

KETTLE LAKE PTO

Minutes

Meeting called to order by Holly Blough, Vice President

March 21, 2023

In person meeting - Cafeteria

Mission Statement:

It is the mission of the Kettle Lake PTO to support quality education for the children of Kettle Lake Elementary School.

In Attendance:

Holly Blough
Stephanie Sheppard
Christy Morehouse
Kelli Bonnell
Jennifer LaPorte
Jessica Riedl
Jenna Hurless
Niki Frontjis
Amy Hoss
Missy Visser
Tammy Rowley
Mary Frey
Lisa Pyper

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from the January 31, 2023 meeting were approved and are now on the KL website.

School Bond - Mallory Walsh :

Mallory introduced herself as co-chair of the 2023 Caledonia bond initiative. She has kiddos at DLECC and sits on the PTO Board there. Her oldest will be at Kettle Lake next year!

Walked through the phases of the 2023 bond. Every school gets improvements with the Facilities phase. Specifically for KL, we will get parking lot renovations and security of the playground on the busy road. CalPlex improvements is phase 2 - specifically parking improvements. Phase 3 is the stadium renovations - so much needed! And lastly and most importantly, Phase 4 is a brand new Dutton Elementary.

Important to note that ALL these things happen without a tax increase. What we pay now, calculated to pay through 2050, is just extended to 2055 instead. Absentee ballots are available now! Or go vote on **MAY 2nd**. The biggest challenge is that this is the only thing to vote for; so it's super important to get people out to the polls to vote.

Stephanie asked if polling locations were changed due to this being the only vote. Mallory had not heard of this, but did note that if you go to the QR code she provided on the flier you can easily find polling locations.

Jessica asked what happened with the pool, etc - that is all still in process. That was part of the last bond and we had 5 years to spend that money. So they started on the things that would take the longest (pool, etc) rather than Dutton (which is estimated to take 2 years). The pools will be finished in 2024 and will include walking paths to CalPlex.

She is hoping each PTO can put 5 yard signs out - she will leave them all! Also left flyers. Megan will leave some at school ; others to take to distribute.

Updates from Mrs. Ballmer:

Mostly looking forward to a lot of celebrations! Enjoying March is Reading month. Spring Break is just ahead and then a lot to look forward to - field trips, family fun night, fourth grade celebration, etc.

Introduction of Kindergarten teachers. Mrs. Ballmer loves to brag about this team. She always says they wear capes; they are everything for these kiddos when they come into school for the first time. The best people to prepare them for 1st grade. Mrs. Rowley - says they absolutely love it; she has taught most every grade and Kinder, while has the most challenges, is one of the best. The teachers teach the kids independence and take them as far as they can go; then they (teachers) get to start over each year ;) The kids are energizing!

PTO Budget (Stephanie Shepherd) :

Stephanie reviewed some of the movements that were made after the last meeting's vote and approval.

Biggest item of discussion is the need for a new popcorn machine. Crystal has a quote of right around \$1,500.

Megan - They've called GR Popcorn and the old machine is almost 20 years old and beyond repair. They said it would not be worth it to come and service, as they would not be able to adequately repair. Megan is asking the PTO to fund the machine, as she has had a few unexpected items come up that she has used her funds on, and has plans for the PTO office funds to utilize during Teacher Appreciation week.

Stephanie explained we would move funds from the savings to fund this since it was not in the proposed and approved budget. Holly motioned to move the funds; Christy seconded. We unanimously all followed with approval to add to the budget.

Crystal will order and Christy Morehouse will pick up.

Committee Reports :

- New Popcorn Machine Vote
 - ◆ Handled under Budget update
- Key Communicator - Amanda Theisen and Leah Smith
 - ◆ Not present/no update (Mallory discussed 2023 bond)
- Learning Garden - Amy Hoss
 - ◆ Thursday after Spring Break CKCC will be doing weeding

- ◆ Boy Scouts will be doing some gravel/mulch and Amy believes a shed is still in the works
- Moms and Misters - Amber Solar and Kelly Nicholas
 - ◆ Not present; no update
 - ◆ Discussed that Save the Dates did not go out; tickets are supposed to go out after Spring Break
 - ◆ Christy will follow up with Amber to get update, etc
- Family Fun Night - Jenna Hurless and Niki Frontjes
 - ◆ Have a balloon guy - different this year - Stormy the Magician
 - ◆ Inflatables ordered - will NEED volunteers
 - ◆ Cake Walk will be on the basketball court this year (no basketball shoot off)
 - ◆ Face Painting and Glitter Tattoos! Stephanie Sheppard will do tattoos! And getting CAL dance team for face painting.
 - ◆ Wristband will include hot dog, chips and a drink; snow cone and popcorn for purchase
 - ◆ DATE: May 19th 5:30-8pm
 - ◆ Sign ups for volunteers will go out after Spring Break
 - ◆ "Selling" 20 parking spots this year!
- TerraCycle - Jamie Ryder and Amy Hoss
 - ◆ No action/update
- Cougar Kids Care Club - Amy Hoss
 - ◆ Big week - Kids Food Basket Week!
 - ◆ Donations for food are going well - picked up to empty once already
 - ◆ 72 shirts were ordered for wear orange day - Amy will let us know what we "earn" for that towards the donations
 - ◆ Stuffie Day for \$1 on Thursday and Wear Orange Day Friday (no cost)
 - ◆ Treats and Trinket Sale on Thursday and Friday.
 - Some convo around all the coins received - the bank was great and just took it all. But maybe we can look at options for next year - everything is \$1 (multiple items)? Leave change as donation?
- Teacher Appreciation - Jen LaPorte
 - ◆ Coming up the first week of May!
 - ◆ We met once and will meet again after Spring Break
 - ◆ Lots of fun things planned
 - ◆ Still need a lead for next year! We have a team, but no one to step up yet...
- Book Fair - Kelli Bonnell
 - ◆ Some conversation around a pop up BOGO Book Fair.
 - ◆ This wouldn't be a fundraiser but would benefit the families
 - ◆ Idea would be for families to be able to come in and shop the BOGO sale (not open for student shopping) during Field Day to stock up for summer reading
 - ◆ Lots of comments about how cool this is, but if it isn't a fundraiser do not think it's worth it...

- ◆ Teachers are pushing libraries for the summer, people may not have time to come in, parents can't always make Field Day, books are often cheaper in the flyers (classroom sales), many parents commented they really only purchase the books to support the Fair/library ...
- Reading Month - Kelli Bonnell
 - ◆ Going well - keep encouraging kiddos to work on the BINGO sheets - due back on March 28
 - ◆ On Wednesday, the 29th, we will have Mr. Nick for the day - each grade level will come in the library for an interactive presentation and get to do some illustrating
 - ◆ We will give out prizes on Thursday, March 30th
- Blood Drive - Lindsey Gysen
 - ◆ Not present; no update
- 4th Grade Year End Celebration - Jen LaPorte
 - ◆ Met with Mrs. Ballmer and 4th grade teachers to plan
 - ◆ Jessica Riedl and a partner will run much of the celebration so 4th grade parents can enjoy it! They will plan events next year and hope to have two third grade parents do the same.
 - ◆ Sent Save the Dates for all the events (yellow form)

Raffle Drawing!

3 bundt cakes raffled off - Amy Hoss, Tammy Rowley and Missy Visser are the winners :)