



Home and School Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2021

ATTENDEES:

Officers: Kim Jaquez, Tiffany Mercer, Andy Phillips and Christine Taber

Staff: Katy Williams, Jaime Veal

Parents: Ashley McKanry, Sara Johns, Jenny Kaldor, Elaine Gearheart, Theresa Sebestyen, Rachael Morris, Kara Erchull

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION/CONCLUSIONS
Call to order & Introductions	The meeting was called to order at 6:36 pm. Meeting was held virtually on Zoom due to COVID-19. Officers, staff and parents were introduced.
Principal/ Vice Principal's Update	<p>Katy Williams and Jaime Veal gave an update on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Katy Williams thanked Home & School for their ongoing support at the end of her 5th and final year at Elmwood and shared some memories from past Home & School events. • Jaime Veal is the incoming Principal for Elmwood. She acknowledged Katy Williams' contributions to Elmwood and is looking forward to continued collaboration with Home & School. Ryan Samz has been selected as Jaime's replacement for Associate Principal. • Students have finished State Forward testing, as well as Spring MAP testing. • Quarter 4 APawz incentive will be combined with end of the year celebration. • Classroom placement meetings for next year are underway. • Jaime thanked Home & School for Staff Appreciation Week. Teachers have been expressing their gratitude to her and Katie. • Kindergarten Drive-Thru event was held on Monday May 17th. They are considering the possibility of small group in-school orientations to introduce students to the school, teachers and classrooms. • Jaime discussed that the Playworks program continued to flourish this year, despite COVID challenges. The funding was focused on training for classroom teachers and recess supervisors. Games were linked to Social Emotional Learning skills like teamwork and conflict resolution. Junior Coaches have been able to participate in making videos and other alternatives this year, but are hoping to return to their playground roles next year. 5th grade leaders are ready to return as 6th graders and recruitment has started for rising 4th graders. Elaine Gearhart seconded the advantages of having Junior Coaches on the playground, especially for the K – 2nd grade recesses.
Review/Approve Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sara Johns motioned to approve the March 18, 2021 Home and School Meeting Minutes, seconded by Ashley McKanry. Approved by all.
Treasurer's Notes	<p>Checking account balance is at \$52,332.71 (\$10,639.42 belongs to the chess club). Available cash is \$38,193.29.</p>

	<p>Tiffany Mercer and Kim Jaquez presented current budget update for 2020-2021 school year on behalf of Andy Phillips.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income Section: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Noodles Eat and Earn - ~\$200 • Fundraising Section: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kwik Trip Cards - \$2,786.26 • Non-Income Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bus Driver Appreciation - \$200 ○ Staff Appreciation - ~\$1400 <p>Home & School Officers presented proposed budget update for 2021-2022 school year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundraising Section: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Targeting a new primary fundraiser (previously Fun Run). Details yet to be determined. New ideas are being discussed such as a parent raffle or auction. Goal of \$12,000 net earnings, possibly towards a 2nd GaGa Pit for the K – 3rd grade playground. • Programs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Traditional in-person events like Fall Fest and Spring Dance were left in the budget TBD, based on status of COVID restrictions next year. • Non-Income Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Line item approved and added to the budget to fund up to \$3,500 towards the 6th Grade Legacy gift GaGa Pit for 4th – 6th playground. Amount from Home & School will be dependent on funds raised by 6th grade families. ○ Artist in Residence: Line item used every 2-3 years. Budgeting to be held in the 2021-22 school year. ○ Classroom stipends were a one-time expense to subsidize extra classroom costs due to COVID challenges. Expense will not be included for next year. ○ Kindergarten Orientation bags for Drive-Thru event was added with \$400 budgeted. ○ Budgeted amount for Playworks was increased for 2020-21 year. Jaime Veal has requested \$3,000 to expand the program. <p>Theresa Sebestyen motioned to approve the proposed budget, Ashley McKanry seconded the motion and it was approved by all.</p>
<p>Past Events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kim Jaquez shared the great success of Kwik Trip Car Wash sales this year. This was the first time offering sales online through the Home & School Weebly website, in addition to sending forms home. Typical sales are around 80 cards, up to 120-130 cards this year. H&S will look to offer online sales again in the future. • Eat and Earns at Portillos and Noodles. • Book Fair March 18th – 31st. • Staff Appreciation week was the first week of May, chaired by Kim Jaquez and Kate McFarlane. Some traditional events were not possible due to COVID restrictions, but fun daily alternatives were put together. The most popular was the coffee truck. 57 of the 70 staff were served a drink and pastry. Kim Jaquez also recognized Rachael Morris for helping arrange individually packaged Texas Roadhouse lunches. There was also a staff raffle with prizes. Sara Johns shared that teachers have expressed appreciation through the Home & School Facebook page.
<p>Upcoming/Canceled/Revamped Events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sara Johns, Meagan Sliga and Kelly Phillips are chairing 6th grade completion this year. Tiffany set up Weebly for parent donations. The event will be in-person at Eisenhower, but will also be streamed for virtual viewing. They are also planning a 6th grade picnic with desserts provided. Photo opps will be provided, as there are COVID restrictions at the completion event to keep the building clear. Sara gave a shout-out

