. The PTA also plans to increase the average number of members that attend PTA meetings throughout the year by 20%.
- How will OES achieve that goal?
 - We will ask parents what they want out of the PTA.
 - We will bring in guests that speak to the needs and goals of students, parents, and teachers.
 - We will find new ways to share the local, state, and national impact that the PTA can have.
- Volunteers
 - There is no requirement made of a PTA member but there are many opportunities for parents to volunteer
- Newsletter
 - The Panther PTA Express is the best way to find out what is going on as it relates to the PTA and OES. It is sent out via email weekly and also when there are special announcements that need to be emphasized. Please sign up to receive!
- Marcie made a motion to approve the OES 2015-16 budget. All in favor with no objections.

Treasurer – Marcie Martin

- Our Net Income from Fundraising & Activities is projected to be \$73,985, if we hit all of our goals.
 - Income is derived from Friends of Oakton, Family Fun Night, the OES 5K Race, Community Building events, such as Family Nights Out and Skate nights, along with a variety of smaller fundraisers that occur throughout the year.
 - Because we are a non-profit, we maintain a zero dollars overall net income. So our projected expenses will also total \$73,985.
- How will our money be spent?
 - Academic Enrichment which includes money for Language Arts, Enrichment Grants, Professional Development for Faculty and Staff, Teacher Support, Technology, the Art Department, Cultural Arts programs, GRACE Art, Reflections and activities like the Variety Show and International Night.
 - Teacher Appreciation events, water for the year for teachers and staff, Donuts for Dads, and our speaker series.
 - Administrative fees incurred by the PTA to administer items like processing credit cards, maintaining the website, Enrichment and Training for PTA Board Members (This includes Executive Committee Members and Committee Chairs).
 - Additionally, we have set aside funds to assist with PTA Membership for families that financially aren't able to join, but would like to do so.
 - We will be forming a temporary committee to explore the possibility of a gravel track for OES. Based on the results of that committee, we may be revisiting the budget, in particular the funds raised from our 5K Run.
- Marcie made a motion to approve the 2015-16 PTA budget. All in favor with no objections.

VP of Fundraising – Gail Gonzalez

- The Fall Dance will be held on October 23rd. It will have a Monster Bash theme. We need volunteers to help with the planning as well as the evening of the event!

- Family Fun Night was successful last year and there will be no major changes to this event for the current year.
- Mixed Bag Designs is a repeat fundraiser from last year. In order to get the orders before Winter Holiday break, it will begin on Oct. 27 and end on Nov. 16. Information will be coming soon in the Panther Express.
- The 5K committee is shaping up but we need volunteers! This event promotes physical activity and is one of our highest performing fundraisers.
- New fundraising ideas
 - We are looking at having a parent event again in the Spring. We are considering a trivia competition night for teams of parents and their friends.
 - We are also exploring a movie night or after school movie event.
- Please bookmark the Amazon link from our website. We get approximately 6% back on all orders from that link and as we order more that percentage increases.

VP of Programs – Carolyn Culhane

- Enrichment Matters
 - This year the PTA has adopted a new, streamlined registration process for all before- and after-school classes, including those led by a teacher or parent volunteer. All vendors, some of which we already use, are FCPS-approved.
 - With the new registration and payment system, parents will be able to click on the Enrichment Matters OES link on the PTA website and have access to the complete schedule of classes offered that session as well as class descriptions and registration fee information. Parents will complete the entire registration and payment process for the classes your child selects on the spot, using a credit card or e-check.
- Reflections Arts in Education program – we need volunteers!
 - National PTA-level program that is run by OES parent volunteers
 - Students create a work of art: photography, creative writing, film, dance choreography, to represent that year's theme. It is a competition, but, more importantly, an opportunity for your child to showcase his/her creativity and enthusiasm for the arts.

Corresponding Secretary – Nicole White

- In past years the President handled the PTA Panther express, but this year Kate Smith has volunteered to take on that role.

- The Corresponding Secretary's role will encompass all of our major communication initiatives. Our website, newsletter, and social media messaging will be consistent and coordinated.
- The Panther PTA Express will be published every Thursday at noon. Submissions must be given to Kate (or emailed) by noon Thursday the week prior to publication.
- Let Nicole know if you would like your submission shared in other areas other than the Panther Express.
- Join the PTA Facebook group.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35pm.

The next PTA meeting is October 19th, 2015 at 9:30am in the cafeteria.