



# Oak Pointe Elementary School PTO Meeting Minutes

## Date, Time, and Location

October 5, 2017 8:00 am OPES Room B313

## Minutes Prepared by:

Catherine Southern

## Attendance

Diane Starnes, Ashley Bubar, Keri Lyn Ladd, Catherine Southern, Carla Leone, Brandy Shampine, Ashley Williams, Elin Fowler, Lori Theurl, Yolanda Ross

## Agenda

- Call to Order
- Approval of Minutes
- Principal's Update—Kristie Smith
- SIC and PAC Updates
- Committee Reports
  - Bests Moms Evah Breakfast/Best Dads Evah Breakfast
  - Fall Festival
  - Box Tops
- Officers' Reports
  - President
  - Vice President
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer
- New Business
  - Pal-a-thon
- Other Questions, Comments, and/or Ideas
- Adjournment

## Meeting Notes, Decisions, Issues

1. Call to order
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Principal's update - Kristie Smith

Mrs. Smith noted that students have taken MAP tests and the focus this year is looking at student growth rate. The goal is to increase 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades by 1%. Dr. Hodges from USC is working with teachers. Professors and students from USC come in and work with him and in classes to fill in gaps with math. Beth White from USC is coming to talk with teachers about student feedback. Research has shown that student performance grows based on teacher feedback.
4. SIC and PAC Updates
  - a. SIC

SIC will host a "Digital and Dessert" on Thursday, November 2. Joe Ryan, the Education

Coordinator with the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force will present. He presented in the spring at Parent University and was very popular. He did a shortened version of his presentation for the spring but will do the full version in November. Free childcare will be provided by Safari. In the past PTO has paid for a dinner before Parent University but there is often a lot of waste because people who register don't always show up. PTO will pay for desserts at this event. After the presentation, parents and children may pick up a dessert to take with them as they leave.

b. PAC

The September PAC meeting was canceled due to the days out of school because of Hurricane Irma.

5. Committee Reports

- a. Parent breakfast reports by Ashley Bubar. Ashley stated there were about 300 people in attendance and that beginning 10 minutes earlier was better with less chaos. The first Best Dads Evah breakfast is scheduled for October 25th which is the same day as the 3rd grade field trip to Charleston. Ashley requested to change the date to October 26th and that request was approved by Kristie Smith. Ashley stated that the menu would be the same as previous breakfasts and include chicken biscuits, egg and cheese biscuits or cinnamon rolls. Ashley asked for volunteers to help by either coming in the day before to prepare coffee for the next morning or arriving at the school at 6:30 on the 26th. The breakfast begins at 6:50 and ends at the tardy bell (7:50).
- b. Fall Festival report by Ashley Bubar. This Fall Festival was the first time we had used LED lights and they were much better. The board should consider having a sign for the rock wall and slides in the gym next year. Many people did not realize they were in there. **Next year, block off back parking lot at 3:00 right after school dismissal and add NO PARKING signs to increase safety precautions for kids arriving early and playing on the playground!!!!** Ashley requested volunteers for next year's Fall Festival Committee. She also requested suggestions to increase accountability of student volunteers. Volunteers from Crossroads might not be mature enough to actually run the games without closer supervision. High school students seem to work better and the fact that there was no football game scheduled on the same night as the festival made volunteer attendance stronger. Elin, Yolanda and the other adult volunteers did an excellent job this year and it was much appreciated! We are still waiting on checks from volunteers and Ashley will follow-up with those folks. We rented 150 chairs this year and we need to rent more for next year. One possibility presented was to ask attendees to bring lawn chairs next year. We hope to have picnic tables in place for next year as well. Ashley requested a volunteer to chair the Vendor Market next year as well. They need to be available early next year to get the job done.
- c. Box Tops: Diane Starnes stated for the month of August we had collected \$247 in Box Tops. Karen Sipos keeps our running totals for us and does an excellent job. She will provide Diane with an updated total on October 6th for presentation at this week's Friday Morning Meeting.

6. Officer's Reports:

- a. President, Diane Starnes, stated all updates are within committee and new business reports
- b. Vice President, Ashley Bubar, stated all updates are within committee reports
- c. Secretary, Catherine Southern with no new reports
- d. Treasurer, Keri Lyn Ladd, passed out an updated budget for Fall Festival and the beginning of Pal-A-Thon. Keri Lyn added that Fall Festival is not set up as a fundraiser.

However, PTO made \$1,300 last year. So this year PTO decided to spend more money to update the games and adhere to new district suggestions regarding inflatables. The Fall Festival budget is still negative \$106, but we are still waiting on vendors and food trucks to send in payment, so we will be in a positive position once those funds are received. She stated that \$187.17 had been paid out for the Mom's Breakfast and that Pal-A-Thon is in the negative right now because we paid for shirts and other kick-off items.

7. New Business

- a. Pal-A-Thon: Diane Starnes presented Pal-A-Thon kick-off information. Kick-off began yesterday, October 4th. Shirts are available for \$6 if anyone would like to purchase. Students will receive their shirts on Friday, the 13<sup>th</sup>, and they received their dog tag and chain yesterday. They will receive more charms daily based upon the amount they raised the day before via credit card. It is impossible to get all cash and check donations counted and entered into the website before lunch starts daily, so students will receive charms for cash and checks the day after they are received. The run is next Friday, October 13th. Cam from Big Time Entertainment will be our DJ again. The school-wide fundraising goal is \$40,000. We raised \$37,500 last year. Last year we donated 10% to Curing Kids Cancer. This year, we will donate 10% to a school affected by Hurricane Irma. PTO will carefully choosing the school to make sure the money donated is used wisely. The rest of the money will be used to pay Pal-a-thon expenses and the events and programs sponsored by PTO annually (mini-grants, parent breakfasts, communications folders, etc.) The big ticket items we would like to purchase is a covered picnic area behind the cafeteria. Classes can use this area as an outdoor classroom, picnic area for lunch or snack or playtime. We have a banner coming from UPS that should be finished and ready today. Elin Fowler asked if donations made with check or cash would be entered online again this year by parents. Diane stated that parents will not log checks and cash collected this year because it creates a two step process for PTO that creates more work when counting cash and check donations. Additionally, this will allow the thermometer on the website to be an accurate account of the money collected. Previously any cash or check donations that were entered by parents showed as total money collected, even if it was never turned in. A list of things to fix was sent to the web company last year to make things more user-friendly, and it appears that all of those have been addressed. Ashley Bubar added that a Sign-Up Genius will go out next week for parents to volunteer to pass out charms at lunch and to pass out snacks and water Friday during the run. Ashley continued that Mrs. Wanish's husband usually dresses up as a pirate and passes out charms to kids who have raised certain dollar amounts. He has had some health issues, so someone else may have to do that this year. We will definitely have the Boom Box with maybe Mincel and Hollister and Pal to help.

8. Adjournment

Action Items		
Action	Assigned to	Due Date

Next Meeting
Thursday, November 2, at 8:30am

