

## **Doss PTA General Meeting**

**Thursday, March 9, 2017, 12:04 pm**

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

The General Meeting of the Leona Doss Elementary PTA was called to order on Thursday, March 9th, 2017 at 12:04 pm in the library of Doss Elementary by President Jen Despins. A quorum was established. Members of the Executive Board present at the meeting were: President, Jen Despins; 1st Vice President, Karen Lundquist; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Kimberly Richards; Treasurer, Sarah Baker; Secretary, Carolyn Bartelli; Parliamentarian, Shannon Meroney; PIE chair, Holly Rios; and Assistant Treasurer, Julie DePalma.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Jen Despins**

- Recap:
  - Science Fair. 19 students went to regionals. Doss owls brought home 16 ribbons. 2 special awards.
- Daughter event was successful
- Cultural heritage. Festival was a success.
- Son event. A big success. Huge thank you to Jeff Russell for building a fence to keep the boys in safe zones.
- Third Doss Campus Cleanup on Saturday. Planted 4 trees to offset tree removal we'll do as part of soccer field project.
- Blue Baker Spirit Night. Thanks to Shannon Meroney and to the Doss staff for coming out to work the event.
- Kona Ice event on Friday, March 10th.
- After Spring Break, the spring party store will open.
- Angie Huels has spent over 100 volunteer hours teaching 5th graders coding.

### **COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS:**

#### **Playground Committee chair Updates: Tiffany Galligan**

- Building a multi-sport field by the portables just north of the library. It will be covered with astroturf to account for poor water and lighting conditions. One tree will need to be removed but 4 were planted this weekend to mitigate that removal. The Lyons family and Shepard family are generously donating labor and materials to lay the field. Timing is to get started right after Spring break.
- Healthy Lifestyles is organizing a combined fun run with Hill around the Anderson track. May 7th.

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT: Julie Choyce**

Nominated slate of officers for 2017-2018 school year

- President: Karen Lundquist
- Treasurer: Julie DePalma
- 1st VP: Rebecca Young
- 2nd VP: Holly Cohen
- 3rd VP: Laurie Roberson
- Secretary: Lissa Hutchinson

There were no further nominations for any of the officers above. Each of them was voted into office unanimously for the 2017-2018 school year.

President Jen Despina thanked Julie Choyce and the rest of the nominating committee for their hard work. President will nominate a PIE chair and a Parliamentarian.

#### **PRESENTATION OF MINUTES:**

Minutes from the January 12, 2017 meeting were presented, and approved as written.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

- Presentation of actual financials from January and February 2017, including income items: Book Fair, Box Tops, No Hassle, PIE, and Yearbook; expenses included the first half of contribution to salaries, teacher supply allowance, daughter and son events, and final payment for marquee.
- Per Bylaws, Budget committee met on March 2nd to consider all requested budget amendments submitted by committee chairs, PTA members, and Doss staff. Proposed:
  - Two categories of changes: shift from one budget line item to another, the second is actual change in budget number.
  - Under the first category: Shift from one budget item to another
    - PTA funded salaries: PTA funded salaries went up 2% which wasn't taken into account when last budget was passed. Instead of increasing budget, take from categories from ones with unused budget funds (Literacy Library, Parent Ed, RAD, and Teacher Supply Allowance). A total of \$4,054 shortfall.
    - Social/Emotional Learning (pg 2 under Educational & Classroom support) - Shift \$500 from Parent Ed to cover additional cost for Magic Mirror
  - Under the second category: Actual Increases/Decreases to Budget category
    - Educational & Classroom support: Accelerated reader program
    - Technology Enrichment
      - We got a grant from an entity that asked if we could direct the funds toward technology. As a PTA we cannot target donations, but it was proposed that we'd increase Technology to reflect that grant.
    - Homeroom/party expenses. Based on children enrolled (headcount)
    - Hub Club. Increase of \$300 to get more cards.
    - Scholarship for AISD graduate is a new budget item. President Jen Despina explained that Doss is introducing a high school scholarship award for \$1,000 for children who met certain criteria, including having attended Doss for at least 3 years and participation in an extracurricular activity. Also asking applicants to write a 1-page essay about Doss' impact on their lives.
- Motion was made and seconded to approve the amended budget as written. Budget, as amended, was approved unanimously.

#### **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Janna Griffin**

- Went over registration process for next year
- Dr. Cruz's (superintendent) vision for AISD includes making kids college and career ready. He's applying to be an innovation district, which would give us latitude on school calendar, class size and other items. A challenge is that we have very few professional development days, and they need more time for professional development. We may pilot a day in May to have a late start day.
- Enrollment is dropping. In December, enrollment was at 880. By Friday, predicted to be at 866.

- Parent anonymous donation will permit early opening of lab to help disadvantaged and refugee students.
- Water filters are still in the process of getting installed in water fountains. Nothing conclusive yet.

**1st VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Karen Lundquist**

- Gave a report of the executive board

**2nd VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Sarah Baker for Kimberly Richards**

- PTA now has 897 members

**COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS:**

**Spring Party: Robin Chapman and Kim Lawrence**

- **Saturday, 4/8/2017.** Fun, laid-back, Austin night at the UT Alumni center. A full fajita buffet dinner, cash bar, and a live band, Hip Hop Hooray.
- Live auction. Goal is to have 10 amazing Austin local packages. E.g.: A year a date nights in Austin, Mom's Package, LBJ Lakehouse, a White Lab puppy, a Dad's package, Costa rica package, a Family package, Hog Hunt, etc.
- Spring Party merchandise is on sale
- Website is live, but will launch harder after spring break
- Grade-level art which is new this year. Each grade has a theme.
- Video teaser that will come out after spring break
- Buy-in parties. New big ones (Chili cook off, Kentucky Derby, Oktoberfest, etc.)
- Perks for VIP: Includes RT transportation, dinner, and 1 hour of open bar from 6:30 to 7:30 plus \$25 buy-in party credit, and swag bag which contains special product just for VIPs

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- None

**QUESTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:07 pm by Jen Despina, President

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

Carolyn Gutierrez Bartelli