



Home and School Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

March 20, 2018

ATTENDEES:

Officers: Chrissy Kennedy-Kortes, Kate McFarlane, Theresa Sebestyen, and Jill Winkler

Staff: Katy Williams

Parents – Colleen Tadych, Ashley McKanry, Rachel Schaar, Molly Carroll, Kara Erchull, Ann Szeflinski, Tracy G., Jessica Opat, Danielle Sciano, Kim Jaquez, Priya Sharma, Kathy Quandt

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION/CONCLUSIONS
Call to order & Introductions	The meeting was called to order at 6:39 p.m. in the Elmwood Elementary Library
Review/Approve Minutes	Motioned by Molly Carroll to approve January 23, 2018 Home and School Meeting Minutes, seconded by Tracy G. The minutes were unanimously approved with minor changes.
Principal's and/or Vice Principal's Welcome	<p>Katy Williams gave the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Academic</i> – On February 19th, the district had a PL Day in which teachers reported to Eisenhower. A national speaker came to present and to teach universal design for learning (“UDL”) techniques and tools. Katy noted that forward testing began today and the kids were amazing at using the digital tools for testing. The forward tests incorporate higher level thinking and in-depth testing via an online testing system. The students appear to be more comfortable with the digital format due to the use of iPads this year. Finally, she informed the group that Elmwood will be hosting Apple Leadership this year in which teachers from other schools will come to see how we are implementing digital learning. • <i>Behavior</i> – Home and School purchased board games for the 3rd quarter incentive. Four to five games were purchased for each class and the students will participate in an afternoon of games. The games will stay with the class for future indoor recess. Some of the games that were purchased had a social or emotional focus. • <i>College Readiness</i> – Staff has been working with students on goal setting for both behavior and academics. At the district level, and at our school, Katy noted that we are beginning to use “Maker Culture” for real world problem solving skills. Katy proudly reported that Elmwood has the most teachers of all the elementary schools in the area that have volunteered to learn and keep up with this program. She noted that she is seeking more teachers for additional PL for next year. We may look into Makerspace; however, we want to make the shift to a maker culture first. We can look into this as a possible goal for the Fun Run next year.
Treasurer's Notes	<p>The current budget report was made available and Kate noted the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amazon Smile is above budgeted amount this year • The BWW and Panera Eat & Earns came in slightly below estimated income at \$131.33 and \$223.83 respectively. • Kwik Trip fundraiser earned double the amount that we estimated for the event • Kate made a payment of \$200 for a photo booth for the 6th grade graduation. • Teacher Raffle brought in \$1,300 over the budgeted amount at \$1,948.25. Kathy Quandt noted that the amount was \$10.00 higher than she calculated. Kate informed her that the bank counted the change using the change counter and the deposit was \$10.00 more than expected. • Incredi-Roll income was \$105.00

