

Durbin Creek Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization

General Meeting: April 26, 2024 5:30PM Music Room

Board Members Present:

Dara Giddings President
Elizabeth Frankland Secretary

Members Present: Jeannie Kepner, Brit Bolender, Chantelle Gauthier, Kristin De Rosa, Sadie Ebanyet

Meeting called to order at 5:31PM.

I. Approval of the minutes:

- Meeting Minutes from February 2024 Meeting were approved as presented.
 - Motion to Approve: Jeannie Kepner
 - Second: Kristen DeRosa

II. 2024-2025 Board of Directors Approval

Per Article V, Section 1 (b):

“Executive officers shall be elected by popular vote and installed annually in the month of May. However, if there is but one nominee for any office, it shall be in order to move that the secretary cast the elective ballot of the organization for the nominee.”

Elective Ballot:

- Dara Giddings - President
- Holly Davis - Co-Vice President
- Chantelle Gauthier - Co-Vice President
- Elizabeth Frankland - Treasurer
- Kristin DeRosa - Secretary
- Brit Bolender - Partners in Learning Events

No one ran as contested. Ballot approved by Elizabeth Frankland, Secretary.

III. Membership Dues Vote

Per the bylaws, Section IV, 4, “The dues structure is determined by a General Membership Vote at the year end during the Annual Meeting.”

The current basic family dues are set at \$20.

The Board would like the ability to increase the family membership to \$25.

Rational: Given the current environment, prices in general have increased. To keep up with current increases, the board would like the ability to increase dues by \$5. This increase would only take place after the '24-'25 budget is drafted and it is determined if an increase is needed.

COVID funding is also going away for the new school year decreasing overall funds for school.

Proposed Memberships:

- \$25 - Family Membership:
Membership includes one 2023-2024 family PTO membership, early purchasing access to ticketed events and one car decal.
- \$50 - Family Plus Membership (available thru Orientation):
Benefits of Family Level Membership plus 1 standard DCE Spirit Shirt
- \$100 - Family Premium Membership (available thru Orientation):
Benefits of Family Level Membership plus 1 standard DCE Spirit Shirt, 1 DCE Yearbook, and an entry to win a free Explorer Rock Reservation

All DCE PTO Members benefits include:

- Early Access to PTO Events at the School

Durbin Creek Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization

General Meeting: April 26, 2024 5:30PM Music Room

- Discounts at some Partner-In-Learning locations
- Voting for DCE PTO Executive Board
- Hold a position as Committee Member
- Run for a position on the Executive Board

DCE Teachers and Staff would still receive a Free Family Level Membership
Beginning of the year Membership Drive offering 20% if purchased by August 31, 2024

Motion to approve membership price changes as presented.

- Motion to approve: Jeannie Kepner
- Second: Chantelel Gauthier

IV. Bylaws Article V Section 1(a) Vote

Motion to Change Article V, Section 1 (a) to:

The executive officers of this organization shall include a minimum of President, Treasurer, and Secretary with options of additional Co- Presidents, or Presidents, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Fundraising Treasurer, and Partners-in-Learning Coordinator with a maximum of 8 board members or 1 board member per 100 students when the student population exceeds 800.

Rational: The current language only allows for a maximum of 8 board members. However, the current population of the school continues to increase ('23-24 populations 1000+ students). Changing to a maximum of 1 board member per 100 students allows the PTO to better position itself to continue to provide support and activities to better the school.

Motion to approve bylaw change as presented.

- Motion to approve: Kristen De Rosa
- Second: Chantelle Gauthier

V. Principal's Report given by Ashley McCormick:

- Watch emails for end of the year awards/testing/celebrations, etc
- Budget cuts but worked around to keep all staff and gaining staff
- Enrollment is expected to stay around the same for next year. Kindergarten enrollment is already up to 80 kids.
- 5 PRE-K classes, adding to special education K-2 and 3-5 access classrooms.
- Space House will be almost entirely 2nd grade, 10 classrooms
- 5th increasing to 9 classrooms
- Contribution from PTO is exciting to help with new playground
- Interviews ongoing for new staff, employment fair upcoming
- 3rd grade ELA test on Thursday
- Pep rally on Monday for 3-5 to get excited about testing

VI. Principal's Q & A:

- None

VII. Treasurer's Report:

- Current Account Balance: \$130,577
- Balance at the beginning of the school year: \$76,929
- Pending Fun Run funds to be spent on playground equipment: \$44,804
- Will leave our balance at \$85,773
- Still have a few more expenses for the remainder of this year but we will probably end the year around \$75 K

Durbin Creek Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization

General Meeting: April 26, 2024 5:30PM Music Room

VIII. Partners in Learning:

Thank you to our 2023-2024 Partners!

We are about to begin working on the Partner Packages for the 2024-2025 school year. Waiting on some updates from SJCSD.

IX. Upcoming Events:

- 1st Day School Supply Boxes are on sale now!
- New Membership Year starts on Jul 1, 2024
 - Rock Reservations
 - Spirit Wear
- If you are interested in leading a committee or being more involved next year, please send an email to Explorers@dcepto.org
- 5th Grade Events
 - Sports Night and Color Run - May 17 at 4:15 PM
 - Awards Night/Graduation - May 20
 - End of Year Celebration - May 22 during the school day

X. Questions and Comments:

Thank you to all of our Volunteers During the 2023-2024 School Year!

Volunteer appreciation breakfast on Monday.

Special Thank you to:

Tarra Lowe, Outgoing Vice President and Former PIL Coordinator for her 4 years on the PTO Board.

Nikki Boutin, Outgoing Treasurer and Former Secretary for her 3 years on the PTO Board.

You will see them again next year as the 5th Grade Committee Leaders.

Next Meeting Date: TBD in the Oasis with a virtual option to be provided

Meeting Adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Motion to adjourn: Jeannie Kepner

Second: Chantelle Gauthier