

LHE PTA September 2017

Linden Hill Elementary PTA Meeting Minutes

September 14, 2017, 6 PM

Attendees: Jamie Gilley, Kristen D'erasmo, Shannon Marroni, Eileen Arick, Carey Lockman Corbin, Craig Corbin, Tom Glennon, Eric Mathis, Cheryl Cox, Wendy Rutter, Susan Rawstrom, Dorothy Webber, Jen Taube, Hima Sarapelli, Holly Reynolds, Stephanie Goguen, Matthew Marion

Call to Order.....6:30 PM.....**Jamie Gilley, President**

Approval of May 2017 Meeting Minutes.....**Carey Lockman Corbin, Secretary**
Tabled. Minutes will be sent to membership and be up for approval at the October 10 LHE PTA meeting.

Treasurer's Report**Shannon Marroni, Treasurer**
Beginning Balance: \$12,839.32

2017 budget will be finalized and presented for membership approval on October 10 LHE PTA Meeting.

New Business.....**Jamie Gilley**

Jamie Gilley presented a proposal from Physical Education Teacher, Cheryl Cox, for some additional recreation equipment. Specifically, a request for a paved loop or track around the perimeter of the playground, adding another Gym-I-Nee to the playground so basketball can be played, and the purchase of a volleyball net kit. Mr. Glennon noted that any project that includes physical change to the school, such as a paved track, would require his and district approval.

A vote was taken on whether to embark on further research into the cost and feasibility of the paved track around the playground (cost unknown), additional Gym-I-Nee (approx. \$900), and Volleyball net (approx. \$400): 14 votes for, 0 were opposed.

Motion to Approve: **1st : Kristen D'erasmo, 2nd: Stephanie Goguen**

Report from School Support VP/Membership Chair.....**Eileen Arick**

- **Membership**
 - Current membership at 181 members. This is up from last year. More membership drives are planned to reach out to teachers and families.
 - Teacher reimbursement forms are due by Monday, December 18, 2017 to be eligible for classroom reimbursement for the 2017/2018 school year. Teachers and staff must be PTA members to receive reimbursement.
- **School pictures**
October 10, with retakes on November 17, 2017.
- **Movie nights**
K-1 Movie night on October 13, 2017.
2-3 Movie night in December
Committee chairs and volunteers needed. Contact e.arick@yahoo.com

- **5th grade activities**
Jamie Gilley, Chair. Committee members needed. Contact jmgilley27@gmail.com
- **Yearbook Committee**
Jamie Gilley, Chair. Contact jmgilley27@gmail.com

Report from PTA Fundraising VPKristen Derasmo

- **Dance-a-thon (Lindy's Dance Day)**
Planned for October 27. Volunteers needed. Contact Jamie Gilley, jmgilley27@gmail.com
- **Product Incentives**
A flyer will be coming home outlining fundraising product incentives such as AmazonSmile, Zingo's receipts, Box Tops and more. Information can also be found at lindenhillpta.org. <http://lindenhillpta.org/links/fundraisers/>
- **Coupon Books**
The coupon book fundraiser are coming out on Monday, September, 18. The cost \$25 per book with 50% of sales (\$1250) benefitting the LHE PTA. Money earned from this fundraiser will go towards class shirts.
- **Spirit Wear**
The PTA has been selling new spirit wear at recent school events. Details for expanded offerings and online sale will come out in the next couple of weeks.
- **Family Meal Nights**
Family meal nights are scheduled for every month. Money raised will be split between the LHE PTA and the *Leader in Me* program with the exception of McPrincipal's night whose earnings will go to the LHE Theater program.
<http://lindenhillpta.org/leadership/the-board/pta-calendar/>
- **Square One Art**
Children will create a design that can be printed on a variety of household and gift items. Custom brochures will be coming home soon.
- **Vendor Sale**
Tentatively scheduled for 11/11/17, possibly in conjunction with the Fall Festival. Vendors can buy a table to sell their items to LHE families and the community.

Report from PTA Family Activities VPCraig Corbin

- **Upcoming Events**
The PTA is always looking for great ideas for family events. Upcoming events include: Fall Festival (November), Sweetheart Dance (February), Screen Free Week (May)
Committee chairs, members, and volunteers are still needed for events. Contact geoegg@comcast.net.

