



**Home & School Meeting**  
**Tuesday, September 17, 2013**  
**Elmwood Library**  
**7:00 – 9:00pm**  
**Minutes**

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1) **Welcome** – Meeting was called to order at 7:04p.m.

2) **Introductions and Attendance** –

**Officers** – Cathy Boerner, Colleen Tadych, Kathy Quandt, Alison Giese

**Staff** – Principal Royce Lindner, Assistant Principal Meghan Lippold

**Parents** – Binde Kaki, Quanying Peng, Joe Bounyang, Tanya Loomer, Carolyn Bissell, Jenny Dodge, Ann Szefflinski, Christine Kennedy-Kortes, Maureen Conley, Lue Ann Koppa, Nicole Cooke, Divya Radhakrishna, Beth Browman, Sara Johns, Anna Petsulescu, Cindy Catania, Colleen Korom, Jeanne Weiss, Tonia Schmeier, Young Chang, Nakyoung Cheng, Deepa Reghuram, Christin Friedrich, Shelly Krocka, Kim Smith, Molly Carroll, and Cathy Bartels

3) **Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes – May 21, 2013**

No corrections. Motion to approve minutes by Molly Carroll and seconded by Sarah Johns. Minutes approved.

4) **Notes from the Co-Presidents, Cathy Boerner & Colleen Tadych**

Cathy Boerner gave an overview of what Home and School is (also known as PTA or PTO) and its purpose. Elmwood Home and School provides volunteer help and financial assistance to staff in their classrooms, plans/executes events, and fundraises for those purposes. An overview of the main categories of volunteers was given: Hospitality, Fundraising, School Services, Social/Community, and Low Effort Fundraising. Home and School also supports Co-curriculars that are not funded by the School District of New Berlin. Descriptions of all positions can be found on Elmwood's Home and School webpage.

5) **Notes from our Principal, Royce Lindner**

Principal Lindner stated that Home and School helps build dialogue and a continuation of communication between Elmwood staff and the community.

Our State Report card was just received revealing that Elmwood exceeded expectations landing in the highest marks overall. Top rating of 85.7 % (vs. last year of 82%) This past year Elmwood staff focused on Closing the Gaps

between students and their peers (i.e., IEP – peers, free/reduced lunch – peers) Student Achievement 88.5% vs. 66.5%. We have over 600 students sampled for this report. Close the Gap went from 72% to 85% and Student Growth went up by 10% from 65% to 75%. Meghan Lippold, Vice Principal stated that everyone has worked hard to listen and helped to achieve these goals. Parent asked if the attendance had anything to do with numbers and Ms. Lippold replied that the attendance is average for Elmwood according to state standards. Parent asked how we could improve on attendance. Principal Lindner said that there was no cause to really worry about attendance presently.

Teachers have put on skits for all grades about their community and how to love by having a “Good Day” and “Be the 1” (how to stand up for yourself and others) is continuing. 100 buttons were given out last year for our “Be the 1” campaign. This year students will receive a silicone wristband. The Art Mural in the middle hallway of hands and fingerprints is complete and looks wonderful. Principal Lindner asked for support for an idea he has to repel down from the top of Lambeau Field as a fundraiser if he gets supports in the amount of \$1000 in donations to benefit Special Olympics. He would wear Elmwood apparel to advertise our school and their support.

Meghan Lippold, Vice Principal, announced that Forms and Photos night/day was a great success and the flow was fantastic.

Principal Lindner announced the placement of the Free Library hutch in the main hall in front of Monet Café and also the purple bench donated by the 6<sup>th</sup> grade graduation class of 2013. SNAP (Student Needs, Assistance, and Praise) boxes are being erected around school for students to anonymously give positive comments. This was also part of the sixth grade graduation gift.

## **6) Committee Reports**

**Hospitality/Staff Appreciation** (Alison Giese) – Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup> is the Staff Social event at Matty’s  
Staff Social Hour (Ann Loomans/Mickey Binnebose)

### **Fundraising**

Entertainment Books (Tracey Garza) – books sent home with students this past Friday.

