

## Edgewood PTA Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2015

Attendees: Amanda Addison, Michelle Stecher, Gayle Sawyer, Jeanie Smith, Rachel DiNitto, Melysa Romstad, Anna T. Galas, Beth Casper, John Stapleton, David NT, Ali Megan Wagner, Rob Drummond, Melissa Vaughn, Nicole Dahmen, Tanya Bunson, Amelia Reising, Bree Bouse, Susan Carey, Larry Williams (principal), Bruce Lawrence (teacher), Will Vanderbilt (teacher). [Minutes taken by David NT]

### 1. Introductions

2. Gayle moves to pass meeting minutes from last meeting 8/25/15, Beth seconds. Minutes from 8/25/15 passed.

3. Fun Run: John begins a discussion about importance of advance planning for Fun Run. Fun Run chair this year is Chelsea Donahue. Gayle mentions that Yogurt Extreme will be supporting Fun Run this year in form of donations/incentives for participants. Discussion of some of incentives and activities for Fun Run participants, including possibly turning in envelope with donations and then receiving the donated Yogurt Extreme coupon. Overview and discussion of how Fun Run works provided for new meeting members, answering Fun Run questions. Announcement that volunteers are needed for the assembly on 9/21/15, to wear costumes, get students excited for Fun Run, etc. Sign-up sheet sent around and there is also an online link to sign-up to volunteer.

4. School Picnic: Discussion of where we're at in preparation for the BBQ/Picnic. Tanya reminds group that we're ready and that it's going to be catered. Could postpone if bad weather. Beth reminds that there will be a clothing "Freecycle" event during the BBQ/Picnic. Deadline to donate was today, as some advance time is needed to wash/prep the clothes. Tanya also mentioned that there still is a need for volunteers.

5. Principle report: Larry mentions that Friday he should have some feedback from district about additional support/FTE to keep classroom size/student numbers reasonable. Priority in the district's eyes is primary grades. Should be a few more weeks before school-wide enrollment slows/stops. Larry provides current numbers for primary grades. With the small teacher FTE to be available, this will go to supporting Kindergarten. Edgewood will likely be eligible for first grade to receive additional support. Parent asks clarification question if this could mean additional section of 1<sup>st</sup> grade, Larry says possible, but more likely support teacher. Michelle asks what if there continues to be additional enrollment in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, which could mean that class size could approach 40. Larry responds that in which case they would look at blends to keep numbers down. Larry says this is first year grades 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> at Edgewood have actually grown. Michelle also asks if PTA could contribute to funds that would provide additional FTE to Edgewood classes, Larry says "yes", as PTA has supported Edgewood this way in the past. Larry mentions that teachers are working on developing their professional goals, he will be sitting with teachers to discuss their goals, which will be smart, measurable goals, aimed at improving instruction and assessing how they do as teachers. Larry also creates goals for himself. This year Edgewood received Title 2 money, explanation of Title 2.

6. PTA: John discusses goals set by PTA for themselves: to increase volunteers, to increase overall communication, and to increase organization of PTA efforts. Website is up, and feedback is welcome, as it is a "work in progress". Rob agreed to be volunteer coordinator. Every PTA committee will have a chair, and the PTA maintains a goal for each committee to outline/organize/document their committee process, to make the "handing off" efforts, and the passing on of knowledge, easier for those who take it on next.

7. Green Team: Beth gives overview and evolution of Green Team, reviews its accomplishments over past year (Edgewood got certified as a Green School, Composting program at school cafeteria, Bike and Walk Month, Electronics Recycling Month, etc). Mentions that there are additional, upcoming opportunities and looking for a Chair and additional members for Green Team committee. Reminder that the Edgewood Garden is also an aspect of Green Team. We recently got a volunteer to oversee the Garden.

8. Entertainment Committee: Beth moves to make Michelle Chair of the Entertainment Committee, Beth seconds. Michelle is Chair of the Entertainment Committee.

9. Volunteering: Rob is now Volunteer Coordinator. Two clarifications: That this is not a committee that needs a Chair, and that anyone interested in volunteering doesn't need to contact Rob specifically, anyone interested can contact anyone affiliated with PTA. Will Vanderbilt asks if we can get "classroom coordinators" again to act as liaisons between classes and PTA. Group discussion about best ways to elicit volunteers and to organize personal contact info for those interested. A parent asks that additional descriptions be provided for future volunteers opportunities to better describe the position(s) when they are posted. Beth mentioned that she sends out PTA news "e-blasts" on Mondays, so let Beth know ahead of time if you'd like something to be included in those. Discussion about including PTA announcements and information in various formats, including hard copies, posted at quads, as it creates more opportunities for info to reach people. Beth mentions that "e-blasts" are archived on the PTA website. New member questions, review and discussion about social media, including a review of what can be included online, on Facebook etc.

10. Fun Night: Gayle was previous chair. Gayle announces that on 10/20/15 she'll be here to provide info and answer questions about this year's Fun Night. David moves that Gayle be Chair of Fun Night, Beth seconds. Gayle is Chair of this Year's Fun Night.

11. PTA Check signing: John provides brief overview of the PTA's recent discussion of the PTA check signing process. John talks about previous process, needing two signors, and he provides some printed outlines of the previous processes and requirements.

12. Guest Speakers: Beth announces that if anyone knows anyone that would be interested in speaking, presenting or having a few minutes of PTA meeting time to let her know.

13. Meet the Superintendent: Gayle reminds the group that on 10/6/15 there will be a "town hall" style event to meet the Superintendent. Gayle asks if anyone is interested in helping out with that, Heather Salicki offers to help.

14. Meeting Adjourned: Bree moves to adjourn, Melysa seconds. Meeting for 9/15/15 adjourned.