

EHSPTA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

1/8/2020 8:45AM EH Art Room

BOARD ATTENDING: Liz Barrett – President
Amy Boss – VP
Lauren Holzer - Treasurer
Katie Gorman – Recording Secretary
Nicole Azzara - Corresponding Secretary
Beth McCool - Trustee

5th Grade Gift – Elizabeth Hawkins and 5th Grade Student Representatives

- The 5th Grade is requesting PTA money to help fund a custom, Lizzy-inspired mural as their 5th Grade Gift.
- The mural will be 5x10 ft, located on 5th grade playground wall and painted by 5th graders under the supervision and design assistance of contracted organization Young Audiences for Arts for Learning.
- The total requested is \$2600, or \$2000 for Young Audiences' services and \$600 for paint and supplies.
- Discussion after the presentation revealed that in the past, the 5th Grade Gift was funded entirely through fundraising by 5th graders. The PTA has been asked to contribute for larger projects in recent school years. There is no line item in the PTA budget for this ask.
- The Board will vote on whether to contribute the full amount in the upcoming future after learning further details, including lead-time required. The Board suggests they would grant the 5th Grade the requested \$2600 in advance but ask that 5th Grade fundraises towards replenishing the loan; i.e., \$1000.

Technology/iPad Request – Gerry / Lisa Murphy

- Currently EHS has a 1:1 Chromebooks to student ratio in 4th and 5th grade, with the intention to extend at the same ratio to 3rd grade in the '20-21 school year.
- iPads are the primary devices utilized by K-2nd grade but the current inventory of iPads are aging and many are deemed inoperable or operable but with charging inadequacies. These inadequacies contribute to distractions and lost productivity especially at the 2nd grade level. Currently there are 21 iPads shared across K-1st grades, and 29 iPads in 2nd, most of which are malfunctioning.
- iPads are the preferred device type for the younger elementary grades for their ease of use and size for dexterity. Teachers utilize iPads for exercises during break-out sessions as a way to electronically monitor progress with a given student while personally working one-on-one with other students. The devices also allow teachers to quantify productivity and areas for improvement. Further, they allow

students to ask questions electronically where they may be hesitant to do so in the public classroom setting.

- The request is for the PTA to fund enough iPads to cover a 2:1 iPads to students ratio in 2nd grade, or 45 iPads at \$18,500. An additional \$1800 will be needed for covers, required.
- The Board voted and approved the payment of \$15,000 to start iPad procurement, with the intention to implement new devices before the end of the current school year. Further, the Board recommends utilizing the Winter Social fundraising as a mechanism to build the funds to pay for the remaining iPad balance and purchase covers for all new devices.
- The following recommendations and questions were posed regarding technology and EHS at broad:
 - PTA Board recommends adding a regular Technology line item in the budget to maintain and refresh ongoing technology needs.
 - Does Apple offer a school program package that covers educational apps, regular trade-ins and device maintenance?
 - Does the BOE have a technology budget that could help cover the cost across all elementary schools, beyond the Chromebook initiative?
 - Has Elizabeth Haddon explored a corporate sponsor to cover all future technology needs and build-outs in the future?
 - Suggest reigniting the Sponsored Paver Project to help cover the cost of covers. Also recommend presenting the Paver Project to Grandfriends Day.

Treasurer's Report - Lauren Holzer

- Membership numbers are great relative to budget but we want to improve in 2020-21 school year.
- B&N check is in, \$1100.
- All other budget considerations were covered in the 5th Grade Gift and iPad requests.

Trustee Update - Beth McCool

- Spaghetti Bingo, Friday 1/10
 - 330 people, or 92 families, have registered. Expecting 350 to show, comparable to previous attendance.

President Update - Liz Barrett

- Winter Social
 - Date (3/6), theme (March Madness), and venue (King's Road) all revised this year to help boost interest.

- Currently working on a food vendor and donation and a Basket/Donation Chair is needed.
- Talent Show
 - Talent Show information has been communicated by Gerry (3/20, "One Hit Wonders" theme).
 - Seat saving, line cutting situation will be addressed this year by selling tickets as assigned seats. TBD whether or not seating price can be adjusted for more desirable seats.

VP Update - Amy Boss

- Yearbook
 - Building the yearbook is underway as individual pictures CD is available and the Yearbook Chair is engaged .
- 3v3 (2/21, at HS, Gym B)
 - The organizers will utilize the parent shadow/volunteers for the current year.
 - Spaghetti Bingo will advertise 3v3 by calling on parents to start building their teams and the Recording Secretary will engage our Haddonfield Elementary School PTAs to circulate registration information as well.
- Committee and Volunteer Recruiting
 - There will be a push to confirm willingness to serve among current chairpeople into 2020-21 school year by late spring. By end of the '19-20 school year, the Recording Secretary will create and circulate a master volunteer list to communication volunteer needs for the entire upcoming school year.
- Open VP Position
 - Need to communicate the open position in March/April per PTA by laws.
 - Encouraged Board to start to network and recruit in-person.

BOE representative - Justin Benford

- Teacher negotiations kicking off.
- Long range facilities planning, a 5 year exercise, under way.
- Facilities usage as a policy being addressed. Considering applying a cost for each athletic organization to use facilities.
- Considering changing valedictorian/salutatorian to a cum laude structure.

END MINUTES