	<p>to Meagan Sliga for designing and coordinating the T-shirt order: "Some have a story, but we're making history". They are making a baby photo video and are missing some photos from parents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kara Erchull is coordinating the 6th grade legacy gift, which will be a GaGa Pit for the 4th – 6th grade playground. Cement needs to be laid and lumber purchased for the installation. Jaime noted that the GaGa Pit fits in with Playworks programming and inclusive play goals. \$1,260 has been donated by parents so far. There is an additional \$550 rolled over from last year's completion gift. The total cost of the GaGa Pit is estimated around \$5,500. About half the 6th grade families have not donated yet. Outreach efforts to promote donations were discussed. The hope is a summer installation for the Pit, otherwise in the fall. • Sara Johns introduced a motion for Home & School to fund up to \$3500 towards the GaGa Pit, depending on 6th grade fundraising. Kara Erchull seconded the motion, and it was approved by all. • End of School Year Fun/4th Quarter APawz incentive. Theresa Sebestyen is planning event for Monday June 7th. There will be Kona Ice truck snow cones along with extra recess time, bubbles and chalk, suction cup box and arrow archery. Home & School will fund the activities as a High Interest Day alternative. How can virtual students be invited at a certain time? • Ashley McKanry shared the yearbook is complete. Elaine Gearheart has volunteered to assist next year to backfill for Sara Johns. Yearbooks should be going home the first week of June. Yearbooks being shipped to home will arrive about a week later.
Open Floor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Literacy and Engagement Team is working on making connections between school and home. They've proposed a "Read Across the School", giving every student a book with events planned around discussion. The group is working on specifics and is hoping to start in the fall. Proposed budget is \$4,000. Could Scholastic dollars be put towards this program? Theresa Sebestyen suggested books could be purchased to retain at school, particularly if different grade levels have different books. Goal is to have a formal vote at the fall Home & School meeting. • Julie Ibar was one of the Kohl award recipients, which came with funding for Artist in Residence. • Home & School vacancies for 2021-22 school year: Committee Liaison, Eat & Earn Chair, Artist in Residence Chair, Artist in Residence Chair, Assemblies Chair, Matty's Cards Fundraiser Chair, New Family Playdate Chair, Movie Night Chair, High Interest Day Co-Chair. Request for parents to help recruit for Committee Chair vacancies or also parents with new ideas. Sara Johns will put out recruitment posts on the Home & School Facebook page that parents can share on class pages. Information on time commitment and time that can be spent at home vs. in-school. • Executive Committee will have vacancies next year for both Co-President and Treasurer. • Sara Johns nominated Kate McFarlane for Treasurer for another 2-year term. Theresa Sebestyen seconded the motion, and it was passed by all. She was previously Treasurer prior to Andy. • Ashley McKanry nominated Theresa Sebestyen for Co-President. She has also previously served 3 years in this role. She will serve a 1-year term as next year is her last at Elmwood. Sara Johns seconded the nomination and it was approved by all.
Adjourned	<p>Theresa Sebestyen made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Kara Erchull seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.</p>