**Administrator's Comments..... Tom Glennon Principal
Dr. Eric Mathis, AP**

Mr. Glennon

- **Back to School Questions**
Back to School Night was a success. There were two prominent questions that were asked that need to be addressed:
 - **Science/Social Studies** - Some parents were surprised to learn that science and social studies are taught one day a week. This is a result of a recommendation from the district with the idea to make sure that science and social studies are not

minimized or relegated to the end of the day. Science and Social studies are now taught in blocks on Wednesday. These 75-80 minute blocks allow for more elaborate science projects and exploration. Previously, these subjects were taught in 10-15 minute chunks every day, or about 50-75 minutes per week. The new block structure allows for 75-80 minutes of uninterrupted instruction. The goal is to give more quality time to these subjects.

- **The merging of Media (Library) and Technology** - Ms. Marinelli retired and now Dr. Bernal is teaching both Research Lab (formerly the library) as well as Technology. This is a result of a reduction in the student body this year which only supported four related arts offerings. The combination of Media and Technology will have students focusing on research in the Research Lab and then explore topics such as coding in Technology. Students in 4 and 5 grade have the opportunity to focus on specific topics as follows: Grade 4: Animation, Programming, Robotics, or Google Suite; Grade 5: LHEtv, Programming, Robotics, or Google Suite. Media and Technology are rotated every other week. Dr. Bernal has sent a calendar with the rotation. The ABCD calendar makes it so that the same class doesn't miss the same related art class repeatedly, If that class landed on Monday or Friday when it is more likely to have a day off. Mr Glennon will ask if students can still take exchange books mid-week or take more than one book out.
- **Red Clay Dad's Day, September 19, 2017**
The district has decided to hold Red Cay Dad's Day on National "Dad's Take Your Kids to School Day" (ref. <http://www.dadstakeyourchildtoschoolday.com/>). Dads/any important male figures are invited to bring their kids to school, join them for the morning announcements and morning meeting, enjoy refreshments, a fun activity with their kids and a presentation. The event will last from approximately 8:50 - 9:45 a.m. Mr. Glennon will get details out to parents as soon as possible.
- **International Walk to School Day, October 4**
(ref. <http://www.walkbiketoschool.org/>). Mr. Glennon will look into it with more information forthcoming.
- **Faculty Change**
Fifth grade teacher, Mr. Sarkissian, is leaving Linden Hill for a new position. We welcome Ms. Ricci, who will be taking over the class at the end of next week. Parents with kids in Mr. Sarkissian's class had a chance to meet Ms. Ricci during Open House.

Dr. Mathis

- **LHE Leader Hurricane Relief Coin Fundraiser**
LHE fifth grader, Gavin, is collecting coins to raise money to send to Houston for hurricane relief to help earn his 2nd degree black belt. Gavin raised over \$300 at Back to School Night, and he will continue to accept donations until September 22. Students can send coins into school with homeroom teachers collecting. Money will go to Houston Independent School District. <https://goo.gl/SqDrvr>
- **Red Clay Hurricane Relief Drive**
The Red Clay Consolidated School District will be collecting new and unused items at all of its schools through September 22, 2017. Please consider joining in the effort to fill a bus with supplies to help those affected by the recent hurricanes. Donations will go to Houston Independent School District. Items needed: school supplies & USB drives, toiletries & grooming supplies, baby formula, diapers & wipes, work gloves, gas gift

cards, trash bags, paper towels, duct tape, towels, bedding, non-perishable food, flashlights, batteries, sponges & buckets, hand sanitizer, pet supplies.
<https://tinyurl.com/RCCSDBusDrive17>

Membership Discussion.....

- **Class Dojo**

Eileen Airick asked why negative points have been removed from use by teachers in Class Dojo. Eileen feels that these real time assessments were a helpful tool for evaluating how her child was doing in class. Mr. Glennon answered that the negative points on Class Dojo are nothing more than a digital version of the old public behavior charts. These charts are not supported by LHE. Behavior problems should be communicated to parents directly by teachers.

Upcoming Important Dates:

- 9/19 Dad's Day - sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/DadsDay17>
- 9/20 Red Clay Consolidated School District Board Meeting 7PM @ Cab
- 9/22 Last Day to donate to Hurricane Relief supply/coin drives see lhepride.com
- 9/21 No School - Rosh Hashanah
- 9/26 McPrincipal's Night @ Midway McDonald's & 5 Below fundraiser
- 10/6 No School - Teacher Inservice Day
- 10/7 Main Street Mile - Join the Linden Hill Team! <https://tinyurl.com/MainStreetMileLHE>
- 10/10 Picture Day!

Next LHE PTA Meeting Date:

10/10/2017 PTA Meeting 6PM-7:30PM (child care provided)

Meeting Adjourned: 7:45 pm by Jamie Gilley