

Birnham Woods Elementary PTO General Meeting
October 12, 2023
BWE Room A3

Present:

Krissi Famolaro, President
Jennifer Mathewson, Vice President
Cecilia Camacho, Hospitality
Christie McQueen, Spirit Night Coordinator
Faith Trepl, Volunteer Coordinator
Jessica McCarty, Parliamentarian
Kristen Michael, Treasurer
Larisa Grensted, Secretary/Communications
Shanna Myers, Sponsorship
Stephanie Christian, Hospitality
Tristian French, Fundraising

Participants: Dr. Barnes, Esmeralda Quezada, Christine Barnett, Jennifer Martindale, Molly Shearer, Andrea Ibarra Charles, Anjanette Paul, Sarah Kearns

- I. Meeting called to order at 10:34 a.m. by BWE PTO President Krissi Famolaro.**
- II. Approval of meeting minutes - Larisa Grensted, Secretary**
 - a. Motion to approve meeting minutes from September 28, 2023 by Stephanie Christian. Seconded by Jessica McCarty. Motion carried.*
- III. Open - Krissi Famolaro, President**
 - a. Just did Boosterthon kickoff and it went really well. Kids were very excited. New debut of Champ!
- IV. Principal's Report - Dr. Barnes, Principal**
 - a. Enrollment at 901 little Bulldogs. Pre-K: 33. Kinder: 133. 1st: 180. 2nd: 168. 3rd: 185. 4th: 187.
 - b. Successes: September Bulldog Best was amazing! Thank you for supporting this.
 - c. Sept. TAE. Parents can recognize teachers, or colleague to colleague. Gift cards were a hit. Numbers of TAEs went up. Teachers appreciated it.

- d. SAEs shot up as well. Traditionally anything donated (free burgers, ice cream, etc.) are used first. Also use the prize machine. Used free coupons from Handel's and GAC this month.
- e. Trying to increase social media presence as a campus and feeder. Parents like to see kids in school. Getting a lot of hits when pictures of kids are shared.
- f. Watch Dogs kick off. Good group of dads. Watch Dogs expert who started program at Bradley came and talked about the program. Spoke about not being discouraged by small numbers. Had about 10 dads.
- g. Cultural Awareness first event - Loteria Family Night. Nice to see things happening in other traditions/cultures. HEB donated chips and salsa. Mom made agua fresca.
- h. Upcoming events. Coat drive for kids. Cutest drive container in the front. If you have coats that are too small, please donate. These go to families that are less fortunate. Partnering with Tide who will clean them.
- i. Orange Out across the GOHS feeder, Oct. 19th. Supporting GOHS Grizzlies. Wear orange.
- j. Storybook pumpkin patch, Oct. 23-Oct. 31. Must use artificial pumpkin. Will display all the fun and decorative pumpkins in the library.
- k. Red Ribbon Week, Oct. 23-27. Different theme day for every day of the week. Will be in Bulldog Blast.
- l. Storybook character parade, Oct. 31 at 9:30. All students invited and encouraged to participate. No masks or weapons.
- m. Nov. 9th - 4th grade program at 6 p.m.
- n. Nov. 10th - school day celebration for Veteran's Day.
- o. Dec. 7th - 3rd grade at 6 p.m.
- p. Field trips
 - i. Pre-k: Woodlands Children's Museum - Nov 15
 - ii. 2nd: Houston Interactive Aquarium - Nov 30
 - iii. 3rd: Minute Maid Park - Feb 7
 - iv. 4th: Symphony - Oct 19 and Minute Maid Park - Jan 17
 - v. Kinder and 1st haven't finalized yet.

