



**Long Creek Elementary School
PTO Board Meeting
Thursday, November 3, 2016
6:00 pm**

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 6:05PM

Ice Breaker – Emily led a game that allowed all attendees to play for candy

Discussion Items

PRINCIPAL UPDATES

- Ms. Simpson thanked the PTO for coordinating the trail mix bar for the staff. It was a pleasant surprise and a unique treat.
- Ms. Simpson noted that a flyer on the Thanksgiving meal was sent out in last week's Thursday Communicator. Another flyer will be sent next Thursday. The lunch schedule will be modified to ensure sure everyone gets enough time with their student. The cafeteria staff is excited.

There was a question from a parent regarding whether or not families with more than one child at Long Creek would be able to eat together vs having to eat twice. Ms. Simpson said that it will be discussed by the staff and communicated to those families at a later date.

Emily asked who is handling set-up. Ms. Simpson noted that the cafeteria staff and other admin staff / TAs will support the event and at this time parent volunteers are not needed.

- Mr. Henry and Ms. Simpson were made aware of a \$25,000 grant that could benefit Long Creek's outdoor classroom. They grant they wrote made it to the semi-finals. Notification of the winning school will be announced on Monday, Nov. 7th. Along with the grant, the winning school will have a huge celebration with Michael Jordan and the Charlotte Hornets as special guests.
- The PTO provides the LC staff with breakfast on early release days and lunch once a quarter. Ms. Simpson suggested that lunch be provided on early release days, rather than breakfast. The PTO is in agreement with this change. As such, there will be no December quarterly lunch and the January 13th early release breakfast will now be a lunch.
- Quarterly award ceremony Nov. 9th. Pre-k through 2nd will start at 8:30am and 3rd -5th will start at 9:45am.
- Emily asked about the reading program at Long Creek. Ms. Simpson noted that teachers have decided that AR will no longer be used. Book Fair proceeds will benefit another literacy program to be determined.

PRESIDENT UPDATES

- Uniform Swap/Sale planning meeting scheduled for Nov. 15th. Lindsey Tatum will spearhead this effort.
- LuLaRoe event scheduled for Nov. 19th.

- 15 consultants have agreed to pay the PTO \$75 to sell their merchandise in the Long Creek gym. The PTO stands to make approx. \$1000. Flyers will be sent home with students.
- No volunteers from PTO will be needed. Most of the consultants just need tables and a space. The PTO may sell bottled water.
- A decision will need to be made on what funds will support - technology or playground needs.
- Looking ahead to 2017 – Father/Daughter and Mother/Son events
 - Emily noted that she continues to hear feedback that parents want to have these kind of events.
 - Emily took a quick vote of the meeting attendees to determine if a Father / Daughter dance should replace the Valentine's Dance. The majority of the votes were in favor of the change. The dance will still be held in February and a volunteer is needed to lead the effort. This includes researching what other schools have done and what theme will be?
 - A parent suggested that the PTO make corsages to sell to Dads.
 - The Mother/Son event will need to be decided on and should be determined before the General PTO meeting in Dec.

VP ENGAGEMENT UPDATES

- Palmetto Fundraiser Update
 - Many of the students are turning in coupons for emojis. Some are confused on how the coupons work, so they are turning in coupons even though they have not sold any merchandise.
 - November 10th is final date to turn in money. A check of online sales will need to be done.
 - Yolanda is waiting on a response from Target regarding an iPad mini donation for the fundraiser top selling prize. Walmart declined to donate.
- Men's Group Update
 - The men's group met on Oct. 27th. There were 3 people in attendance. The group decided that their name would be the "Men of Long Creek". The goal of the men's group is to get men more involved with their students academically and more present in the school. Involvement may include working in the car pool line, leading reading groups, and providing security at events (hall monitors). The group may get t-shirts.
 - Men's group discussed having a Father / Daughter dance. The group was considering a date in May, however PTO thinks May might be too busy.
 - Another meeting is planned for the middle of December. Consideration needs to be given to the logistics of meeting in order to get more men to participate. The group may want to find ways to personally invite other men, such as handing out invitations (perhaps in the carpool line).
- Parents Night Out scheduled for Dec. 9th.
 - The children will watch the movie Polar Express. Other ideas include a craft, a pajama party and a reading of the book. The cost will be \$15 for first child and \$5 for each additional children. The event will only be open to Long Creek students.
 - Will be looking for volunteers. Sign up genius will be ready soon.
- Spirit Night Update:
 - Checkers Spirit Night is scheduled for January 21st. Long Creek will be provided with promotional material and posters and all attendees will

receive a hat. A minimum of 100 tickets must be sold. Tickets will cost \$16 each and Long Creek will get \$5 for each sale. A raffle will be held to determine which students will have the opportunity to high five the players in the tunnel.

- Dec 15th is set for the McDonald's Northlake spirit night. It will run from 5:30-7:30pm. It will not be a McTeach Night.
- The PTO made \$300 from the East Coast Wings spirit night.

VP OPERATIONS UPDATES

- **Box Tops**
 - The last Box Top redemption made under \$1000. Ms. Virga's class won the challenge with 424 box tops.
 - It will need to be determined what funds will be allocated to. The teaching staff would prefer it be spent on technology; however, the PTO is considering a purchase of outdoor recess equipment.
- **Additional Spirit Wear Campaign**
 - Tricia has received requests from parents to hold another spirit wear campaign. A new order form was sent out today, but it does not include pictures of available merchandise. Pictures can be viewed online.
 - The PTO does not keep much of a stock on spirit wear and should continue to consider a spirit store in order to have more inventory readily available. In the meantime, the PTO may use sign-up genius to sell some of the old stock.
 - Tricia asked meeting attendees if the design should be changed or if tie-dye shirts should be considered. The group was indifferent to both options.
- **Fall Parties update**
 - Teachers said parties went well. Tricia is going to work with some parents to get them on sign-up genius for requesting party materials.
- **Staff Appreciation**
 - Considering a potato bar with chili and salad for next lunch.
 - Trail Mix bar was a huge success. Emily suggested a cookie exchange as an idea for future teacher treats. Parents could bring in baked or store bought cookies and each staff member would get a box to fill with the treats.
 - For the next staff breakfast, the PTO will host a Paper Bag Breakfast. Staff will receive muffin, juice, etc. to take back to their classroom.

FINANCIALS UPDATE

- Emily welcomed Sonja Timmons as the new Long Creek PTO Treasurer. Emily and Sonja have met a couple of times and Sonja has been added to the bank account.
- Sonja thanked everyone for having her as a part of the team.

MISCELLANEOUS-

- The next general PTO Meeting will be December 1st in Multipurpose Room at 6pm. The meeting will be held before the 2nd and 3rd grade concert.

ROUNDTABLE

- It was suggested that Long Creek participate in something similar to Think Pink Month for breast cancer awareness and "pink-out" the school.

- Emily noted that the Long Creek PTO was approached by Trillum Spring to share in their spring yard sale tentatively scheduled for May/June. Concept: if parents have personal treasures that they want to purge from their homes, they can donate the items to the school. The school would then set a date to have a flea market sale.

For this to be successful, volunteers would be needed to help manage the event. There would also need to be a plan for disposing of items that don't sell. Based on this, meeting attendees have decided there are not enough resources to take on the activity this year.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm