

LPA PTO October 7, 2014, Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 10:07am

In attendance: Kim D., Melissa K., Cathy R., Pamela F., Pam W., Denise H., Anna N., Dana M., Rebekah H., Jonyce B., Erika W., Michelle S., Carolyn H., and Judith T.

September meeting minutes – Pam W. motioned to approve and motion was seconded by Denise H. Vote passed unanimously.

September General meeting minutes – Pam W moved to approve the General Meeting Minutes, Cathy R. seconded - passed unanimously.

Carolyn H. presented Of-the-Month nominations. Winners are as follows:

Teacher - Ms. Wurstner, Staff - Ms. Lugoness, Volunteer- Mr. Cowling

Lower Grades – Caden B. and Upper Grades –Toby D.

Mrs. Thayer reported about the county's State of the Schools address she attended; one major topic of discussion was growth. Dr. Joyner has more information on the St. Johns County website. Generally speaking our county is growing at 2 elementary schools a year (or one LPA) but we cannot build that fast. Technology is ever changing and will continue to be used as a tool to fulfill federal and state requirements in testing. LPA is required by law to assess all students and even the lowest grade students are required to take seven end of course exams. She showed us the spreadsheets full of 67 various assessments that are required during our school year across various grade levels.

VAM – Value Added Measurement - this is apples to apples – assess student at beginning of year and end of year to see growth (this removes socio-economic differences and other possible differences – just compares an individual student's knowledge and growth throughout the year). LPA students had the second highest VAM scores in the county last year. The new Florida Standards Assessment-FSA (replacing FCAT) will not be comparable – we are not looking at apples to apples. Dr. Joyner spoke about another state that has taken a similar assessment to our new FSA and has said that state did not do well and he does not expect great scores in our county. Ms. Thayer reiterated that LPA students are learning and growing but the new assessments may or may not reflect that this year. We anticipate as Dr. Joyner has advised that the new test may or may not reflect how well our students are performing.

Common Core is no longer the term we use; it is now called Florida Standards. These two are mostly interchangeable. New with FL Standards - Handwriting is back for 3rd, 4th and 5th grade.

We are adding two small computer labs this week – teachers are giving up their small planning/lunch room areas and this is adding more space for computers. We are not given monies via the county and as always we thank the PTO and LPA families for helping LPA stay up to date and competitive in our technology.

Liberty Parade is back again – we have invited Westminster Woods and Veterans from a local home.

We have had staff changes due to maternity leave. We have teachers returning, teachers heading out and long term substitutes in place. We are also looking for a new teacher due to someone having to leave for personal reasons. Our new band teacher, Mr. James Gray, is doing an excellent job and students are excited about band again!

President - Kim D. reported the winner for the Membership parking spot: William and Robin Li. A sign has been ordered for the Li family and will be placed soon. We also wanted to remind everyone that the Silver Wolf spot is a PAID spot and belongs to the Beebe Family.

Coffee with the Principal – 11/21 at 9am.

Creeklime: Please submit information to Diana Sarama by 12th of the month:
dssarama@aol.com

Newsletter - Submit content for newsletter to Krista Willim:
LPAPTONewsletter@gmail.com

Volunteer of the Year nominations - Denise H. presented information and ballots for Of-the-Year nominations. These are awards for the previous 2013/2014 school year. Categories include: Senior Volunteer, Volunteer, and Student Volunteer.
Volunteer: Heather Lister
Student: Kshama Shetty
Senior: Jeanette Listing

VP Fundraising - We have a new volunteer to coordinate the Birthday Run, Pamela F.

Boosterthon is this week. All students will have t-shirts when participating.

Business Partners is going well and we are at approximately \$14K in partners and approximately \$4K in in-kind donations.

Mini Grants –Tasha reported that ALL mini grants have been used.

We have a Gator Bowl Tickets volunteer – Kelly H. has not received a flyer yet but will be making one or tracking one down to include on web site or in Tuesday folders.

Spiritwear – Just over \$6K has been raised. Outstanding online orders should be filled by the end of this week. Popcorn parties for 100% participation will be brought back soon.

Enjoy the City Book Sale – profit was approximately \$16K!!

Treasurer – Pam W. presented LPA PTO account.

Secretary – DRAFT notes from PTO meetings are being placed on PTO page within a day or two of the meeting and any changes or updates can be emailed to LPAPTOWEB@GMAIL.COM

If your student does any volunteer hours at LPA and they require an official letter please submit your request to Michelle at mschultz888@gmail.com there is a form on the PTO site to print and get signed by the supervising adult/teacher.

Birthday Run – Pamela F. shared that the run is on 10/31, starts at 1:30pm cost is \$20 per student and sign up can be done online. PTO will have at least one relay (4 people running approximately ½ mile each = 2.008 miles). Race is open to middle school students, teachers and parents. Relay team themes are encouraged. This also coincides with Red Ribbon Week – Friday will be “hat day”. All middle grades students will be out there either running or cheering on other runners. Medals will be awarded as well – 6 relay, 7 relay, 8 relay, Teacher relay, Individual awards.

Book Fair is coming 10/27-31. Setup will be on Thursday the 23rd. Teachers will be at school on the 24th – PTO is helping to provide goodies to teachers who come in on Friday the 24th to complete a wish list of books. Sign up Genius will be used to coordinate coverage for all days/hours.

Liberty Parade – Hospitality will be serving breakfast to our honored guests. We will be in need of people to help with food since we are hosting more Veterans than in the past.

Jonyce B. – Holiday Vendor Night – we have 3 vendors so far wanting tables based on the recent Creekline article. We had 14 last year and hope to have similar participation. We will plan to do either wreaths or ornaments – working on making final decisions. Discussion was had on budget and plans are in progress.

Wizards Basketball Game– Planning meeting Monday, October 13th at 9:30am, conference room 115.

Shade for Playground – Mr. Sturm has submitted a purchase order and is awaiting 3 proposals/sets of plans. Thanks to Michelle O. for Box Top collections! Keep sending in Box Tops!

No Old or New Business.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50am.

Next meeting is 10am, Tuesday, November 4th at LPA.