



**Parent-Teacher Association (PTA)**  
**General Membership Meeting Minutes**  
September 12, 2017

Board Members in Attendance: Laura Loshek, Shannon Voerster, Katy Erling, JoAnna Collins, Misty Nickle, Marissa Genereux, Karri Norris, Sharon Deziel

Additional Members/Attendees: 16

**Standing Items:**

1. Meeting called to order by president Shannon Voerster at 4:31 p.m.
  - A. Welcome and personal introduction by each officer
2. “Summer Share” ice-breaker led by Principal Laura Loshek
3. Approval of the May Meeting Minutes by Shannon Voerster
  - A. Approval bypassed since minutes are unable to be located
4. Principal’s Report by Laura Loshek
  - A. New this year six sections of kindergarten with class sizes around 23
  - B. Significant increase in enrollment this year; total student enrollment last year was 793 with Pre-K, this year 850 with Pre-K
  - C. Emphasis this month on school safety, especially important with increased enrollment. “Safety” PowerPoint was presented; highlights/discussion:
    - i. Five fire drills every year by state mandate; the first will be announced (occurring on 9/15) with remainder unannounced
    - ii. Students will be practicing lockdown procedures both modified and full. Lockdowns include scripted instructions over the loud speaker backed by very general explanations; explained to students as “if we need a reason to stay in the classroom and be safe”. Lockdowns used for internal reasons sometimes to locate a missing student within the building.
    - iii. Tornado drill practiced in April
    - iv. Importance of students/staff knowing badge ID system, including visitor badge ID’s
    - v. Protocol for building security includes door “buzz-in”
    - vi. Review of safety expectations when traveling in building/passes in hallway
  - D. October is Kindness Month
    - i. Message focused on positive behavior expectations vs. “Anti-bullying”; educates students on what bullying is/isn’t
  - E. Additional safety items discussed:
    - i. Important to talk to students about their plans at the end of the day; alternate plans should be in writing; confusing when routine changes – helpful to talk to students about what to do if their plan gets mixed up
    - ii. Students are learning Internet safety at grade-specific levels
    - iii. How/when students should report to an adult for safety concerns
    - iv. Bus safety; representatives from transportation have been presenting to grades K-5 on behavior expectations, danger awareness, etc.
    - v. Biking/walking safety; importance of walking bikes all the way through crosswalks especially due to high enrollment
    - vi. There is a new carpool video to enhance safety on drop-off/pick-up; posted on GCES Website and through Grey Cloud “To Go” communications; encouraged to share this with others who are transporting your students

- F. Focus on “It Starts With Me” campaign
  - i. Teaches and empowers students that everyone matters
  - ii. Students are encouraged to bring a wallet-sized photo of themselves in; assembling a giant paper chain of students to string around the building with anticipated completion by fall conferences
- 5. Volunteer Coordinator’s Report by Karri Norris and Marissa Genereux
  - A. Harvest Hop next large event; volunteer requests will occur through Sign-Up Genius
  - B. Committee Heads needed for Staff Conference Dinners, Fun Run, and School Dinner Fundraisers, if interested position descriptions and sign up available through Sign-Up Genius
  - C. PTA page of the website offers an “Event Planning Form” with specific details on what is entailed in event planning; a guide to help plan a successful event
- 6. Treasurer’s Report by Misty Nickle
  - A. At next month’s meeting the budget will be available for voting approval

**New Business/Updates:**

- 1. Harvest Hop report by Shannon Voerster
  - A. Will be October 27; costumes encouraged but nothing too scary; no fake weapons allowed; there will be a DJ, and new this year food trucks along with minor concessions; looking for 5-7 trucks and taking suggestions; Tot Boss recommended, Rivertown Bakery, Ice Cream truck will be contacted
  - B. \$3 student entrance fee; parents and five and under free
  - C. Suggestion to incorporate a costume contest (homemade and non-) with small prizes
- 2. Kindergarten Play Date report by Sharon Deziel and Karri Norris
  - A. Held on September 9; a beautiful day; good turnout with 51 kindergarten families attending; five of six kindergarten teachers and principal were able to attend; colored leis helped ID classmates and foster community connection; two ice cream trucks for treats; easy and inexpensive event with recommendation to continue
- 3. Fundraiser Committee
  - A. Seeking a coordinator for “Fun Run”, the largest fundraiser of the year
- 4. October Meeting and Referendum by Laura Loshek
  - A. A district representative will be presenting/discussing the upcoming referendum at the October meeting
  - B. Grey Cloud student attendance is at the threshold for all grades and running as lean as possible; staff is maximized in their rolls
  - C. Watch for upcoming information on attending a community “Coffee” discussion event with Principal Loshek in the near future

**Open Forum**

- 1. Spirit-wear order closes September 18; suggestion to get ordering link to staff; link has been added to school website; orders will arrive around fall conference time
- 2. November will emphasize Box Tops fundraiser; developing sheet for students to collect them on; class collecting the most is rewarded with a party; fundraiser to be highlighted in Blackboard Connects
- 3. Reminder PTA participates in Amazon Smile for fundraising

Meeting adjourned

**\*\*\* Next Meeting October 10 at 4:30 p.m. \*\*\***



## PTA Officers - 2017/2018 School Year

### Presidents

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**Katy Erling**

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**Shannon Voerster**

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### Vice President

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**JoAnna Collins**

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### Treasurer

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**Misty Nickle**

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### Volunteer Coordinators

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**Marissa Genereux**

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**Karri Norris**

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### Secretary

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**Sharon Deziel**

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