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apawzz 3rd quarter behavior incentive expense was paid to purchase games for the upcoming reward. • Expenses were paid from the Assembles line item to pay for the recent Trinity Irish Dance and ARCh assemblies • An expense of \$195.31 was paid for Bus Driver Appreciation Day. This was approx. \$4.00 below budgeted amount. • Kate noted that teacher stipend funds are about half spent. E-mails were sent to the teachers asking them to use the funds before the end of the year. Thus far, most purchases have been for books and organizational items. • The Musical still has approx. \$200 left in its budget. They recently requested the replacement of microphone cords as several broke. Kate reported that she ordered a few extras to keep on hand to avoid paying individual shipping charges. • A purchase was made for an amplifier which came out of the DMX budget <p>Molly Carroll suggested removing the 2015 Legacy Gift line item from the budget. Kate agreed and will remove this item.</p> <p>Peer Mediation expense was used to purchase t-shirts for peer mediators, however, they were more expensive than expected. Katy noted that our 5th grade students are going to be trained as peer mediators for next year. The kids are enjoying problem solving on their own. Jennah Mariani, the school psychologist, sits in on these meeting, but they are primarily peer lead. This option is gaining in popularity among the students.</p> <p>Student Council was rolled into the co-curricular line item. Katy said that Student Council is new this year and has officially been named the Elmwood Student Leadership Team. They recently had a candy gram sale at Valentine's Day and all students received at least one candy gram. They are still working out the kinks and are seeking feedback. They are looking to potentially expand next year.</p> <p>Checking account balance is at \$59,995.05</p> <p>Available cash is at \$47,737.22</p>
<p>Past Event</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skate Night</i> was held on January 25th - The event went well and was well attended. • <i>Kwik Trip Car Wash Card</i> sale took place January 29th – February 2nd. We earned well above the budgeted amount. Next year we will look into requesting a faster turnaround for getting the cards from Kwik Trip. This year we incorporated an incentive for the top sellers which may have helped with sales. • <i>Bus Driver Appreciation Week</i> was the 2nd week of February. The bus drivers were very appreciative. • <i>Movie Night</i> was canceled due to bad weather. This will be rescheduled for the fall of 2018 and E.T. will be shown at that time. Kathy Barnhart's husband edited the movie to remove any bad language. • <i>BWW Eat & Earn</i> was held on February 13th and was an all-day event. Income came in slightly under the amount estimated in the budget. • <i>Teacher/Staff Raffle</i>– This event took place the week of February 26th – March 2nd. Income came in well over budgeted amount with minimal expenses. Kathy reported that the front row seats to the musical, Starbucks, and the Pizza Party were popular items this year. New this year, each student received one free ticket and the distribution of the free ticket was staggered throughout the week. There were a couple of kids that bought larger sums of money to purchase tickets, but not any more than in past years. Kathy Quandt noted that this was her last year at Elmwood and we will need a new chair for this event. • <i>Arch and Trinity Irish Dance In-services</i> occurred on March 2nd & March 9th respectively. Theresa noted that the kids enjoyed the events during the week by the Green Team and the performance by the Irish Dancers. • Staff Appreciation recently surprised the staff with donuts in the lounge. In the past, the committee has provided a hot cocoa bar to the staff, but this year they offered donuts on silver trays, tea, and cider at the end of February. It was well received.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Molly Carroll noted that the 5th Grade participated in the annual “BizTown” event. This is a Junior Achievement program activity in which students learn how to work in a community. All kids interviewed and were assigned a job. The day of the event they went to the Junior Achievement location and they performed their job in the morning and in the afternoon the students were consumers.
<p>Upcoming Events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Musical</i> performances will take place on March 22nd. There will be a 2 PM show that students will attend and an evening performance 7 PM. Volunteers are needed backstage and for the flower sale. Theresa informed everyone that the set was designed and created by a grandparent of a student who does professional set design downtown. It was suggested that we look into asking the Eisenhower Honor Society for volunteers to help the night of the event. Theresa noted that she gave the option to donate for the director’s gifts to the parents of the students participating in the musical and it was well received. Thus far she has raised approx. \$500 and will purchase the gifts. <i>MOD Pizza Eat & Earn</i> – This event will be all day on March 27th. A flyer will be needed for Elmwood to receive funds <i>Author in Residence</i> -Laurel Snyder will be coming to Elmwood on April 12th-13th. Some of her works are being distributed to the classrooms and students will do some pre-work coordinated by Rochan Miller. Home and School will host a lunch for her and the teachers while they discuss poetry. <i>Family Tae Kwon Do “Elmwood Parent’s Night Out”</i> – This is a family fundraiser to be held on April 14th from 5-8 PM. Jill reported that we were contacted by Family Tae Kwon Do to coordinate a fundraiser in which we will receive 100% of the profit. They offered to do a “Parents Night Out” in which families pay \$10 per child for 3 hours of activities. There will be games and pizza served. There is a maximum of 40 kids. They also discussed a possible after school co-curricular next year. <i>Spring Book Fair</i> will be held the week of April 13th-20th. Set up will take place on April 13th, however there will be no sales that day. Molly noted that she will need volunteers for cash register, to help set up, and take down. The Book Fair will be open during the Spring Dance. A parent will need to accompany students if shopping during the dance. “Browse and Buy” flyers with schedules will go home the Monday after spring break. There will be a coin challenge again this year. For every \$1 donated to the challenge, a book will be donated to a charity. Elmwood keeps the money raised AND a book is donated to the charity. This year’s class with the most donations will win a “popsicle” treat and extra recess. Molly reminded everyone that they are looking for someone to shadow next year and potentially take over as Book Fair chair/co-chair in the coming years. <i>Spring Dance</i>- April 20th - 6:30-8:30 PM – Danielle reported that the theme is “Dancing with the Stars”. Kids are encouraged to dress “Hollywood”. Kohl’s Cares is unable to come that day. In its place, kids will have a low key alternative craft. We will be having a “selfie booth” and there will be minimal snacks in the Monet Café. The committee is still looking into offering pizza as well. The cost will be \$5.00 per ticket and no advance sales. Volunteers are needed and a sign-up genius will go out in early April. <i>Staff Appreciation Week</i> - May 7th-11th - Colleen reported the secret theme to the group. She is planning on having massage chairs again this year but may need another massage therapist to allow all teachers who want a massage to get one. Colleen asked to increase the budget by \$200 to cover this additional expense. Molly motioned and Tracy G seconded. Passed with unanimous approval. Kathy Barnhart will stay on next year as the chair but will need some help.
<p>Other Committee Reports</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>6th Grade Graduation</i> – Marlo sent a note reporting that the committee met and all is moving along. <i>High Interest Day</i> – Sign up starts today. All students must sign up online as no paper will be accepted. There are 40 workshops to choose from this year. We are not asking for any donations but will accept donations if someone chooses to donate.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Yearbook</i> – Rachel asked the group to forward pictures for the yearbook by the end of spring break. If anyone has not ordered a yearbook, she noted that there still is time. Rachel will include information regarding the deadline in PawPrints.
Open Home and School board and committee chair positions for 2018-19	<p>Several Home and School positions are open for next year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-President and Secretary • Staff/Teacher Raffle Chair • Co-chair for Staff Appreciation • Book Fair Chair/Co-chair • Movie Night Chair
Open Floor	<p>Molly noted that the talent show will be held on May 3rd. 5th and 6th graders are able to perform their talents in front of the school. Information has been included in PawPrints.</p> <p>Tracy G. noted that the class photos that came home were grainy this year. She went to speak to the owners of the picture company and found out that these will be re-printed as they were not printed in high definition. Katy is looking into having the principal and vice-principal's pictures added to each photo. Tracy also suggested that students last names be added as now it only includes first name and last initial. If last names cannot be added this year, they will be added next year.</p> <p>Ann reported on the upcoming chess club tournament. Elmwood holds the largest tournament in the area which will take place this Saturday, March 24th. We currently have over 100 players signed up. They are still in need of volunteers.</p>
Next Meeting	Home and School – May 15, 2018.
Adjourned	Molly Carroll made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Ann Szeflinski seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.