

PTO Minutes
Thursday, September 1, 2016
6:30pm, ERS Library

President: Meeting brought to order at 6:00pm; May minutes approved and Board introduced.

- On the last Friday of every month, PTO will host a coffee morning meet & greet with the board.
- Draft of meeting minutes is posted on the PTO website.
- The PTO website has link to fundraisers (e.g. Escrips, AmazonSmile, etc.), googledocs and forms.

Vice Presidents:

- Jodi Allen is helping with Facebook (251 members) and using Hootesuite to schedule posts.
- Lauren Arnold is sending the office info (by Tues, 3pm) for Wednesday email and Sunday Scoop
- Volunteer Recruitment is being promoted at school events (e.g. coffee @ drop-off)
- PTO meetings are being publicized with yard signs on Circle Drive
- Every committee has a chair – thank you!

PTO events:

- **Septemberfest (9/8)** – Held at the South Playground, this is an opportunity to socialize with ERS families. Two food trucks will be present, and families are welcome to bring a picnic meal as well.
- **Buzz Books** – On the last revision, expected delivery is in September.
- **Foundation Liaisons (Sarah King, Suzie McIntyre)** – Grants and events are announced on FB. All are encouraged to attend as the Foundation provides a number of grants that support our school.
- **Room Parents** – Ashley Cade will email classrooms still in need of room parents with info about role/responsibilities. A “survival guide” will be given, with a meeting the first week of September.
- **Talent Show (Jan 2017)** – Moved from Dec to Jan this year with the goal of increasing participation.
- **Dinner & a Movie (11/4)** – This free family movie night event is held 2x/year in the gym. Zootopia will be shown. Pizza can be purchased, or families can bring snacks/dinner. Families should also bring blankets, pillows, chairs, etc. Marco’s and Family Video are donating baskets for raffles.
- **Trunk-or-treat (10/28)** – Held in the side parking lot, families can decorate cars and kids go from car to car to trick-or-treat for prizes and treats. You do not need to decorate a car to participate. Candy/treat donations are welcome from all families. The evening ends with a costume parade. Volunteers are needed to help set up and run candy to cars; signup genius will be used.
- **Other PTO events include:** Trivia Night & Auction (spring), ERS Night at the Ballpark (April/May). Events are publicized on FB, PTO website, Paw Print, and Sunday Scoop.

Fundraising:

- **Box Tops** – The Box Tops for Education program gives ERS money for each boxtop turned in. Kids bring boxtops to classroom bins in a baggie with their teacher’s name; they can be turned in throughout the year. The classroom with the most boxtops wins a party. Volunteers are needed to help cut/count boxtops (can be done at home). The PTO website has info about Box Top products.
- **Escrips** – Schnucks escrips cards are available; register the card, scan when you shop, and a portion of sales goes back to the PTO. Last year, the PTO made \$1,100.
- **AmazonSmile** – Make purchases through smile.amazon.com, choose ERS PTO, and a portion of sales goes to the school.
- **Pasta Sales** – This new fundraiser that offers “fun” pasta shapes for purchase. Info is forthcoming.
- **Schoola Stictch** – This will be coordinated by Jackie Charlot.
- **Penny Drives** – Will be held a few times a year with more info to follow.
- The PTO is looking into other “passive” fundraising options on Shutterfly, etc. As soon as those are up and running, info will be posted on FB.

Treasurer:

- Balance: \$18,188
 - \$7,550 in teacher grants was distributed during “Meet the Teacher.”
 - Donations to date = \$883, with goal of \$2,000; donations are lower this year by ~\$1200.
 - \$2900 check was just given to Dr. Wuch for fixed items voted on in the past (\$700 awards, \$500 camp Wyman, \$600 field trips, \$1100 for reproduction)
- **Library Project:** The biggest budget item is the library project. Every year, the PTO does a project. Last year the library revitalization was voted as the project; Phase I included new shelving, moving walls, new carpet, new seating (Phase I: almost 100% funded by PTO); Phase II and Phase III will follow in the upcoming years. \$14,200 budgeted is budgeted for the library project in 2016-2017
- Discussed distribution of profits from specific fundraisers that are historically split as follows:
 - Bookfair – 75/25 split with library
 - ERS Night at Ballpark – 75/25 split with music
 - Original Works (child’s artwork put on items such as mugs, magnets) – 75/25 split with art
 - Penny Drives – 75/25 split varies; last year the split was with music
- As profits from above listed fundraisers vary greatly, with Bookfair raising the most money, it was recognized that Departments benefit disproportionately from these events. It was proposed by a parent to pool the money raised by Bookfair, Night at Ballpark, Original Works, and Penny Drives and then split 25-library/25-music/25-art/25-PTO. **This was voted on and approved.**
- A question was raised about funds for the PE Department. Dr. Wuch explained that PE runs the Jaguar 5K and raises a large amount of money through that event.
- Miscellaneous funds have increased this year because the Board is using some money for outreach (e.g. coffee mornings, PTO tablecloth, attendance prizes for PTO meetings).

Principal & Faculty Report:

- Dr. Wuch and staff introduced themselves. Mr. Hunsinger and Mrs. Ly were asked to share a “5th grade fact”: Mr. Hunsinger = Science; Mr. Eckridge = Science; Mrs. Ly = Social Studies/Writing
- One goal for the year is community-building.
- The first 3 weeks of school went great, and dismissal is moving smoothly.
- A few changes for the year: Library revitalization continues; bold/bright colors will be painted throughout building; Sunday Scoop (weekly phone announcements) will feature guest speakers; classrooms with 100% attendance are helping with end-of-day announcements.
- **Communications:** Friday “what’s new at Edgar Road” videos will happen. Because the Principal’s Blog is not well-followed, it will be phased out.
- **SpiritWear Store** is coming in early September. The store will run for 2 weeks, and the school gets a portion of sales. There were requests for items beyond clothing – e.g. car magnets, headbands, mugs, etc. Dr. Wuch said that she will try to make this happen in the future.
- **Team 5** – 5th grade performs school service projects. One project this year is to decorate shoeboxes for classrooms and staff to put boxtops.

New Business:

- The District is requiring all volunteers to complete a volunteer application form; this can be turned in to the office and will be posted on the ERS website.
- Guest speakers will be at various meetings including, WGSD Foundation, Sleep Specialist, Mr. Hanson/Music Program. Guest speakers will be 6:30-6:45, with meetings 6:45-7:45.
- Brittany Elgan won the attendance prize (mug); her child’s teacher (Mr. Hake) will receive a mug.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm