

# Kloefkorn Elementary School

Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) Meeting Minutes

November 17, 2016

## Our Mission

*The purpose of the PTO is to enhance and support the educational experience at Kloefkorn School, to develop a closer connection between school and home by encouraging family involvement, and to enrich the environment at Kloefkorn School through volunteer and financial support.*

## Meeting Agenda

- Call to Order / Welcome (Shanti Gangadharan)
  - 6:33
- Review/ Approval of minutes from prior meeting (Angela Korpas)
  - No modifications or amendments were made. Minutes were approved.
- New Business (PTO Members)
  - Propelr - Lincoln Foundation
    - Gary Reber with the Foundation for Lincoln Public Schools provided details on the Propelr program, which is a partnership with Nelnet. If a Propelr card is used at a Participating Merchant, a % of the total purchase is given back to the designated school. The card can be linked to a bank account or online account and can also be used by kids 13 and over. The funds do not expire and the card operates like a debit card, but there is no credit check prior to getting one. To sign up, a social security number must be provided. This is not a fundraiser for the Foundation for LPS, but is a Kloefkorn fundraiser that funds a "Fund for Excellence." This Fund is a Principal's discretionary fund that is very flexible, and can be used for things like: emergencies, T-shirts for a class field trip, bringing food to a PTO meeting, paying teachers for after-school participation, giving funds to a Sister School, etc. The maximum that can be raised each year is \$18,000. Schools can get word out to families by preprinting cards (takes a couple weeks) and giving them out. Mr. Reber suggested giving cards to staff first - he could come speak at the end of a staff meeting if that would be helpful. Propelr cards are free and are not good until activated. We could give them out to families at the 12/9 poinsettia pickup, or on a movie night. It was decided to start with 100 cards - we have 60 staff members now. There is a \$250ish one-time fee to put a logo on the card, but we can customize the name on the card, for example, "Kloefkorn Cubs."
- President's Report (Shanti Gangadharan)
  - Scott Zager has resigned as President Elect due to family obligations. Brian O'Neal has been appointed as his replacement.
  - Thank you to the Wanser family for hosting our October Family Movie Night.
  - Thank you to all the folks who signed up to help pack cookies, juice, and plan activities for our Fall parties this year.
  - Yearbook - encourage folks to submit pictures through our new online link via

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our website. The link will continue to be posted in the Chronicle. Mrs. Jolley also has lots of photos that can be used. Jenni Wood provided an update on the committee's progress. The possibility of having an After School Yearbook club in the Spring for older kids to help put the yearbook together was discussed. If it is a part of PTO's After School Programs, registration info must be collected so that liability insurance is provided. A description of the program should be provided, and Mrs. Jolley confirmed that the club could meet in the library. As far as day of week to hold the club - It was suggested to not compete with Theatre on Fridays. Also, the Yearbook tool should be looked at to see how collaborative it is. The Yearbook cover contest is usually held for 5th graders, the specialists pick the top 5 and then the top 5 covers are placed in the library and students vote on them. Can put info in Friday folders for 5th graders. Jenni will look into a deadline for doing the cover. Jenni suggested doing a Cubs/baseball-themed cover - whether there is enough interest in baseball was discussed. Kristy Kennedy stated that teachers were emailed last year to get quotes from students to put in the Yearbook. Jenni can contact Shanti or Brian O'Neal if she needs help.

- We made about \$10,000 during Fun Night, we encourage PTO members to reach out to the board and let us know how we spend it?
- Treasurer's Report (Brian Agnew)
  - The big expenses already have been handled this year. We're in good shape and the rest of fundraising this year will be icing on the cake.
- Principal's Report (Tonya Jolley)
  -
- Teacher's Report (Kristy Kennedy)
  - A 4th grade update was provided. In science, students have been working on circuits, and have been using chromebooks and Makey Makey. Students are also working on perseverance.
- Committee Reports (Brian O'Neal / Committee heads)
  - Affiliate Programs - We would really like to encourage more families to turn in Box Tops as well as click on the updated Amazon Kloefkorn link from now through the holiday season. All the money generated through this effort first goes towards our specialists and then the remaining money goes to the general fund. We've funded projects such as art supplies, musical groups, and gym equipment. Rachel Blake will put out a flyer in Friday folders on this.
  - After School Programs
    - Will reach out to parents to see if anyone willing to teach a program. \$40 per class cost for kid, \$40 per class for teacher. Or, if teacher donates his/her time, it's a fundraiser.
  - Art Fair
  - Book Fair
  - By-Laws

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- Directory - Reprint of corrected pages should be coming home soon.
- Environment
  - Brian O'Neal is going to a Garden Meeting in December. Composting is going well. He is working on Bento Boxes and also making a video of the composting cycle. Straws haven't been used at lunchtime for 4 or 5 weeks and it's going well. The outdoor 3-5 loop area was discussed. Given that there are 36,000 TMA's a year to LPS, this is likely not a priority for them. We could do the work ourselves but would need approval first.
- Friday Folders - We need a way to utilize the volunteer's time a little better. A few ideas:
  - Educate teachers on how to have kids pull out their own Friday folders so that volunteers can fill them, and have kids put them back in their bags. Mrs. Schultz does a good job of doing this.
  - Can we ask teachers/committees to have all information ready for Friday Folders on Thursday evening so that volunteers that coming in Friday at 8 can get to work immediately rather than wait?
  - Mrs. Jolley will email Becky Dunder and Tiffany Verzal about specific problems.
  - Is there a budget to have a raffle for the volunteers that sign up every week, maybe one per semester?
    - This could fall under the President's fund. Shanti Gangadharan suggested 2 \$15 giftcards.
- Fun Night
- Fundraising
- Hospitality
- Membership
- Movie Night
- Picture Day
- Playground
- Safety
- School Celebrations
- Science Fair
- Spirit Wear - Should we do a Spring Order? Last year we did not but a few requests have come in for sweatshirts ...etc.
  - Shanti Gangadharan will ask about backordered items from the last order, and see how much profit we made. It was decided to go ahead and do a Spring order. Some suggestions were given for particular styles, such as a sweatshirt option that is not a hoodie and a sweatshirt with pawprints up the sleeve.
- Yearbook - Need to get contract signed
- Unfinished Business (PTO Members)

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- Brian O'Neal will buy shelves soon for the PTO closet and Shanti Gangadharan offered to help him install the shelves.
- Announcements
  - 11/18 Fall Room Parties
  - 11/18 Movie Night - Finding Dory 7pm
  - 11/22 Poinsettia and Cactus sale
  - 11/30 Mr. Goodcents Dineout
  - 12/1 PTO Board meeting 6:30 PM Conference Room
  - 12/9 Poinsettia and Cactus sale pick up
  - 12/9 Movie Night - Secret Life of Pets - 7:00PM
- Speaker
  -
- Adjourn
  - 7:32 p.m.