V. Treasurer Report - Kristen Michael, Treasurer

- a. Beginning balance: \$41,973.35
- b. Income: \$10,944.01
- c. Expenses: \$7,241.62
- d. Ending balance: \$45,675.74

- e. *Motion to approve September cash report by Tristian French. Seconded by Cecy Camacho. Motion carried.*

VI. Committee/Events Reports - Various

- a. Bulldog Store - Board liaison Larisa Grensted (Lindsey Cormier)
 - i. Went well. Kids were really excited about the prizes. Have several new prizes, and a few “big ticket” items they can save up for.
 - ii. Next Bulldog Store is on Nov.14 and 15.
- b. Spirit Stick Sales - Board liaison Jessica McCarty (Jenny Smith)
 - i. Last Tues/Wed. Kids went gaga for it. Made \$863.75. Self contained, so any money made goes back to buy more. Not a fundraiser, just for fun.
- c. Father/Son Event - Board liaison Faith Trepl
 - i. Went well!
 - ii. Nov. 4th will be same thing, Mother-Son. Thinking of doing the same ice cream truck and Pepperoni’s Pizza.
- d. Trunk or Treat - Board liaison Shanna Myers
 - i. Oct. 27th. Have 11 trunks. Need more! Wanting 30-35 total. Collecting candy. Started counting and will post tallies on Facebook. Send candy with kids! Will have food trucks (Christie is organizing). Starts at 6 p.m. and goes until we run out of candy or 8 p.m. Candy goes on sale at Kroger this weekend for 33% off.
- e. Sponsorship update - Shanna Myers
 - i. \$6250 currently. Not quite to goal but still trickling in. Sponsor for Mother-Son assigned. Everything is allocated to event, teacher lunch, etc. Budget spreadsheet has tab labeled sponsorships.
 - ii. Father-Son and trunk or treat - Premier Martial Arts
 - iii. Mother-Son - Woodlands Pediatric Dentistry
 - iv. Father-Daughter - Pediatric Specialist (Feb. 9th Mardi Gras ball)
 - v. Mother-Daughter - Woodlands Pediatric Dentistry
 - vi. Tentative movie night - Hughes and Cozad
 - vii. Spring carnival - Premier Martial Arts
 - viii. Teacher holiday lunch - Planet Ford
 - ix. Teacher appreciation week and monthly birthdays - Hughes and Cozad
 - x. ER Care 24 donated money we’ll use toward clinic needs.
 - xi. Top Dogs celebration - Hughes and Cozad and Premier Martial Arts
- f. Spirit Wear and class shirts - Jennifer Mathewson
 - i. Second and final order has been passed out! Do have a short list of inventory.

- ii. Class shirts are ready for pickup at 1 p.m. today. Will start sorting once we have them.
- iii. 4th grade field trip is next Thursday. Would like them to wear their class grade level shirts. Will pass out next week.
- iv. Can we promote Spirit Wear Fridays? Larisa - **MAKE GRAPHIC** for November.
- v. Parents can purchase next week through Tshirts Plus.
- g. Decorating Committee - Jennifer Mathewson
 - i. Nov. 9th is 4th grade program. Love-Rock said there might be a screen in the middle. Volunteers will meet prior and come up with a plan.
 - ii. Can decorate library for Veteran's Day breakfast following day.
- h. Spirit Nights update - Christie McQueen
 - i. Get Spring Creek BBQ check next week! Amount is a surprise. Will present to winning classes. Teachers know, but kids don't.
 - ii. Tentative spirit day for Jax in November.
- i. Hospitality update - Cecy Camacho and Stephanie Christian
 - i. Had a very successful first nine weeks lunch. Loved their "Salata" and sandwiches.
 - ii. Teacher birthdays will be next week. Sponsored by board members' baked goods.
 - iii. Had coffee day that went well. Scooters Coffee. BWE mom made delicious cinnamon rolls.
 - iv. Starting to talk about Christmas. Have some fun ideas!
- j. Yearbook - Cecy, Larisa, Shanna
 - i. Started off with high number of sales. Most so far!
 - ii. Still with Treering.
 - iii. 10% off ends Oct. 31st. Purchase by then to save a few extra dollars.
 - iv. Starting to gear up for Boosterthon with pictures, etc.
- k. Boosterthon - Tristian
 - i. \$10,237 raised already. Still making schedule for day of. Boosterthon will provide lunch for staff and PTO.
- l. Assemblies - Cecy Camacho
 - i. Board members received email over options.

VII. New Business - Krissi Famolaro, President

- a. Ipads - waiting on invoice then we'll order.

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 11:19 a.m.