



MINUTES

OES PTA Meeting

November 16, 2022, 7:00PM

In Attendance

This meeting was conducted online via Teams. Attendees included:

Karen Rose, Meredith Campbell, Erin Gallagher, Joy Lee Park, Keith Eck, Christine Kelley, Lauren Magee, Paula Currall, Christine Lancman, Andrea Zuppas, Linus, Georgetta, Doug Shuster, Erica Roque, Yi.

PTA Business

Meredith called the meeting to order at 7:09pm, and welcomed everyone.

Motion to enter the minutes from last meeting (September 2022) was made by Meredith Campbell, and seconded by Karen Rose.

Miller Heights Community – Kiss and Ride Issues

Meredith welcomed our guest, Mr Doug Shuster, the representative from the Miller Heights community (more than 200 households). He discussed the issues that the neighbourhood has been having with our kiss and ride over the last 5+ years. Between 3:55 and 4:05, the street is often blocked by parents waiting to pick up their kids. He explained that they have complained to the county, the school, the police, etc but there has been no resolution.

Principal Kelley explained that she has asked for an earlier dismissal time, as she believes that is part of the problem. She also said that this year they have moved to 2 lanes for the kiss and ride vs the one in previous years. She agreed that it has not completely fixed the issue, but that the problem needs to be pushed higher up.

Joy asked if there was someone who could potentially direct traffic out there? This might be a fix in the short term. Mrs Kelley said that they have spoken to the police about having someone out there, but that they are short staffed, and don't have anyone to send.

Mr. Shuster suggested that perhaps people could wait down on the next road (S Erin dr) instead of on Miller rd. He also asked if it was possible to add "no parking" signs to the area further up from the school (beside the cafeteria) to create more space for the kiss and ride.

A guest asked if it was possible to cap the number of parents who access Kiss and Ride at the beginning of the year? Mrs Kelley said that is not an option, as parents always have the right to pick up their children from school.

Budget

Karen told everyone that the budget has been uploaded to the PTA website.

We have raised about \$22,000, and spent about \$13,000 so far. Our goal for the year is to raise \$65,000.

Our Panther Fund fundraiser (armchair fundraiser) is coming in late November/early December. This is our biggest fundraiser for the year, and traditionally brings in the bulk of our money. Parents are asked to donate what they can (these donations are tax-deductible).

Read-a-thon brought in about \$13,500 (just short of our \$15,000 goal). Students read about 86,000 minutes! The 3 classrooms who achieved the most participants/minutes read were treated to popsicles and a visit from Paws (Ms. Robinson, Ms. Chang and Ms. Pachen).

Programs

Current and Upcoming Fundraising:

- Cards for a Cause (ends Friday, Nov 18th)
- Chick Fil-A DFD is Dec 12th (Spirit event)
- Skate Night is this Friday (Nov 18th)

Inclusive Schools Week: Andrea said that it will be held during the first full week of December (5th-9th), and more info will be provided through Facebook and our newsletter.

Variety Show: Auditions will be held Dec 6-9. More info to follow.

Stemvocate: About 30 kids signed up. This is being done with help from Oakton HS volunteers.

Winter Bingo (PJ Bingo) will be held on December 9th. We are looking for volunteers (signup genius in Panther express). Bingo cards will be sold on Memberhub.

Meredith mentioned that the PTA has been approached by parents wanting to advertise their small businesses. As such, we will be create a Facebook post where parents can link their businesses on National Small Business Saturday (the Saturday following Thanksgiving).

Principal Kelley thanked the PTA for the snacks they provided to the teachers. She said that the teachers are working hard, especially with the new pacing guides from the County (Science and Reading program). She mentioned that she brought in the author of "Shifting the Balance" to speak to/ work with the teachers twice about the shift between Whole Language/Balanced Literacy and Phonics. This is a big change for many of the teachers. Principal Kelley also thanked Mr Shuster for attending tonight, and said "We hear you".

Meredith mentioned that there has been a lot discussed about teacher burnout, so if there is anything the PTA can do to help, please let us know. Principal Kelley said that kind and encouraging words always help!

Meredith Campbell made the motion to close the meeting at 7:52pm. The motion was seconded by Joy Lee Park.

Upcoming Events and Activities

- Cards for a Cause (ends Friday, Nov 18th)
- Skate Night is this Friday (Nov 18th)
- Inclusive Schools Week - December 5th-9th
- Variety Show auditions December 6th -9th
- Winter Bingo (PJ Bingo) - December 9th
- Chick Fil-A DFD - December 12th

Next Meeting

The next PTA meeting will take place on January 11th. Location and time are TBD.