

**Kent Prairie PTA
General Meeting Minutes - DRAFT
March 14, 2016, 6:30 p.m.
Kent Prairie Library**

Proper notice given to all members: yes

Quorum met: yes, 12 in attendance

Sign in Sheet: Attached

Welcome and Call to Order: by Monica Smith at 6:32 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes approved from January 11, 2016, as written.

Principal's Report (Karl Olson): No report as Mr. Olson was unable to attend due to an ASD School Board Meeting.

Treasurer Report (Jodi Hopkins): Our current bank balance is \$14,573.66. There are not a lot of changes to report other than Carnival and Student Enrichment Grants. The Silent Auction Item is not reflecting the credit card transactions yet. Cindy Mellem pointed out that the Silent Auction money had been included in the Carnival line item instead of the Silent Auction line item. Jodi corrected the error and re-printed the budget report. A copy of both budget sheets are attached to the minutes. Silent Auction brought in just over \$4,046.00. Food sales brought in around \$1600.00. The PTA spent a little over \$1000.00 on food supplies. Some items were returned for approximately \$152.00 to return to the bank. KP PTA did approve some Student Enrichment grants at the last Board Meeting. The line item is now -\$3645.46 due to requests exceeding the \$7000.00 projected budget. Discussion ensued regarding moving money from the Technology line item to Student Enrichment Grants. More year end grant requests are expected.

"I move that KP PTA transfers \$7000.00 from the Technology line item in the budget to the Student Enrichment line item." Moved by Tori Emerson, seconded, and approved by "aye" vote.

Reports:

Carnival Feedback: General comments from teacher and parent members present, indicated overall positive reactions from students and parents. Ms. Brooks stated her students' favorite activities were the bouncy houses and the pitching machine. Her class made a beautiful thank you poster for the PTA Carnival volunteers. The poster will be posted by Sydney Costello on the PTA Board by the office. Other comments included: the Carnival was very well organized, the decorations were awesome, compliments to the student volunteers, and the new and updated games were great. Aaron Loth offered to make and sell cotton candy and donated half of his proceeds to KP PTA, in the total of \$180.00. There was an excess of pizzas this year. KP PTA ordered 70 and Chuck, the manager/owner of Little Caesar's in Smokey Point, donated 14 (he offered two free pizzas for every 10 we purchased). Forty pizzas were still untouched 45 minutes before closing of the Carnival. For future Boards, arrange two staggered pick up times for large orders of pizzas. It's a help in storage and being able to serve hot pizza. Also, suggested we limit food service at the Carnival from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. next year. Another suggestion is to have background music in the gym next year if Cake Walk isn't onstage. The balloons were a slow start due to balloon twisters being extremely late arriving. The balloons were very popular again. Next year it was stated we should have a parent volunteer organizing the balloon line with a number system. Also, in future, don't just go with the lowest bidder for balloons. Two people are necessary.

Silent Auction: Comments were made about the high quality and interest of items this year. The auction did very well. Things contributing to the success of the auction were: the great teachers'/classroom baskets, the Disney tickets, the sale of alcohol (suggested that two wine baskets go up for auction next year), and the credit card machines. Two machines in future may help speed up the processing at the end. The auction brought in over \$4000.00 despite fewer contributions this year.

Committee Reports:

Box Tops/Labels (Heather Swanson): The Box Tops have been sent in and as soon as the count of the Campbell Soup Labels is finished, pod winners will be announced and receive their pizzas. Heather Swanson's daughter will be at Post Middle School next year, so a new chair for this Committee will be needed.

VP of Communication (Sydney Costello): Sydney Costello recognizes different volunteer PTA members at each General Meeting for Outstanding Volunteerism. This month, she presented this certificate to Deanna Malenstyn for her help with the refurbishing, selection, and organizing of the Carnival games. Cindy Mellem was awarded a certificate for her years of invaluable help organizing the Silent Auction. Judie Judnich and Jessica Kohler were also awarded certificates for their outstanding and classy decorations. All women awarded, put in multiple hours of work on their projects. Thanks go to these women, and the other volunteers, for their time and efforts with Carnival.

Yearbook (Monica Smith in lieu of Julianna Klein): Julianna Klein is the Committee Chair for the yearbook. Dionne King is helping her upload pictures onto the premade pages. There are so many pictures, Julianna may need more help. She will also need help editing and proofing the pages before they are sent off to print. Please let her know if you are available to help. You can get her contact information from one of the Board Members. A question was asked as to the feasibility of a 5th grade yearbook club next year. It was deemed a question Mr. Olson would need to answer as it would involve special permission slips and supervision if it was an after school club.

Volunteers:

Bingo/Movie Nights: Popcorn and water are provided. Volunteers are needed to provide supervision, serve the popcorn, and sell candy.

PTA Volunteers can sign up online at: www.Volunteerspot.com. PTA will post volunteerspot link on the Facebook and website pages and in the newsletter.

New Business:

Spring Fundraiser (Monica Smith): The fundraising packets went home with students today, March 14th and will be due back Monday, March 28th. The items are different than what was offered in the fall catalog. Many are geared towards possible gifts for Mother's Day and Father's Day. There will be no assembly kick off and prizes will be sent to the students with their orders. This is not meant to take the importance off of the Fall Fundraiser – a major source of PTA income. 100% of the proceeds from the Spring Fundraiser will go to the purchase of a Chromebook portable lab for Kent Prairie Elementary. Due to higher student numbers, some of the rooms for previous computer labs are being used for new classrooms. State testing (SBAC) is all computerized so a portable lab is of the utmost importance. The cost for 15 Chromebooks (they come fully loaded with needed software and are supported by the Arlington School District) and a cart is \$6,420.32. The cost for 30 Chromebooks and a cart would be \$11,424.73. Ms. Brooks, Kindergarten teacher, stated that as of now, there are 60 Chromebooks available for classroom check out for 650 kids. This makes classroom computer time scarce – especially for the upper grades.

Recent KP PTA Awards (Heather Swanson): KP PTA has received the Silver and Gold Membership Awards, as well as the 100% Teacher Participation Award and the 29 in 29 membership challenge award.

Nominating Committee (Monica Smith): A nominating committee was selected at this General Membership meeting. Any KP PTA member may be on the committee except for the President. The nominating committee will solicit and compile nominations from KP PTA members for the 2016-2017 Board. Sydney Costello, Jodi Hopkins, and Jessica Kohler volunteered to serve on the Nominating Committee. Next school year's Board Members will be elected at the next General Meeting on Monday, April 11th at 6:30 p.m. in the Kent Prairie Library.

Upcoming Events:

Spring Fundraiser for Chromebooks – Monday, March 14th – Monday, March 28th. Orders will arrive mid-April.

KP PTA General Membership Meeting – 2016-2017 Board Elections, Monday, April 11, 2016, KP Library 6:30 p.m.

Volunteer Luncheon – Tuesday, April 19th, Kent Prairie Library. Actual time to be announced.

Movie/Bingo Night – Peanuts Movie, Friday, April 22nd at 6:30 p.m. KP Gym

Adjourned: 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Emerson

KP PTA Secretary 2015-2016