

**James Lewis Elementary**  
**PTA Board Meeting**  
**September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

*Attendance: Meghan Mckinnon, Katie Wood, Jaime Woody, Jennifer Moore, Kamber Yardley, Christine Kent, Katherine Sartain, Devin Ceperley, Liz Talamantez, Kim Murillo, Ashley Rogers, Amanda Yount, Lindsey Mitchell, Lori Zeller*

**I. Reports**

**A. Principal's Report**

- New Teachers: Kindergarten- Mrs. Donnell, 3rd Grade Teachers- Ms. Dodge and Mrs. Barrett, Special Education- Rachel Seidel
- New Assistant Principal- Devin Ceperley; Has been with the district for 10 years
- Kindergarten has 120 students
- You Matter- Taping, Kickoff Assembly will be happening soon. Anti bullying program will be at the same assembly
- MAP scores went home last week
- Catherine Bomer (consultant) to 5th grade for Writer's Workshop and Matt Glover (former principal) working with Kindergarten teachers to help us grow
- Grandparents Day is Friday, October 4th
- Parent Teacher conferences coming up; Parents will be able to sign up online
- SUPER, PBIS program; Tier one implemented within the last 3 years. Now working on Tier 2

**B. President's Report**

- Council Meeting-
  - a) Walked around the Blue Springs South Campus "Learning Stairs" where they eat lunch. It was very modern.
  - b) "The Dish," the district food truck was featured. They created individualized menus.
  - c) APEX was featured with a presentation. This could be a fundraiser option.
- Field Trip Shirt Update- Shirts were delivered to all the classrooms; Total of 309 shirts were ordered. Broke even on the price which is what we wanted.
- Facebook "Board" Group- This will not take place of formal meetings to discuss financial decisions. Should be used for sharing ideas.

**C. Vice President – Programs Report**

- Kindergarten Cheers and Tears Breakfast- Set up for 24 parents and had 35 parents in attendance. Kneaders donated French toast and Jennifer Moore donated muffins
- Back to School Picnic- 435 names on the attendance sheet; 480 hot dogs donated; 60 leftover. Hyvee donated 350 cookies; Betty Jo Douglas donated 450 drinks; Sam's Club donated a gift card to buy chips. Ran out of buns. Next year will estimate higher
- Trunk or Treat – Event will happen October 18th. Planning meeting happened; The event will run the same as last year, set up in front with front row parking for trunks. 75 Culvers vouchers to use when you sign up to come. Lowering the price was the feedback from last year; Prices will be \$5 if you prepay and \$6 at the door. Jaime is bringing Snoopy to show where Check In is.

#### D. Vice President – Membership Report

- Business Memberships- Currently there are 22 Business Members; Up 9 from last year
- Teacher Memberships- Currently 51; Up from 44 last year. Qualifies us for the 100% certified award. Mrs. Henderson won the Echo Dot from the raffle.
- Family Memberships- Currently there are 226 Members; Down 50 from last year. There will be a push to get more. A form will be going home to make people realize what they get for signing up and that it doesn't require volunteering. Our goal is a 20% increase which is 55 more families to sign up to receive an award.
- Newsletter- Worked on putting one together; It will include welcoming new teachers and sharing events. Waiting on business logos so those can be included as well.

#### E. Vice President – Ways & Means Report

- Spirit wear numbers/update- 231 apparel items were sold. Shorts didn't sell as well this year. Only 7 girls and 10 boys sold this year. \$3556 in for Spirit Wear. They will be printed next week. By the end of next week they will hopefully be going home with the students. \$2275 cost estimate to Rods, and then a couple of hundred dollars to purchase the tote bags and water bottles.
- Walk-a-thon- The event is Friday, September 28th. Packets have been sent out.

