

PTA General Meeting

Minutes



Date, Time, and Location: 11/14/23 @ 2:45 pm, Red Rocks Elementary

Board Members (In person or virtual):

Melissa Herron(P), Elizabeth Segel (P), Jessica Green (A), Colleen Burgin (P), Alex Steffen (P), Sarah Gierow (A), Becca Oshsner (P), April Allen (P), Mary Kealey (A), Josie Jones (A), Lisa Harrell (A), Jessie Becker (P), Beth Alber (P), P=present A=absent

Others in attendance (In person or virtual):

Taryn Fischermann, Danielle Bovitz, Tanisha Lee, Joshua Kemery, Katie, Owen Constransitch, Dan Patterson, Caitlyn Falbo

Meeting called to order by President, Melissa Herron at 2:45 p.m.

- Mr. C – SEL (Social, Emotional, Learning) teacher. Works on BrainWise with the students which teaches critical thinking and decision-making skills. The program covers 10 topics including self-regulation, dealing with conflict, stopping to think, asking for help, walking away, identifying your choices, wizard vs lizard brain, communication, etc. Teachers have their own curriculum which is included in everyday lessons. This week they are focusing on gratitude, positive self-talk, and strengths. The 5th grade peer mentors are also focusing on kindness and empathy. Strategies taught are useful in life and work. Helps students learn strategies for handling schoolwork like what to do when they are feeling overwhelmed, what to do when they're stuck or have too many ideas. He is at the school Tuesday afternoons, as well as all day Wednesday and Friday.
- Principal Report – presented by Melissa
Workdays and In-service days are proving successful. Teachers were able to do deep dives into the curriculum and create best practices across the grade levels. Teachers looking into how to address all kids needs identifying new ways to present materials, re-teaching areas as needed and identifying next steps. Also helping to build stronger grade level teams. Overall, very appreciated, and helpful to the staff school wide.
- President Report – Melissa
Per Mr. C's presentation, suggested having the PTA host a parent coaching workshop. Send ideas to Melissa.

December 10th at 6:30pm will be the next Board Meeting and will be held at Elizabeth's house. January will be the next General Meeting.

Raccoon Run raised over \$45,000. Part will be allocated to the 5th grade. Funds from students not going to Washington will stay in the General Fund. 50% of community night fundraising goes to the 5th graders. Requested J. Kemery and D. Patterson consider ideas and begin planning for students that will not attend the trip.

\$500 is set aside for the 5th grade class gift. Colleen will reach out to parents for ideas. Melissa requested J. Kemery and D. Patterson consider options as well and get student input.

D. Patterson and the 5th grade student council will take over Milk Caps for Moola.

- VP Report – Colleen

Halloween parties went well overall except for some confusion between the 5th grade room parents. Will be changing the signup for 4th and 5th grade Valentine parties, so classrooms are combined. Will be sending emails out for Christmas teacher and para gifts.

- Tanisha Lee

Will be making a flyer concerning Red Rocks Shares. 4th and 5th grades will be collecting coats and gloves. Need to determine which school we will be partnering with for distribution.

Holiday Shop – 5th graders will be helping Kindergarten shop. Passes will be given to teachers for students to shop during class time. It was requested that teachers be reminded to only send kids that have money in their account. SAE kids will be able to shop before or after school.

Requested more communication regarding the Sing-Along so parents understand what it is and who can attend.

- Minutes – Melissa

- T. Lee moved to approve meeting minutes from 10/15. Colleen seconded and minutes were approved.

- Treasurer Report – Elizabeth

- July 2022-June 2023 Treasurer Report provided.
- July 2023-June 2024 Treasurer Report provided.

Should know who's attending Washington trip around February 16th. Estimating 30-ish kids. Will move money over for 5th graders. Money raised given back to parents after student attends trip.

- SAC Report – Jessie

Surveys will be going out in Jan/Feb determining how families want to use 3% of funding that can be allocated as we want. Options include Para's, Office staff, Supplies, Salaries, Teacher Benefits, etc. AMP teachers are no longer an option and will not appear on the survey. Budget is forthcoming.

- Fundraising Report – April

Holiday Shop is coming. A notice will appear in the Raccoon News. Not doing Candy Grams this year. PTA will give out candy canes to promote shop. The Holiday Shop does not raise funds for PTA or school. Financial Assistance coupons will go out in Friday Folders. \$200 provided by shop, covers a \$10 coupon for 20 kids. Any more monies used by coupons will be covered by PTA funds. Melissa will be sending out a sign-up genius to teachers.

Discussed ideas for carnival volunteers. Will continue to address. Melissa presented an offer received by Dakota Ridge parents who are former Red Rocks parents. They will provide 15 student and 5 adult volunteers to the carnival for a donation of \$5000. Offer was voted down by board.

Discussed hosting a second Top Golf event in the spring or a golf tournament. April will look into the details of what is involved and what is provided. Prior event allowed 200 attendees, 112 attended.

Family Bingo night being considered for early March. Concession sales would go to student

leadership. No money can exchange hands or considered gambling. Discussed using a book as your admission to the event and winners would get to choose a book as a prize. April will work with Becca for further discussion at the January General Meeting.

- Student Enrichment – Melissa
Working on building spring calendar and clubs.

- Staff Appreciation – Taryn
Events went well. Everything through the end of the year is arranged. Will be looking at January and moving forward. Will get pictures to Alex so she can post. Working with Alex and Colleen on staff holiday gift.

- Community Outreach – Beth
Spirit Rock idea was researched. Several possible sources and transportation options were discussed. Melissa will work with Mr. I to determine how much district controls, what options PTA has and what next steps are.
 - Beth moved to create a \$1000 budget for the project. Taryn seconded and motion was approved.

- Communications Report – Alex
Working on silent auction.

- Playground Completion – Melissa
Focusing on project completion to avoid discussion with district etc. in light of cutbacks and school closures. Original plans stopped due to groundwork expenses that were needed. Would like to use some of the PTA surplus to finish the project. Stage 1 which included stenciling asphalt areas can be covered with stencils and paint from the district at no charge. 5th grade student council has picked the designs, which will be applied in front of kindergarten and 5th grade classrooms and on the playground walkways. Stage 2 will include changing the heights of the basketball hoops, potentially installing adjustable hoops, and fixing any necessary asphalt/groundwork repairs. Currently getting quotes for work. Required to go through district vendors. Stage 3 will involve installing additional equipment in existing space as well as expanding into native space. Planning on fundraising event(s) for this with PTA matching all funds raised. Send any ideas on space to Melissa.
 - Jessie moved to create a \$20,000 amendment to the budget for the project. Beth seconded and motion was approved.

Next PTA Board Meeting: 12/10/23 @ 6:30 pm at Elizabeth's House

Meeting adjourned at 4:11 pm

Minutes compiled by Beth Alber, Secretary.