

Meeting Minutes Feb 8, 2024

**1. Called To Order:**

**Welcome & Introductions:** Carrie Barnes-President, Liz Alfonsi-Vice President, Lauren Allen-Treasurer, Danielle Lester-Secretary, Mandi Huff-Co-Public Relations, Kristin Redig (LES parent & 3rd grade teacher), Katie McCormick, Talauna Canova, Sarah Dahl (4th grade teacher), Karen Gall (1st grade teacher).

**2. Approval of Jan 2024 Minutes**: Liz motions to approve, Katie seconds it. Approved.

**3. A Word From Sarah Dahl, on behalf of Ms. Gennerman:** Tomorrow, the school will have the assembly to celebrate winning the food fight. Wear LES apparel for this. It will start at 2:45PM.

Forward testing will start March 18 and go through May 26.

Staffing update – Deb Bongiorno will be leaving, which will be a huge loss for school. We are still working through staffing shortage. If you know anyone, please encourage them to apply.

**4. Treasurer’s Report:**  Lauren Allen shared current balance in checking is $19,118.23 with nothing pending.

**5**. **Unfinished Business:** Nothing to discuss.

**6. New Business:**

1. **Dahl / Staff Request:** A new oven was installed in the kitchen and staff is not allowed to use it. Staff had previously used the old oven for various needs including classroom pizza parties, baking cookies/brownies with kids for celebrations. Since there is currently no oven for staff to use, a solution would be to get a countertop oven in the teacher’s lounge that staff could use a on regular basis for personal and kid’s needs. They are requesting a countertop oven/toaster/microwave unit (all in one). The model they are interested in is a Cuisinart, which currently sells for $189.14 on Amazon. This request has been approved by Board. There may be times it could be used by PALS and was under the $250 limit.
2. **Pancake Breakfast / Stuffie Sleepover**: The Saturday of Mother’s day weekend, we are planning to host a family event. This would include a stuffie sleepover on that Friday night, and then when the kids come to pick up stuffies on Saturday morning we will have a pancake breakfast. We are also brainstorming different activities to offer during the pancake breakfast including a plant pop-up sale. Friday night, we will take pictures of the kid’s stuffies around the school doing various activities with different poses. Families can purchase these photos - perhaps have two different options with price points, like more general group pictures and then some individual photos for an additional price. The stuffie pickup and pancake breakfast would be the following Saturday morning. Along with a pop-up plant sale, other ideas include having vendor tables for LES families (only) for some shopping, and a craft station such as a card-making station as a Mother’s Day gift.

**7. Committee Reports:**

1. **Community Dining**: Mandi reports that this event went great at Fork and Tap. There was a nice, calm turnout. The teacher’s interaction was nice; kids love that. We had about the same amount of sales as last year (don’t have total numbers yet).
2. **Father/Daughter Dance:** Carrie confirmed that this will take place next Friday. We are still looking for volunteers to help with the event and to sign up for treats.
3. **Movie Night:** Katie and Danielle reported that it went really good. It was busy. We cleared out all of the popcorn and pizzas. We started with 20 pizzas, and then ordered an additional 14 which were gone by the end of the night. The second pizza order was late and we opted to go pick them up. Because of this, Dominos gave us a good deal on them and we were able to sell slices at $1 vs $2. Most of the candy was gone too. Successful event and families seemed to enjoy it. Liz suggested the option of allowing families to pre-order pizzas prior to the event. Katie and Danielle will look into that for next movie night.

**8. Further Discussions:**

- Talauna brought up the **Spring Spirit Wear** that is planned for after Spring Break. It is usually a 3-4 week turnaround time. The offerings are going to stay as-in for the spring sale. Talauna is looking for new suggestions and designs for the fall sale. We will keep the essentials but would like to add some new items into the rotation. Suggestions made for new offerings included LES ornaments and the half zip sweatshirt/fleece.

- Karen discussed **Read Across America Week** which is coming up in March. The theme is ‘Read more in 24’. There are a lot of reading activities planned including DEAR (drop everything and read) times, mystery readers, book exchange, Dr. Seuss dress up day. In addition, each teacher will come up with a reading goal for their class which will be posted in the hallway. Once they reach their goal, students will get their button. We are looking forward to this fun week with reading as the focus.

- Karen continued, voicing the importance of getting books into the hands of all kids. She is planning to retire this year, and is interested in exploring a **Book Vending Machine** for LES. She wanted to share this idea with us with no pressure whatsoever to contribute. It is a decent size machine that holds books and students could select a book from the machine at a special time of the year (perhaps their birthdays or a special reward). She is still looking into this and understands that the cost is several thousand dollars for the machine. Additional consideration would need to be given to keep the book inventory up. She also is researching the repairs and isn’t sure what might be needed with the up-keep of it just yet. At this time, this is an idea she would like to explore and would help fundraise for it. Katie suggested that we could propose this Book Vending machine idea to the group, 100 Women Ozaukee County for assistance.

- Kristin discussed various needs for IEP items, such as fidget tools, wobble chair converters, sensory objects, etc. The Staff put together a “wish list” and it totals to just under $6,000. Perhaps they focus on just the classroom needs now and then work towards a school check-out station. The individual classroom needs right now total about $1,800, and then the needs for the school’s check-out station total about $4,000. It may be easier to build classrooms first and then build up the check-out station as they could keep adding to it each year. Classrooms need these and it should be the main focus as teachers are buying some of these items out of their own pockets. Some of the items need to be replaced occasionally including the Thera-puddy and chew necklaces. The Wobble seat cushions last a few years. SEL requires a calming corner in each classroom. The check-out area/a resource room would allow staff to refresh items. We discussed a fundraiser to support this as the ‘goal’. We have found success with fundraising when there is a focus/goal of what the fundraiser is for. This is something that would benefit all kids, as many students use these items - not strictly IEP students. We could also check with therapy staff as perhaps they could get these items at-cost.

**8. Upcoming Dates –**

February 16th – Father/Daughter Dance

February 23rd – No School

March 1st – Movie Night

March 14th – PALS Meeting at 6:30pm

**9. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm by Carrie Barnes. Thank you for attending!