
PTA General Meeting Minutes

Monday, 10.21.2019

Agenda

Call to order: 6:30PM

Announcements

- Box tops: Transitioning to an app which scans receipts. If you're willing to do this, the PTA will benefit.
- We still need 13 paying members to be an official PTA. The easiest way is to go to <http://leal.memberhub.store> and register/pay there.
- Mentoring and Community Involvement & Mentoring (Michelle Hankin)
 - E-mail her to go through the school background check process. mhankin@usd116.org
 - Will sent an announcement through ClassTag
- Call for volunteers and nominations
- Walkathon - volunteers needed

Officer's Reports

- Treasurer's Report
 - Handout: This year's budget, complete
 - Handout: Simplified categories
 - Revenue Sources: Fun Fair, Walkathon, Silent Auction. Also, Amazon Smile and eScrip are easy.
 - Question: Question about funding enrichment activities, particularly providing band instruments.
Principal Ochoa: There are several existing ways to subsidize band instruments for kids. Discussion about identifying kids who need this; the need may not be obvious. Several parents are interested in ensuring kids who cannot afford band instruments are provided with an instrument. This group will talk more.
- Secretary's Report
 - No corrections
 - Minutes approved by voice vote

New Business

- N/A

Teacher's Report

- Thank you for the food provided during Parent-Teacher Conferences

- Added a family-information night to the parent-teacher conference activities.
- Upcoming a literacy night.
- Great turnout with parent-teacher conference. Over 85% participation during the main event, does not count families who met at other times.

Parent Coordinator's Report – Luisana Hernandez

- Parent volunteer activities and bridging the gap between Dual Language and English programs. Friday afternoon group “help out the teachers” time.
- Dia de los Muertos activities will be at the middle school, on November 1st. Pot Luck and a movie. Combined with Hispanic Heritage Month activities at the middle school.

Principal's Report – Adriana Ochoa

- Isabella Folklorico Show: Putting on a traditional show for the kids was a big success. The space was too small to invite all of the parents, but the kids enjoyed the show. Planning to do it again next year, bigger and better.
- Intruder Drill went well. Didn't scare the kids, went according to plan. Invites everyone to talk about this with parents to make sure it's done well. Treating this like a fire drill.
 - Comment: A parent is opposed to teachers practice for drills without advance notice home. Wants advance notice so that families can decide whether to participate.
 - Ochoa: This isn't necessarily an active shooter drill; can be for any kind of intruder.
 - Comment: A parent was in the school during the drill last year, and they found a problem with a door which doesn't lock.
 - Comment: Parents need more information about the details of the drill to have informed consent. Drills can vary drastically in their character and the likelihood to traumatize the participants. This parent is a PHD student studying violence in schools, and has a lot say. Doesn't think the kids need to be present to find problems with doors that don't lock, needs more information to determine if she can consent to this as a parent. Wants to know what was being taught.

Announcements

- George: call for for Walk-a-thon volunteers
 - 9am Wednesday
 - Need volunteers
 - Can someone volunteer with a toddler in tow? Yes.
- Urbana Arts Grants
- Illinois Council of School Boards meeting to discuss arming teachers.
- Halloween Parade
 - Ochoa will dress up
 - Rules about costumes: no weapons. Discussion about masks. Kindergartners.
 - Time and date will be announced.

Closing: 7:23pm