



Home and School Meeting Minutes

November 11, 2021

ATTENDEES:

Officers: Kim Jaquez, Theresa Sebestyen, Kate McFarlane and Christine Taber

Staff: Jaime Veal, Ryan Samz

Parents: Mitch Helmer, Jessica Cross, Amanda Spiczenski, Mindy Landisch, Molly Wehking, Rachael Morris, Lucie Bauer, Katie O'Donnell, Kate Kanichuayil

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION/CONCLUSIONS
<p>Call to order & Introductions</p>	<p>The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm. Officers, staff and parents were introduced.</p>
<p>Principal/ Associate Principal's Update</p>	<p>Jaime Veal and Ryan Samz gave an update on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jaime Veal shared a slideshow with photos highlighting recent happenings at Elmwood, including classroom spirit days and projects. • College and career readiness: Makers Space and design area are now fully open. Teachers are engaging in professional development to best utilize the space for projects like designing prototypes, solving real-world problems and applying learning from books. • Results from new assessment, Fastbridge, should be available in Infinite Campus in the next week or so. • Ryan Samz shared about Kindness week, under the umbrella of Social Emotional Learning. The Raise Craze fundraiser linked Kindness Week with financially supporting the school. Teachers appreciated the fundraiser was low demand as it coordinated with existing Kindness Week efforts. He shared some examples of Acts of Kindness, such as students handing thank you notes to lunch staff and bus drivers, 6th graders writing to kindergarteners. The Girl Scout Daisy Troop chalked the walk and collected donations. • The new Social Studies curriculum is in use along with new magazines for reading. • First All School Read of "A Boy Called Bat" was a success. Students enjoyed reading at home and with teachers. Students entered prize drawing by answering online trivia questions. The content of the book featured Social Emotional Learning themes like accepting differences and uniqueness. • Jamie Veal thanked the Book Fair chairs for bringing back in-person fair this fall. She noted the students were very excited and all went well. • Jamie Veal thanked Staff Appreciation Committee for providing dinner for not just one but also the second conference night this year. Teachers were very appreciative. • Ryan Samz shared about the School Board meeting on Monday. Elmwood student, Josh Golembiewski gave a presentation as a student representative and did a fantastic job. He gave up recesses and put in time after school to prepare.
<p>Review/Approve Minutes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mindy Landisch motioned to approve the September 14, 2021 Home and School Meeting Minutes, seconded by Rachael Morris and approved by all. One abstaining: Mitch Helmer.