#### F. Vice President – Volunteers Report

- Room mom update- New room mom folders will go home tomorrow. Next Wednesday all Grade Level Reps will go over information for the Halloween party. Activities won't be discussed, but expectations on how to do things, etc. Did a great job of getting new faces for the classrooms. More Co-Room Moms were given this year.
- Halloween Parties – October 31<sup>st</sup>

#### G. Treasurer's Report

- Annual Budget Overview- See attached budget report

#### H. Committees

- Grandparents Day-The event will be on Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. There is a good amount of sign ups on the Sign Up Genius. Waiting to hear back from the Pointe of Hope church volunteers. The theme this year is "Thank You For Believing "Bee" in Me." Special persons need to show an ID and the teacher has to check out list to double check. If they don't have an idea they will have to go to the office. Donations for the day will go into the conference rooms. Pictures will take place outside under the Kindergarten awning. Shuttles will be covered through the district. The SRO, Andy Eagleburger, can also help with traffic for a big day event. Swag will be sold at the event as well as memberships to grandparents.
- Reflections- The theme of Reflections this year is "Look Within." All of the flyers were sent home today. Met with the principals about time lines. Judging will change this year. Talked about having a local nursing home to do the judging. Also, setting the projects at the nursing homes during Christmas break for everyone to enjoy. See if teachers could show video projects to classes to get recognition the same as other projects. Weekly announcements will be going out and on Facebook. Putting stars with each name of the students who participate in the hallway.
- Santa Shop Update- Katie Wood spoke and said we are done with shopping for the year. Amanda and April have also helped. There are over 3,000 items, which is 400 items up from last year but we do have more students at JLE this year. Items will cost between 50 cents-\$5 per items. Hopefully the 5th grade extra classroom will be used to set up the Santa Shop. Event will take place the second week of December, with setup on Monday.

The shop will be open Tues-Thursday and also two hours on Friday morning. Thursday evening Santa Shop will be open when the Supercat Singers perform. Use Student Council members (5th graders) for volunteers also; Need more volunteers for Kindergarten and First Graders. The older grades don't need as much help.

## **II. New Business**

### A. Staff Wish Lists Include:

- Blue Pal Visit
- Landscaping for outdoor classroom
- Playground equipment- balls and recess items refreshed
- Outdoor Stage on playground with SHADE (dermatology grants for shade per Mrs. Talamantez)
- Mrs. Rios says she will paint other bench
- More inspirational quotes and more colorful wall coverings in hallways

### B. Structure or guidance for PTA social media page

- Will be more careful with making posts that have links attached. Principals are okay with us posting things that are out for the public.
- Kim is making a post a day about why Walk a thon is important, etc.
- PTA informational "forum"- Place where parents can come talk to us; not at events. To ask us questions, etc. A couple of years ago curriculum night was used to have parents ask questions; brainstorming ideas for how to get more information out.

### C. State Reps-

- Regional Director, Michelle S. excited to share new ideas (we are BSSD, here to support each other), tag things on Facebook to MOPTA to share information and events ideas.
- Full rights as members need to vote, to be fair
- Independence school of information, workshops will be on Oct 3rd. Cost is \$10 per person and includes dinner. Like a mini convention. The state President will be there along with other people. Deadline is next week; Flyer will be sent to Lori Zeller.
- Talked about awards. The Blue Seal Award, "bare minimum," good standing, display purposes of PTA, easy to achieve. September 1st is the deadline. Listed at MOpta.org/awards, opening statement (pledge of allegiance, etc).
- Arts Ed- Additional program to do with Reflections. Universal report going to be sent to Lori Zeller.
- JC/DC alerts-SNAP Program being reduced; currently sending out alerts for that

## **III. Announcements**

A. Skate Night is October 7<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:30 pm

B. Next meeting October 17<sup>th</sup>, 6:00pm JLE Library with 2<sup>nd</sup> grade concert at 7:00pm

## **IV. Adjournment**

### ***PTA Mission Statement***

- 1. A powerful voice for all students*
- 2. A relevant resource for all families and communities, and*
- 3. A strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child.*