

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PTO COUNCIL FOR
GLENRIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Thursday, November 17, 2022

A meeting of the PTO Council for Glenridge Elementary School was held, as scheduled pursuant to due notice on November 17, 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; Tarita Murdock, Principal; Jenny Abeles, PTO Council Rep, Denise Stouffer, teacher representative

The following ex-Officio Advisors and members were present: Lilly Scharff (Vice President of PTO council); Yorba Johnson (instructional coordinator), Stacey Hoffman, Basak Sander (3rd grade parent and Intl family liaison), Emily Milchanowski

Call to Order & Introductions: Lynn Courter & Kathryn Yorg

The board approved minutes from last month

Presidents Report: Lynn Courter

PTO tabling was discussed to resume once or twice/month when the weather is nice

Strawberry festival still needs another chair. Lynn reached out to a few people and reviewed the binder from prior years. Lynn started booking the rides and the caricature. Prices went up a bit. Discussion around creating our own games with prizes with volunteers and using supplies from the Summerquest closet. The prizes for the games last year were expensive.

Gift wrapping: We originally said we weren't going to provide teacher gift wrapping this year but if teachers are interested we can do it. We could buy wrapping paper from the Wydown PTO fundraiser.

PTO lock box is up and we'll communicate it. It's after the 1st set of doors. All money should be in envelopes and labeled.

The Principal's report had a note to remind people to send in yearbook pics.

Principal's Report: Dr. Tarita Murdock

Thank you for the cookies.

Playground update: met with company who did original playground which is in good condition. It's 16-17 yrs old. Dr Murdock saw cracks after the review that she'll address. The company said we could replace a few items that aren't used as much with possibly a digging tool and more swings. \$87k quote. Could we redo the entire playground for another \$70k. 5th graders are doing agents of change and they're doing research on accessible playgrounds. Dr Murdock will talk about it with Jim and we can review the quotes and options. Dr Murdock will talk to facilities about replacing the surfacing and fences and determine what comes out of their budget.

School mascot – 17 entries, narrowed down to five: Gators, Griffins, Grasshoppers, Grizzlys, Griffcats. 5th grade is voting. The goal is to present the new mascot at the holiday sing.

Brag tags are going well.

Intl equity and inclusion goal. There was an event for African American families which was a big success. Nov 29 at 630 is an event for intl families at clayton HS in the library

Intl Family Liaison Report: Basak Sander

A welcome package will take time to get together. Let's find a way to notify Bashan and the PTO presidents when there are new intl students so they can welcome them, potentially for all new students not just intl. We can send a welcome email with some info/useful links. Basak met with a family center parent who's interested in this project and wants to work with us. Lynn is going to say something at the PTO council meeting to see if other schools and people are interested

Teacher Representative Report: Denise Stouffer

Thanks for the staff appreciation cookies. Amy Oliver says thanks, she's ordering tools with her \$500. Specialists and teachers are appreciative and on top of the money available and making use of it.

Ms Kelton (music teachers) requests for the PTO to sponsor a Barnes and Noble book fair, which we've done in the past. March is natl reading month and music in our schools month. We would avoid conf week and spring break. This is a great opportunity for grade levels to sing some songs to draw families in. PTO is supportive

Treasurer's Report: Jamie Beyer

Approved and signed the financial statement

Reviewed transactions

We are low on Glenridge Holiday assistance, what can we do to drum things up. Remind everyone that the gift cards are tax deductible and let's extend the date and put fliers in backpacks.

PTO Council Update: Jenny Abeles

Trivia and wrapping paper fundraisers are happening Jackel Island, hoping kids who can't afford it will be funded.

None of the schools seem to know about the money that was raised for the food & essentials drive. Turkey trot is next week and all donations will go to the schools. Mayor's youth advisory council is doing a food and essentials drive in Feb and that will go back to the schools – they'll contact the schools to get their needs. Discussed a non-monetary (extra recess) competition to raise donations.

Other Business:

Still need black history event chair

Thanks to the grade level liaisons for fall parties

Meet & greet with Dr Patel went great and was well attended. We'll do another one

Conclusion

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:38am.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Boyce, PTO Secretary