

# Roberts Elementary PTO Board Meeting

Friday, April 19, 2014

8:10 a.m. Roberts Cafe

In attendance: Ali Pilcher, Aliya Walji, Anjum Khan, Camille Jenman, Chris Johnson, Courtney Tardy, Elizabeth Singleton, Emanuela Corradino, Emilie Heo, Jenny Johnson, Kara Niles, Kelly Wehrer, Kirsty McCormack, Lara Frazier, Lauren Bloomquist, Lori Bullwinkle, Meredith Beebe, Paige Castaneda, Phaedra Harbaugh, and others

Meeting Called to Order	Courtney Tardy
Approval of Minutes	Kara Niles
Treasurer's Report	Alyson Rooney
Board Nominations 2014-15	Courtney Tardy
Budget Approval 2014-15	Chris Johnson/Courtney Tardy
School Report	Rita Graves

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Meeting Called to Order	Courtney Tardy
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8:06 am.

Auction	Liz Singleton
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Thank you to everybody, you all helped and were there before, during after. We made somewhere in the \$XXK range, net. We couldn't have done it without every one of you. Next year's Auction is already being planned, so if you want to be part, let me know.

Tonight - Elaine Turner is a supporter, they give us a purse every year, they are throwing us a party tonight - no obligation to buy, but there will be 20% off. It's from 6-8 pm, it's in Rice Village on University Blvd. It's also a thank you to them.

Approval of Minutes	Kara Niles
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Kara Niles, Recording Secretary, presented the minutes from the March meeting for approval. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Kirsty McCormack and seconded by Liz Singleton. A vote was taken and the motion passed. All in favor - Aye

## **Treasurer's Report**

Courtney Tardy

We are getting close to end of year - if you are a committee chair, if you have money left, it needs to be spent. Please get those requests back. It needs to be spent by June - we really want to wrap that up. Only 2 months to go. Any questions?

## **Board Nominations 2014-15**

Courtney Tardy

The nominating committee has been working hard to get us the slate for next year's officers.

Nominations can be made from the floor, provided that the person has consented to the nomination.

Voting will be by everyone here, by voice, unless someone wants a written ballot. We have a vote by voice and the majority will carry. Would anyone like to nominate one?

Parliamentarian Singelton - Please, make sure that you speak up now if you would like to nominate someone or if you would like a written ballot. Now is the time to make your voice heard, and we welcome it. - Silence -

## **Slate**

President Elect Denise Metry, Treasurer Lara Frazier, Corresponding Secretary Ali Pilcher, Parliamentarian Paige Castaneda, Historian Aparna Johvani

Motion to elect slate: Liz Singleton. All in favor - Aye. The vote was unanimous. They start July first.

Procedures for voting on the budget are the same.

## **Budget Approval 2014-15**

Chris Johnson/Courtney Tardy

I want to outline the strategic moves we wanted to make. I want to be sure you are informed. You have last year's budget and this year's budget in front of you so you can see the changes we are making.

The bulk of money goes to impacting students in classrooms. What's unique this year is technology. In the past, we've done a lot of investing in laptops and ipads. This year, as HISD is doing a large-scale replacement for us, we are going to hold aside the money and keep it in a fund for when we need to do a large scale replacement of those computers in the future.

Cash vs. accrual accounting - we are going to continue to set aside the same amount.

A new thing we are doing is looking to move towards having a foundation - the school grounds are tough to maintain. There's a Spark Park funding potential coming up. We'd like to do a big spend on that. We want to build up some money in order to spend it on a major grounds budget. The challenge is that you give money to the

school to have it spent when your kid is in school. However, with this idea, we are looking at Roberts at a long term benefit to our community.

Carnival - it's in the budget but we worry every year because if the weather is bad the money earned can vary widely. As we can't count on it, we decided to put this money into the Foundation account.

New: Science lab budget - we added this. Hospitality budget increased. Teachers' classroom budget increased.

Q Where is Community Night ?

A It's in the hospitality budget. There's three Chairs covered in that budget.

Q The money held for technology - where does it stay?

A Our bylaws allow us to carry over the money. It stays in our account at Amegy. We will account for it in Treasurer's report, but it won't be in the budget.

Comment - it's common practice within the district.

Chris - Any other questions?

Motion to pass budget - Liz Singelton. Ali Pilcher seconds it. All in favor - Aye. The vote was unanimous. The budget passed.

## **School Report**

Rita Graves

STAAR - Next week there will be the STAAR exams for 3rd,4th, 5<sup>th</sup> graders. For Tuesday folder volunteers, we will let you know when you can come. The school is closed to visitors during testing. Book fair is next week.

Elaine Turner party tonight - she wants to thank us and we want to thank her. I do hope you will come out.

Q How is the mom who got hurt?

A She is having another surgery this morning. I'll go by the hospital later today. She will have a tough recover, but she will be OK.

We will send are re-sending traffic and safety guidelines. Part of the balance is parents are educated and decide on what risks they take. My concern is that they are often taking risks with other people's safety.

Please cross at crossing walk with crossing guard. It sets a model for kids to go to the crosswalk. We'll go over the guidelines with the kids. I want to keep the kids safe.

Any Qs?

Comment - The period before 7:45 - buses for middle schools now come to circle drive. The buses pull in and I think it causes problems.

Graves - we're blocking so buses only go on right lane. We don't want cars in the left lane until we have staff there.

Comment - people are getting out of their car on Circle Drive and walking their kids into school, getting backpacks from trunk.

Graves - It's a drop off zone only. None of those behaviors are OK.

Comment - Rita Graves has posted and repeated the rules, but people continue to break them. She has done everything possible to make the school safe. Thank you.

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**Carnival**

Jenny Johnson

Sign up genius email for every class, if you did not receive this email, please tell me. I have ten little jobs that I need help with, for example, one spreadsheet for tshirt sales, warming up hot dogs, etc. Please contact me if you can help.

Carnival is May 17 10-2 pm

We will start around 8 am. We'd love your help

**Adjourn**

Kara Niles

We are adjourned at 8:35 am.

**Next PTO Board meeting  
Friday, May 2, 2014 8:10 a.m. at Roberts Cafe**