



**General Meeting Minutes**  
**September 14, 2023 - Virtual**

**1. Call to Order, 7:04 pm**

- a. By Kat
- b. Meeting was recorded to facilitate translation, slides have been translated and are available on the website
- c. She reviewed the agenda
- d. Last meeting (August 17, 2023) was an executive meeting
- e. Attendance was gathered by Richard Brandon (below meeting minutes)

**2. New Executive Board Introductions and Overview of the PTGO**

- a. Kat introduced the new Executive Board. She reviewed the members of the board. There are 4 teacher reps this year as well Kelsey Poe (EC teacher), Lisa McCurdy (4<sup>th</sup> grade), Hope Carr (Counselor), and Alyson Wilson (PE teacher).
- b. She reviewed the purpose of the PTGO - to raise money and provide better curriculum, events for teachers, and support river park.

**3. Proposed Revisions to Bylaws – Genie Boericke, Treasurer**

- a. Brief Description of Reasons for Revisions to Bylaws
  1. Our PTGO bylaws haven't been updated for years. Basic maintenance is needed including name change and references to previous school name.
  2. Use of social media and school announcements to reach everyone
  3. More flexibility to allocate budget
- a. Explanation of Proposed Revisions
  1. Positions: Change parliamentary position to member-at-large
  2. Membership: With the current bylaws, everything is structured about being members and paying \$5.00 to be a member. There is an implication that only members are invited to meetings. The proposal is

to get rid of the concept of membership. Everyone is already invited through the way that meetings are advertised.

3. Meeting frequency: We only meet every 2 months

a. Plan on Adopting Proposed Revisions

1. To change the bylaws, we need to go through the change process outlined in the current bylaws. A vote by members is required. To vote, we need members to join the PTGO and pay \$5.00. A formal vote will be held at the next meeting on Nov 16th.

2. Kat showed the group the website where the links are held and overview of the main points.

## **2. Treasurer Report, Genie Boericke, Treasurer**

a. PTGO proposed budget was reviewed and Genie covered that we hope to raise \$50k.

b. An overview of upcoming expenses was presented

1. The vast majority of the funding goes back to the classrooms

2. Field trip support

3. Subscriptions such as Reflex

4. Teacher appreciation

5. Community events such as the ice cream social

## **3. Committee Updates**

a. Grant Writing Committee-Brooke Mattocks gave a quick update

1. She is hoping to launch this committee this year and target grants at the federal, state, individual giving level, etc.

2. They vary in size as well large scale versus focused efforts

3. Work with school leaders to supplement enrichment activities and

4. other needs.

5. Anyone who is interested, please join by reaching out to Brooke at [brooke.riley.mattocks@gmail.com](mailto:brooke.riley.mattocks@gmail.com)

6. You can also reach out by the website via the get-involved form on the PTGO website

b. Hospitality and Teacher Appreciation

1. This committee started last year and there is a good group of volunteers and always looking for new volunteers

2. They use sign-up genius to collect food, other items for the events, and help with set up/clean up. Items are collected in the car line and from bus riders.

3. Stock the fridge will start at the end of this month and goes on every month. Heather is spearheading this month for the 5th grade.

4. This is an easy way to help out especially if you have a flexible work schedule

5. There is teacher appreciation meal coming up

c. Fundraising-Amelia/Kat

1. Spirit Night (Dominos, Jersey Mikes), Painted Grape
2. Nothing currently on the schedule
3. If you want to help, please sign-up through the website
4. She spoke about how the events last year were structured and that a portion of the proceeds go to River Park
5. Shout out to Broken Spoke Farm who did a pop-up fundraising event. Big thank you!

d. Grounds and Beautification

1. Nothing currently planned
2. Please sign-up if interested

#### 4. Upcoming Events

a. Ice Cream Social

1. This coming Monday, September 18th from 5:30 to 7 pm
2. Fun back to school event for all grades and their families
3. Easy way to volunteer and get involved; link to sign-up genius provided in weekly Principal Tiger Call; there are still slots available to help
4. Spiritwear items will be for sale including tees, magnets, and stickers.

a. Read-a-thon - volunteers will be needed (small and big roles)!!

1. First planning meeting was last week
2. Next meeting September 20th at 8 pm on Google Meets
3. Theme this year is *Reading Around the World* and is tied into Hispanic Heritage Month
4. If you are interested in volunteering or planning, please sign-up.

#### 2. Presentation on Executive Functioning Skills, Hope Carr, Teacher Rep

(One of the big priorities of the PTGO this year is to have a teacher or staff member come to present a topic)

- a. Hope Carr is the K-2 counselor and she presented on Executive Functioning Skills. The battle of finding shoes!
- b. She shared some of her experiences with her 2 boys
- c. Thanks to the PTGO she has a ton of resources to share
- d. She reviewed a list of executive function skills
- e. She provided examples of ways that she addresses these areas
- f. She then talked about ways that executive functioning skills manifest
- g. She walked the group through when these skills develop within children-
- h. They develop when their brains are ready. Lots of growth between 3-5 years old, but not fully until mid-20s.
- i. What do you do with this-Identify areas that are challenging; Play according to their deficits
- j. She then provided examples and resources for everyone to use

#### 2. Principal Update, Tony Widder, Principal

- a. He thanked the board and PTGO for everything that they do and encouraged everyone to get connected with the community.
- a. Getting involved impacts the students and teachers
- b. River Park is fully staffed
- c. The staff is hardworking and really cares about the kids and works really hard.
- d. If you don't have a full-time job, please consider being a substitute teacher. If you are interested, please reach out to Mr. Widder.
- e. There are a few upcoming events. Ms. Wilson is promoting the walk to school day. This is a great way to start the day (Oct 4th)
- f. Hispanic heritage celebration is Oct 5th
- g. Read-a-thon event (bedtime stories from around the world) is coming up on Oct 19th
- h. Mr. Widder (18th year in education and 6th year at River Park)
  - Also been a middle-school principal in Singapore, Middle school assistant principal and math teacher
  - Has 2 kids. Middle school 7th and 5th grader
  - Working on doctorate from App State
  - Wife Lydia is a nurse and they have been married 16 years.

### **3. How You Can Get Involved**

- a. Join a committee - sign up through the form on website
- a. Grab a slot on a Sign-up Genius- These come through the tiger calls as the main way to communicate. These are also on the website and Facebook.
- a. Attend PTGO events- There are a lot of events planned. Please attend.

### **2. Q&A**

- a. Heather King asked if there was a DEI committee as she is interested in supporting EC students. The PTGO is interested in assisting with this. If Heather was interested in leading this effort, the PTGO is in full support.
- b. One of the other ways that the PTGO will communicate with Parents is by Newsletter. The next one will come out by the end of next week. Please follow the Facebook page and monitor the website.

### **2. Adjourn; 7:54 pm**

- a. Kat thanked those in attendance and adjourned the meeting
- a. Next general meeting is in November

**Attendance:**

1. Richard Brandon
2. Tony Widder
3. Kat
4. Amanda Boleratz
5. Amelia Howard
6. Amy
7. Andrea Lutri
8. Andrey
9. Ashley Psioda
10. Bailey
11. Brett
12. Brooke Mattocks
13. Evan Dimke
14. Genie Boericke
15. Heather Cummings
16. Heather King
17. Hope Carr
18. UNKNOWN IPHONE 11
19. Katie Crosby
20. Kelsey Mullens
21. Lisa McCurdy
22. Leah's Iphone
23. Lydia
24. Noelle Martin
25. Sarah Lee
26. Savannah
27. Shelby Roithmayr
28. Kat Murray
29. Chrissy Gooden