



OES PTA Meeting Minutes

OES Library

March 14, 2018

Submitted by Jamie Rothenberger

PTA President Kate Cote brought the meeting to order at 8:30AM by reviewing the treasurer's report to date.

- Kate highlighted that so far we have collected approx. \$10K from Friends of Oakton (FOO).
- She said that our goal was to net as much for the Spring Carnival as we did last year (approx. \$14K).
- Kate highlighted a \$995 dollar expenditure for the 6th grade basketball game and suggested that this was coded wrong. Nicole has reached out to Erin to track down the expenditure.
- Kate asked for Mimi to provide her expenditure for Robotics so that she may be reimbursed.
- Kate said that we are currently running a surplus of about \$18K but expects the PTA to break even at the end of the year when technology expenditures as well as all final expenditures come in. Based on this information she suggested pushing the vote on last year's surplus to the May meeting pending the outcome of Spring Carnival to which Chris agreed.
- Chris Kelly said that she would send a note to teachers asking for any expenses for the PTA to be in by March 30 so that we may reimburse.
- Kate suggested that next year the PTA increase to money that they give to each classroom to \$250 to cover additional expenses that they incur.

Our librarian Corin Harmon spoke about library activities.

- Corin said that the recent Author event that the PTA helped to fund was a huge success with all students and looks forward to an event like this each year.
- Corin also said that they are putting together a program next year for rising 5th graders called the "battle of the books" which she plans to continue each year. She said that she would be requesting some budget next year in order to cover the program to include trophy to be displayed in school and team awards. She said that she would provide a draft budget to Kate Cote.

Hope said that she believed that so far we have sold approx. 25-30 bricks for the brick program.

Kate then turned our attention to the Spring Carnival.

- Kate put together a timeline so that we will not spend as much time on last minute items.
- She said that our current concern was how to promote the event. We asked Chris about the "candy guessing games" that we did last year and she asked if we display the jars and leave a box for students to guess during the day, but not during lunch. The PTA plans to set these up 2 weeks prior to the event.
- Nicole also suggested we created small signs highlighting the kids' auction items to be posted outside of each classroom and include pictures for the younger students.



Dominique provided an update on Autism Awareness Day.

- Since Autism Awareness Day falls the day after children return from spring break, Oakton will observe this day on **April 6**.
- She is trying to secure t-shirts for purchase today. Otherwise, students should plan to wear blue on that day.
- Materials have been ordered that will be distributed to teachers and students to provide more information on Autism. The PTA lobby bulletin board will display Autism information that month, and Dominique has partnered with PTV to provide information that week to the students.

Maureen Buchino provided an update on the requested funds for the math manipulatives. She said that she would be requesting approx. \$7K in funding for math materials for the school to include versatiles and digi-blocks. She will send a detailed breakout of the request to Kate along with a listing of items tiered in order of importance.

Chris asked if the PTA had discussed how much we would be able to contribute to the new laptops purchased for the school. She said that the school spent \$47,000 and would appreciate any help that the PTA could provide.

- Nicole White also asked the PTA to review the iPad request for the school counselor. This will all be part of the surplus vote to occur at the May meeting as it is dependent on the outcome of the Spring Carnival.

Chris asked the board if it had made any decisions regarding donation activities for next year. Kate informed her that we agreed to skip the Boosterthon for next year and focus our fundraising solely around Friends of Oakton.

- Rupa asked Chris if during Back to School night next year she would be willing to allow the PTA to show a video discussing what the PTA does and how parents can help through their FOO donation. Chris agreed and also said that we may show that video during Kindergarten orientation on April 13.

Chris asked the Board to alert Kate Cote to the date of April 13 at 3PM for kindergarten orientation, as usually there is an introduction by the PTA president and a short discussion about what the PTA does and how they can get involved.

Maureen Buchino asked for the PTA to include a line item in the budget next year for the math department. She will send a request to Kate Cote to consider.

Variety Show is planned for this week and is ready to be rolled out to students and parents.

Nicole suggested that new PTA meeting attendees be on the lookout for additional meeting reminders where our larger events will be discussed in more detail.

PTA member Noorie Rai asked if the PTA and/or school was doing anything regarding school security and if we planned to talk to children/parents about what the school may be doing.



- Chris said that the administration is regularly talking to its students about not letting people in the doors, etc. She said that the school has only one entrance where visitors may arrive/exit and must be buzzed in. She also said that the county is also re-looking at each school for ways to improve safety.
- Rupa asked about the possibility of a fence around the schoolyard. Chris said that this was an initiative that was undertaken by Jeff Wright 2 years ago which was rejected by Fairfax County. We agreed to provide the rejection details and will reach out to Jeff for those details.
- Noori said that she attended an event by Be-Smart that is a non-profit group that discusses gun safety in a completely “non-political” way. She plans to send additional information to Kate Cote and Nicole White so that we can look at the possibility of bringing this group in to talk to parents/students.
- Chris said that she and Keith plan to be on-hand should any of the older students decide to participate in the walk-out at 10AM. They will support them and be on the lookout for student safety.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10AM.

Meeting Attendees Included:

Corin Harmon	Dominique DeCeage
Maureen Buchino	Keith Eck
Krystle Rosse	Katie Tobin
Jamie Rothenberger	Noori Rai
Nicole White	Mimi Chou
Chris Kelley	
Rupa Shah	
Kate Cote	
Hope Wojciech	