

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PTO COUNCIL FOR  
GLENRIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
Friday, October 28, 2022

A meeting of the PTO Council for Glenridge Elementary School was held, as scheduled pursuant to due notice on October 28, 2022 at 9:30 am CST via zoom conference and at Glenridge.

The following members of the Board were present at the meeting: Lynn Courter, Co-President; Kathryn Yorg, Co-President; Kellyn Cruz, Vice-President; Sarah Boyce, Secretary; Jamie Beyer, Treasury; Jami Klang, Communications; Tarita Murdock, Principal; Jenny Abeles, PTO Council Rep, Denise Stouffer, teacher representative

The following ex-Officio Advisors and members were present: Basak Sander (3<sup>rd</sup> grade parent and Intl family liaison), Stacey Hoffman, Whitney Lorenz (3<sup>rd</sup> grade parent – yearbook chair), Yorba Johnson (instructional coordinator), Erin Reynolds

On zoom: Ofer Zimmerman (K and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade parent), Lilly Scharff, Ying Guan

**Call to Order & Introductions: Lynn Courter & Kathryn Yorg**

Took a moment to recognize the Central Visual and Performing Arts tragedy this week.

**Presidents Report: Lynn Courter**

Approved the meeting minutes from last month.

Lynn introduced our new International family liaison, Basak Sander. She moved here 3 years ago from Turkey and recognized first hand the challenges of navigating the school and area from a foreign viewpoint even as an English speaker. She's going to create a welcome package and translate it for new international families. Well will try to match new families with existing families.

**Principal's Report: Dr. Tarita Murdock**

It was a rough week for staff with the tragedy at Central Visual and Performing Arts

The Clayton administration distributed staff to the schools and increased presence from the Clayton police department. Some parents have been inquiring about safety protocols. There are two intruder drills/year, one was scheduled for next week which we'll delay. The current focus at Glenridge is on educating (engage, escape, barricade) students. Most classrooms have doors and there is talk of putting in doors where we don't have them. We need to make sure parents are using the new door on Oxford (not Wellington) for late drop offs. There is shatterproof glass on all doors and windows on the first level, we have a button to close all of the doors at once. More security cameras are being installed. Dr Murdock met with the head of facilities about 3 gaps in the playground (gate at the stairs).

Ofer Zimmerman, grew up in Israel where parents would sit at the gate of the school. He offered to organize having 2 parents on property to monitor in case of emergency. Dr Murdock will inquire with upper administration to see if this is an option.

A parent reached out about making cards for Central Visual and Performing Arts. Dr Murdock will put something in her newsletter if people want to send cards and the teachers will include it in their emails.

**Teacher Representative Report: Denise Stouffer**

Teachers appreciated the conference week dinner and the pretzels on professional development day.

PE update – the roller skates have arrived.

Amy had an art request but it's likely covered within her \$500 specials budget. Denise will clarify with the special teachers that funding requests should be above their \$500 budget.

The funding request link sent to teachers wasn't correct, Denise and Kathryn will fix it. Denise and Dr. Murdock will connect on funding requests before bringing requests to the PTO.

Erin suggested that we publish what % of people have contributed for PTO dues and what % we are vs target of read a thon to drive more funding.

#### **Vice-President's Report: Lynn for Kellyn**

Strawberry Festival still needs another chair, Jamie will post something on Instagram.

Black History month needs 1 or 2 chairs.

#### **Treasurer's Report: Jamie Beyer**

Approved the financial statement.

Jamie reviewed the transactions from this month, funds for excellence are below budget, we should considering combining with PTO dues next year.

We will keep the Read a Thon button in case more payments come in

Taste of the world revenue came in higher than budget and expenses were less

We should get a check for the school kits by October 31

#### **PTO Council Update: Jenny Abeles**

Wydown is hosting a Bingo night to raise money for an 8<sup>th</sup> grade trip.

The PTO Council meeting is Nov 17 at noon. There is consideration for a district wide bbq in August 2023.

Glenridge Meet & greet for all families is on Nov 7 with Dr. Patel, please spread the word.

Discussion around having a grade level parent night next year coordinated by the grade liaisons.

#### **Other Business:**

Parade and fall parties are on Monday, Halloween.

Fall party volunteers need to make sure to check in with Stacey and can do that now. If you have a badge you can go straight through.

Homecoming Parade was a success

Taste of the world was a success, there's a lot that needs documenting for next year including providing tix for teachers next year. Thanks to our chair!

Read a Thon was huge success, thanks to our chairs!

Food and Essentials Drive – we didn't get enough food and are going to the grocery store. There is central funding that the building counselors can tap into to fill the pantry. Discussion around another drive in February and the turkey trot will contribute as well.

#### **Conclusion**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00am.

Respectfully submitted,

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Sarah Boyce, PTO Secretary