<p>Treasurer's Notes</p>	<p>Checking account balance is at \$45,639.10 (\$10,639.42 belongs to the chess club). Available cash is \$29,109.71.</p> <p>Kate McFarlane presented current budget update.</p> <p>Forms for reimbursement and deposits can be found on the Weebly site. Parents can drop forms with receipts in the Home & School mailbox (Kate will check on Fridays) or e-mail to Kate for faster turnaround at kate.mcfarlane@yahoo.com.</p> <p>Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income Section: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ School Tool Box earned \$445.56, \$100 more than expected. ○ Spiritwear check is on the way and also exceeded expected budget. Second wave of Spiritwear is currently ongoing. ○ Matty's cards are selling very well, like due to combination of sending cards home with students and giving the option to pay online. ○ Panera Eat and Earn check for \$204.24 is pending. • Fundraising Section: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ \$6,000 budgeted for Gaga Pit was not needed after 6th grade legacy donations. Total cost for both the K-3 playground and the 4-6 playground was \$4,622. 6th grade Completion gift donations came to \$3,404 (2021) and \$556 (2020 rollover) with \$662 contributed from Home & School. • Expenses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Staff Appreciation expenses ○ Musical Rights • Net Zero Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Book Fair: should be Net Zero, Kate is sorting out the discrepancy.
<p>Past Events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second round of Spiritwear brought in about \$1075 in sales. Items will hopefully be received by the holidays. There may be a third round of Spiritwear in spring. • Incrediroll skate night was very well attended. Home & School didn't get a kickback this year because of the increase in Incrediroll prices related to the pandemic. The event is intended as a fun night for families, rather than for fundraising. The spring skating event will be ice skating at The Pettit. • Panera Eat and Earn in October was well-attended. 20% of sales were donated to Elmwood (\$204.24). • Fall Book Fair: Theresa Sebysten shared updated from co-chairs (Angie Golembiewski and Kerry Behrendt) who thanked Book Fair volunteers. Every student received a free book and \$50 Scholastic Dollars went back to classrooms. Kerry is in her last year at Elmwood, so Angie is seeking a new co-chair for next year. Spring Book Fair will be March 7 - 11. • Staff Appreciation: Kim Jaquez and Kate McFarlane thanked everyone who donated for the staff conference dinners. Typically, conferences are one night, but two nights this year required two dinners. Home & School paid for a main entrée of subs with sides donated from volunteers, grab and go style. • Matty's Cards: Kate McFarlane reminded anyone still needed to return or pay for Matty's cards sent home. Also, look for a 50% Black Friday sale online.
<p>Upcoming Events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eisenhower Theater Department asked Elmwood Home & School to promote their Elf, Jr. musical. They are holding a Family Night on December 2nd, with discounted \$5 tickets. • Eat and Earn at Noodles scheduled for December 9th, 4 pm – 8 pm • Staff Appreciation: Kim Jaquez shared about the November Room Service event. They are creating door tags with choices of beverages and snacks to be delivered to classrooms before the Thanksgiving break. Sign-up genius for this event filled up very

	<p>quickly. The goal is to hold Staff Appreciation events monthly. They are considering options for December, as the cookie event may have to rest one more year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff Favorite Things is available for holiday gift-giving on the Home & School Weebly site (https://elmwoodhns.weebly.com) and will be shared on Facebook and in Paw Prints. The hard copy is also in the binder by the Home & School boxes. Teachers complete a questionnaire about their favorite colors, stores for gift cards, favorite foods, etc. • Theresa Sebeysten shared H&S will be holding Movie Nights at The Ridge instead of in the school gym. Planning to hold a couple different movie events, one during the day and one in the evening. First event will be sometime in January (Sing 2 or Encanto). They are exploring options for tickets alone or tickets with popcorn and a drink. Dates will be finalized soon and be sent out in Facebook and Paw Prints. • Kwik Trip car wash sale will be kicking off soon after winter break. The card includes 5 ultimate washes for \$36; \$16 goes to Elmwood. The paper forms will go home and payment can also be made online. H&S considered moving this event earlier for holiday gifts but prioritized optimal time with other fundraising schedule.
<p>Other Committee Reports</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theresa Sebeysten and Kate McFarlane shared about the Raise Craize Fundraiser. Students are seeking donations for the school and paying it forward by doing Acts of Kindness. Home and School volunteers installed a Kindness Forest on the windows at the end of the hall and made leaves with kind acts for every student. Kids sign up on the website to collect pledges. The organization tops off their portion at 10% (compared to about 50% with the Boosterthon/Fun Run). Donors also have the option to cover the fees when they pay online. So far, gross donations are \$17,642, and students have logged 954 Acts of Kindness. 357 participants have signed up and received a pop-it keychain (out of 584 total students). Classrooms have been holding incentives when they reach fundraising goals; 4 classrooms have already raised over \$1,000. Elmwood Today Show has been hyping up the contest. The event ends this Sunday night at midnight. Final tallies and incentive announcements will be announced by Monday. • Yearbook: Asking for parents to share photos from school events, classroom incentives or other candid photos to help fill up the yearbook pages. Sending photos throughout the year is very helpful to the yearbook committee to allow time for formatting. • Box Tops update: look for contest in late January.
<p>Open Floor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No items brought to Open Floor.
<p>Adjourned</p>	<p>Mitch Helmer made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Katie O'Donnell seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.</p>