



# Minutes

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Durbin Creek PTO

October 16, 2018 at 9:06 am Meeting called to order by Nicole Lizzmore

## In Attendance

Nicole Lizzmore, Carrie Fuentes, Rachel Hughes, Bonnie Ruckh, Carey Ann Blumberg, Jessica Lutge, Christie Ball, Jenn O'Brien, Karen Echeverria, Christine Miller, Steven Moore, Paige Merriam

## Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Bonnie Ruckh to approve the August 2018 meeting minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Christie Ball

## Treasurer Report

- Rachel Hughes reports that since our last meeting we've had \$13,647.90 in deposits and \$10,700.68 in withdrawals leaving our current bank balance at \$20,877.01. There are current outstanding checks in the amount of \$6,589.94.

## Committee Reports

### Box Tops

- Jenn O'Brien reports that we collected 4016 Box Tops for our Fall drive. We will receive a check for \$401. She thinks she can do better in the Spring. Communication is key. She will advertise on the morning news, the FaceBook page and get teachers on board.

### Book Fair

- Christine Miller reports that total sales from the book fair were \$11,789.08 excluding sales tax, which is very comparable to last year's numbers. There were \$8,527 Scholastic dollars earned. Ms. O'Brien gifted 1 book to each teacher. The committee wanted to thank all the volunteers. Pastries with Parents really helped drive the students and families in and boosted sales. Special thank you goes out to Creekside Art Club for the decorations. Plans are already underway for the Spring book fair. They're looking to extend the book fair, so each class can come during their resource time. They will also be adding a 3rd cash register to hopefully avoid the long lines. In Spring Ms. O'Brien may take the cash option. Shannon Pickles (chair of book fair) is moving so Christie Ball will be the chair for the Spring book fair.

## Spirit Sticks

- Rachel Hughes reports that in September the Spirit Stick sale was very successful! We sold \$502. We've postponed the sale for October because the current chair person is unable to hold the sale this month.

## Spirit Patrol

- Carrie Fuentes reports that the chair for this committee was hired as an employee at DCE so we're looking for someone to take her place. We will need 2 people to cover this committee. It's currently scheduled to take place every other Friday morning, but we can change that to once a month or further apart if needed. Thank you, Bonnie Ruckh and Carey Blumberg, for volunteering to cover Spirit Patrol.

## Principal Report

- Ms. Fuller reports that DCE is growing!
- We're getting a new VPK class, so we've had to move some classrooms around and we lost a tech lab temporarily.
- The District has approved 4-6 portables for 2019-2020. This year we'll just make the space we have work.
- We have 5 computer carts, but we need the skinny labs at the front of the houses for iReady testing.
- We're getting a 3<sup>rd</sup> ESE teacher. Ms. Sipes is returning for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. Now we will have 3 ESE teachers each is responsible for 2 grade levels.
- Our biggest problem is space. We need space for 3 more teachers. Many staff are being shifted around to make room.
- Attendance was at 770 for the 1<sup>st</sup> week of school. We're up to 808. We'll be at 813 soon.
- The state considers DCE capacity at 850 students, but they don't include pre-k, only k-5.
- We won't add any more teachers. The students will be added to current classroom and there will be an associate teacher.
- Get out and vote this year. There are big issues and amendments on ballot that could impact education. Encourage friends and neighbors to vote too.
- We're getting upgraded Wifi and technology which is being funded through the ½ cent sales tax.
- We put an ad for PTO volunteers in the Compass and we received only one response. PTO is extremely important to DCE. We can't do what we need to do without the PTO.
- Teachers are doing great. Teachers are under a lot of pressure. There is a teacher shortage and finding subs is very hard especially long-term subs.

## New Business

- On September 21, 2018, the board members received a text from Katelin Jones resigning as President of the DCE PTO. We have also received resignations from Recording Secretary Christine Gonzalez, Corresponding Secretary Kristin Efrat, and Fundraising Treasurer Monique Ketron. The board has accepted all these resignations. The only remaining board members are: 1<sup>st</sup> VP Nicole Lizzmore, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Rachel Hughes and Partners In Learning Carrie Fuentes. We are currently looking for new board members as well as chair people and volunteers for our upcoming events. If you know of anyone that may be interested, please have them contact Nicole Lizzmore for more information on the positions that are available.

- Room Parents – The Room Parent Coordinator is Nicole Franklin. She will be reaching out to all the room moms with the information they need to get in touch with their classroom parents to plan things for the upcoming holidays and remainder of the year. There will need to be some changes with the room parent responsibilities this year. Our options are: 1A system to track collections which will need to match with a receipt for the gift given to the teacher. 2. Room parents can only collect gift cards and checks, no cash. 3. No more class gifts. They can just notify the parents of the upcoming event and have the parents send in individual gifts directly to the teachers. Donations for Resource teachers can be sent to the front office. Ultimately, we do not want to add more work for the Room Parents. We will table the discussion and decide as a board along with Ms. Fuller how to handle this year.

## **Announcements**

- Bonnie Ruckh will investigate the status of the Shoparoo App
- We will be scaling back our events due to such a small PTO board, but we have an obligation to our sponsors to have them at the school. We will be inviting them to our Character Counts events, STEAM night and Boosterthon.
- Our next meeting is scheduled for February. We will consider a January meeting since we're trying to add members to the board and get more volunteers. We're also considering a night time meeting to capture the working parents. Next meeting TBD.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:10am by Nicole Lizzmore