

LNCS PTA General Meeting Minutes

January 16, 2024

6:30-7:30pm

LNCS - VIRTUAL

Attendees:

Missy Heinlein	Andy Krall	Chris Opp	Dawn Strom
Amy Luehmann*	Andrea Domaski	Leah Kann	Cyla Harrington
Mark Stigani	Zachary Wyman	Sarah Lindley	Kristi Ward*
Karla Basta	Maria Yupangui		

*Staff

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT: Buildings that make up the Minneapolis Public Schools community are built within the traditional homelands of the Dakota people. Minnesota comes from the Dakota name for this region, Mni Sota Makoce (Minnesota "Mah-coe-chay") translating to the land where the waters reflect the skies or cloudy waters. Minneapolis Public Schools recognize the original peoples of this place and are committed to make ongoing efforts to educate the community about the relationship that Dakota people have to this area, both historically and today as they remain here in their 'home'

Called to order: 6:33pm

- 1) Introductions and icebreaker (Name/ kiddos/ ways to beat the cold)**
- 2) Review and Approve Agenda**
 - a. Moved to Mark and Seconded by Andy
 - b. Approved
- 3) Review and Approve Meeting Minutes (table to next meeting)**
 - a. 10/26/2023
 - b. 11/16/2023
- 4) Treasurer's Update (Melissa/Adam)**
 - a. Tabled to next meeting
 - b. We will have a comprehensive Treasurer's update next month.
- 5) Principals' Updates**
 - a. Principal Luehmann (Wenonah): Not a lot to share but excited to be back from the winter break.
 - b. Principal Ward (Keewaydin): Not much to report as we're just getting back to school.

- i. Principals Luehmann and Ward are both concerned about kids refusing to wear their winter gear.
 - 1. Parents shared a lot of good ideas to help the principals get the students to bundle up on cold days.
 - 2. Reach out to individual parents related to their children not wearing coats and ask if they would like their kids to sit out of recess.
 - 3. Work with student council/student ambassadors to promote wearing coats in the cold.

6) Spaghetti Dinner March 9, 2024 Keewaydin 4:00-7:00pm

- a. Discussed the time of the event:
 - i. Dance 5-7pm
 - ii. Movie 4:30-6:30pm
 - iii. Silent Auction 4-6:15pm
 - iv. Dinner served 4-6:30pm
 - v. Spirit wear 4-7pm
- b. Planning Committee Meetings will be held every other Tuesday 1/30, 2/13, 2/20
 - i. Food Logistics - Fat Lorenzo's will support us with food at or around their cost.
 - 1. Missy and Chris will participate on the food subcommittee
 - ii. Silent Auction
 - 1. Last year's silent auction raised more than \$4,000. We would like to repeat that again this year
 - 2. We are looking for volunteers to go around the neighborhood or to local businesses to help find donations for the silent auction (Karla volunteered to help)
 - 3. Also looking for donations from individuals or businesses run by parents
 - iii. Decorations
 - 1. We have reached out to last year's volunteer for decorations and she still has the decorations we used last year.
 - 2. Looking for additional volunteers to work with Ms. Felt to have students build centerpieces.
 - 3. Signage/Banners: Missy asked if the group thought we should spend the money to create the outdoor vinyl banners this year or not. Consensus was to not purchase banners.
 - iv. Entertainment
 - 1. Dance
 - a. We plan to have a dance with a professional DJ in the gym
 - 2. Less stimulating alternative for kids who are not interested in the dance:
 - a. Movie in Auditorium is an option according to Principal Ward. We would need at least one volunteer at the door to ensure food does not come into the auditorium, and another two volunteers to ensure that kids are not running around.
 - i. Movie suggestions included "Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs," "Ratatouille" or "Lady and the Tramp"
 - v. Security
 - 1. There are a lot of middle schoolers who are connected to the LNCS community and want to come to this event. We want to avoid middle

school children running around the school unsupervised at this event. Some trouble with this last year.

- a. Focus on communicating that this is an elementary school function, not a middle school function.
- b. Closing/shutting down the upstairs portion of the building.
- c. Blocking off half of the gym to keep the space a little smaller and avoiding kids getting run over accidentally.
- d. We will be keeping Door 3 blocked off from the outside.

7) Teacher Appreciation

- a. Conferences - Feb 20
 - i. PTA would like to support the staff during the February conferences
 - ii. Keewaydin's schedule is not yet confirmed
 - iii. Wenonah's schedule is 8am-7pm
 - iv. Per the principals, the best way to support would be to either provide a lunch or individually packaged snack items
 - v. Sarah Lindley volunteered to help with this.
- b. Teacher Appreciation Week - May 6-May 11
 - i. PTA will look into supporting or providing some sort of token of appreciation for the staffs of both schools

8) NASA Update (Opp)

- a. Chris Opp explained that he has been researching a grant opportunity which, if we are awarded the grant, our LNCS students would be able to send questions to NASA astronauts for them to answer while aboard the international space station.
- b. Principal Ward asked what the effort required on staff would be? NASA wants to know what STEM activities/education would we include in our curriculum to truly benefit from the opportunity. Principal Ward would like to have the teachers from both campuses connect to create a small committee to support this ask and determine what the requirements of teachers will be.

9) Misc/Adjourn

- a. Missy shared with the Principals that we have requested information from staff about field trip transportation or other funding requests and have not received much information back. Missy asked that the Principals communicate to their staff about what their needs might be and to ensure that they reach out to PTA with funding requests.
- b. Principal Luehmann asked how the turnout was at the December meeting to share information about PTA volunteer opportunities. We had a fairly light turnout but we did record the meeting and will share that out shortly.
- c. Principal Ward shared:
 - i. Feb 12 is African American Parent Involvement Day at Keewaydin - Still working on what that will mean.
 - ii. Feb 28 - Second Annual Black History Month Celebrating Black Joy Event at Keewaydin
 1. Time: 5:45-7:00pm
 2. Food from black-owned restaurants, free haircuts from a barber, book reading, etc.
 3. Kristi would like to have a small Spiritwear pop-up at that event

- iii. Sanford is hosting an Intro to Sanford Family Night sometime in the next week or so. Principal Ward mentioned that she will share information out via Robo-call/email.

10) Next Meeting:

- a. Date TBD based on Principals budget schedules
- b. Watch your emails/Principals' updates for date and time.

Adjourned: 8:10pm