

Doss PTA General Meeting
Thursday, January 15th, 2015 at 12:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER:

The General Meeting of the Leona Doss Elementary PTA was called to order on Thursday, January 15th, 2015, at 12:05 pm in the Doss Gymnasium by President, Krista Saeger. A quorum was established. Members of the Executive Board present at the meeting were: President, Krista Saeger; 1st Vice-President, Julie Choyce; 2nd Vice-President, Gina Longoria; Treasurer, Erin Brooks; Assistant Treasurer, Kim Jowers; PIE Chair, Julie Payne; Parliamentarian, Jen Despina; Secretary, Robin Chapman.

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES: Robin Chapman presented the minutes from the October 9, 2014 general meeting. The minutes were approved as written.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Financial Report – Erin Brooks reviewed the report for Oct-Dec 2014. The beginning balance on 9/30/14 was \$217,774 and ending balance on 12/31/14 was \$244,731. Report will be filed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Krista reflected on the commitment of Doss families and partners throughout 2014. Through their support, the PTA has successfully supported over 60 programs and events at Doss. From September 2014 – December 2014, our No Hassle Fundraiser has net ~\$72,000 and the H'Owl net was ~\$30,000. November's Book Fair netted ~\$8,500. We opened the renovated Library, continued to support our RAD reading program with author visits, spurred participation in the Reflections student art competition, showed our generosity in supporting our Sister School TA Brown and our Doss Owls in need, and engaged with the Cafeteria to bring a greater variety of healthy choices to our students through greater farm-to-market collaboration and education. And that's just to name a few! We should be very proud of the great things that are happening at Doss and realize how much is supported by the PTA in terms of time, money and volunteers!
- We are moving on to new beginnings in 2015. Events this spring include Science Fair, Teacher Appreciation Week (moving to the end of February), Doss Daughter/Son events, Cultural Heritage Night, Spring Party, and Sports-A-Rama.

EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT:

- VP Julie Choyce reported that the Executive Board met with a quorum prior to the General PTA Meeting and discussed the General Meeting's agenda. Nothing required a vote of the general membership. Report will be filed with the minutes.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

- Gina Longoria reported that we have 653 PTA members (14 more than last General meeting).

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Science Fair/Holly Rios (Co-Chair): All projects are due 1/21/15. Science Fair and Open House are 1/28. We still need 80 Judges/Tally help. Best in Show projects will be displayed in the Cafeteria until 1/30/15. Chairs purchased 75 t-shirts and will sell prior to the Fair for \$10.
- Doss Daughter Dance/Christian Meyer (Co-Chair): Candyland Theme on 1/30/15 from 7pm-9pm in the Doss Cafeteria. Need volunteers to help decorate; sign-up will be via LivingTree. Free to all Doss girls. Thanks to sponsors Blue Baker, Austin Terrier, Austin Iceworks, Freytag's Florist.
- Healthy Lifestyles Committee/Emma Garrett (Co-Chair):
 - Salad Bar is going well and we are implementing a made to order salad bar in the cafeteria line. Thanks to our partnership with the Sustainable Food Center, the items include locally sourced fruits and vegetables. All students can participate as well as parents and staff. The

committee continues to work on the variety of items offered and 5th Grade Pals are working with younger kids on healthy choices.

- Family Fitness Nights Coach Murphy is hosting 2 Family Fun Fitness nights on Feb 18th and April 28th from 5pm-6pm in the gym. There will be exercise stations and the evenings will be set up so parents can experience a typical PE class at Doss. Pre-School Club is invited to these events as well.
- Doss Celebratory Walk for JDRF fundraiser is coming soon; target date is end of March.
- Doss Track: planning is in early stages. We are meeting with Structural Engineers and Water Experts to assess where and how we can rebuild the Doss track.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Boltage Update (per DeDe Church): Connectivity of the Boltage system is still an issue. We have rewired it and are attempting other repair options, but will soon determine if we can continue the Boltage program. Thanks to Jeff It's a frustrating project since we have rewired it and are attempting other repair options. We will soon determine if we can continue the Boltage program. Thanks to Jeff Russell for all of his efforts repairing the Boltage pole.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Krista took nominations from the floor for the Nominating Committee. Those nominated were Gina McKallip, Julie Middleton, Celeste Domsch, Bonnie Lang, Christen Meyer and Kristin Ashy. A motion was made to approve these PTA members as the 2015 Nominating Committee. The motion was 2nd and the motion was passed.
- Follett Challenge/Bonnie Lang:
 - Doss will be entering the Follett Challenge, a program created to reward schools for their work in applying technology, content, and creativity in ways that engage students, foster literacy and promote critical thinking. Our Read Across Doss (RAD) program is a perfect example of what Follett is looking for in a winner.
 - Laura Langfield (PTA Member) assisted Bonnie Lang and Virginia Jones (RAD Co-Chair) in writing the grant. Video services were donated by a Doss parent.
 - Our written entry and 5-minute video submission focuses on our RAD programs which showcase the unique Library/PTA collaboration, teachers' incorporation of reading programs in the classroom, and our partnership with BookPeople in coordinating author visits and furthering support of our reading programs.
 - We need public support to win! There is a popular vote component to the challenge. In addition to Follett naming three semi-finalist, ten 'People's Choice Award' winners will be named based on the videos receiving the greatest number of votes. grant winners.
 - The video will be posted on 1/19/15. VOTE & PROMOTE! We will reach out to the Doss community, NWACA, FB and ask people to share. Janna will reach out to our vertical team. Voting takes place 1/19-1/30/15. We're the only school in AISD and Central Texas entered.
 - We could win a share of \$200,000 from Follett and the winnings will be used to enhance the library. Semi-finalists and 'People's Choice Award' winners will be announced 2/13/15.
- Library Renovation Update/Kim Belew:
 - The library is doing great and students are enjoying the new, flexible space. Phase 1 items being finished: new tables/stools for research computers, i-bistro area, and shelf signage (working with Suzanne Harrington to replace outdated signage).
 - Phase 2: Cabinetry, tree, desk for checkout area. Curtain is put on hold because we are looking for installer (no financial liability with it).
- Kimberly Richards – Asked questions about Teacher Appreciation Week/Changes for 2015. Krista mentioned that ideas include consistency for all grade levels, support from PTA for breakfast or

lunch and purchasing items from teacher's wish lists. Krista will be meeting with Megan Helmbrecht (PTA Room Parent Coordinator) for follow up and TA Week planning.

The Meeting was adjourned by President, Krista Saeger at 12:52 pm.

Secretary:

Robin L. Chapman