Market Day (Jeanne Weiss/Tonia Schmeier) Tonia is assuming duties, as this is Jeanne’s last year. This is a food co-op that delivers ordered food to Elmwood the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month. Each order period profits benefits a grade level.

Shop Until You Drop (Kathy Quandt) Solicitation for vendors is underway and planning has begun. Half of previous years’ participants are returning so far. Will advertise or solicit help for bake sale portion soon.

Teacher/Staff Raffle (Kathy Quandt) - None

### **School Services**

Cart Mart (Lisa Henkel) Calculators, seat sacks were sold among other items for the start of the school year.

Copy Room (Colleen Tadych) will be training all volunteers on how to produce work needed for staff.

Health Room (Jeanne Weiss) We need volunteers! Jeanne is also the district training coordinator for New Berlin Schools through Red Cross. It will be held at Elmwood for 3 hours and there is no fee as long as you volunteer for a 2-hour shift once a month for certification. Help is needed most between hours of 11:30-1:30pm. Jeanne will place an ad in Elmwoods this Friday for more volunteers.

School Kidz (Lue Ann Koppa) Went well this year. Need to advertise earlier because the order window is so short. She will investigate if orders can be placed and received after window has closed. A parent stated that she ordered from School Pack (they still had our information and current lists) very late in summer and picked it up somewhere in New Berlin before school started.

Spirit Wear (Tracy Plecha) Forms were available at Open House – look for due date in Elmwoods. An order will also be placed later in the school year.

Yearbook (Joy Forberg) Tanya Loomer spoke on behalf of Joy. Need for pictures from every event, field trip – these are used for collage pages. New Yearbook vendor this year. Please do not send in photos from phones, as they are not the highest quality (for the most part).

### **Social/Community**

All School Skate (Katie Schroeder) None

Assembly Coordinator (Molly Carroll) None

Artist in Residence (Sara Johns) November 4-8<sup>th</sup> Kirsten Christiansen presenting Paper Art.

Book Fair (Molly Carroll) Fall November 1-8<sup>th</sup> and spring will be April 3-11 (change from original date so it will coincide with school musical and extra shopping hours on Thursday evening). Fair is held before and after school. We had more sales last year due to holding it open during musical. Need more volunteers.

Cubs on the Prowl (Shannon Achter) None

Dinner and A Show (OPEN) None

Fall Fest (Shelly Krocka) This is Shelly's last year at school. This year it will be held October 25th. It will have same events as last year. Come in costume to enjoy Face Painting, pumpkin painting, games, and Spider Ring Hunt (by grades outside).

High Interest Day (Nicole Cooke) None

Kindergarten Getting to Know You (Rachel Schaar) 15 Families came to each, 25-26 families participated in total. Well received.

Movie Nights (Ann Loomans) None

Sixth Grade Graduation (OPEN) None

Wilderness Weekend (Cathy Boerner)

### **Low Effort Fundraising**

Campbell's Soup Labels (Debbie Gillard) Put labels in ziplock bags.

Donation Letter (Cathy Boerner)

GM Box Tops (Marie Collins) Please send labels in ziplock bags.

Matty's Loyalty Program (Pam Risberg) Gives 10% of total bill when you place your order and show your Matty's Reward Card.

McDonald's Night (Cathy Boerner)

Target (Alison Giese)

## **7) Presentation and Approval of Budget**

Alison Giese, Treasurer, gave an overview of the spreadsheet explaining that it is a snapshot of the last two years and also a proposed budget for the 2013-2014 school year. We welcomed about 120 extra students last year bringing our total number of students close to 600 students. (Approximately 350 families total).

A. \$13,200 Revenue for this year, excluding the Family Donation letter.

B. On the Expense side – we need to decide which Co-curriculars to fund once we have received requests from Teachers.

C. Royce Lindner (Principal) asked staff to fill out a request form for what they would like to offer for Co-Curriculars aside from what has been funded by the district for Home and School to fund.

Four requests have been submitted to Home and School for approval, as funds were not available at the district level.

1.) Talent Show – Ms. Bruins and Crystal Lohse split contract in half or two full contracts. This event targets 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade

participants. Recommend two advisors and split the \$600 for \$300 each.

- 2.) Spanish Club – Ms. Rado wants to target younger age group, 1-3<sup>rd</sup> grades. It would meet approximately nine times on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays of the month from 7:45-8:25am in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters of the school year. Position funding for a contract of \$600 reimbursement of up to a monetary limit (\$200-\$300) for materials. There would be a limited number of enrollees.
- 3.) Drama Club – Begins prior to musical. Will give teacher a chance to get to know kids and their abilities. Need an assistant, Elizabeth Purse. \$500 Contract.
- 4.) Readers Theater Program – Grades 2-4 Laura Karolek/Lindsey Slaby. 12 weeks program, meeting once a week. Students are involved in dynamic acting of a book while reading the story. Need to know number of participants. Split \$600 Contract for \$300 each. Collect a small fee from participants (\$5 from each student) to help offset/fund Co-curricular.

Home and School approved funding of Talent Show, Drama Club, and Reader's Theater Program. Approval of budget increase from \$1,500 to \$1,700 for an increase of \$200. Spanish Club will be tabled until our next meeting when we can have more information regarding how many students could participate.

Tanya Loomer voiced her concerns over a Spanish Club as it limits the number of participants for the money being spent.

Replacement of Playground – Kathy Quandt and Colleen Tadych are researching various companies and various apparatus choices but would like any feedback from parents/staff. Royce Lindner (Principal) offered that there has been positive feedback. The School District is also going to assess the grounds. Royce offered another option before full replacement would be to take out the Chin-Up bars and replace with some structures that would cost less in the interim but would accommodate more students. Principal Lindner also stated that he surveyed teachers for a number of different funding ideas or volunteer help.

1. Contact to have help with teachers through Home and School /parents for grade level parent help.
2. Allocate financial resources for classroom teachers
  - a.) 57% want/need more books.
  - b.) Extra instructional resources
  - c.) I-Pads, Apps (75% want these). I pads will take a lot of investigation. In addition, which Apps are a good, sound choice.
  - d.) Classroom supplies
  - e.) Indoor Recess Supplies

- f.) Upper Playground – 10% of those survey want additional equipment
- g.) Syntheos Machines – clickers (like a TV remote) that are used for response of students giving immediate feedback to the teacher and classroom participants.
- h.) Outdoor Classroom/Outdoor Garden – Eagle Scout Project?
- i.) Supplemental Resources for Science Weekly – need extra materials.

28 were surveyed/responded out of 35 teachers.

Executive Committee needs to bring the above to our October special meeting to discuss in detail.

Cathy Boerner will table Playground and Family Donation letter until November meeting. Thus far, we have a balanced budget.

Alison Giese – Available Cash on Hand

Rollover – Artist in Residence – Sara Johns will use \$2600 this year	
Cash on Hand:	\$71,594.65
Budget for year:	\$11,580.00
Reserve:	\$20,000.00 (in the past Home and School has used \$20,000)

We can use \$25,000 immediately to spend on Expenditures (i.e. new playground or whatever is earmarked)

Motion to approve budget by Nicole Cooke and seconded by Tanya Loomer. Motion carried and budget approved.

## 8) Open Floor

Sara Johns – Offered to create a Facebook page for Elmwood Home and School.

Lue Ann Koppa – Gave quick presentation for a possible fundraiser involving Cruise Planners Vacations. Every vacation reserved, Elmwood would receive a \$50 donation.

- 9) **Adjourn** – The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Elmwood Library. Motion to adjourn by Lue Ann Koppa and seconded by Molly Carroll. Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm.