



MEETING MINUTES

February 6, 2025 – Executive Meeting Virtual 6:30-7:30pm

Attendance: Mr. Tony Widder, Ms. Amanda Boleratz, Ms. Monique Holmes (school administrator intern), Ms Duke (teacher rep), Ms. McCurdy (teacher rep), Elise Bortz (Chair), Amelia Howard (Secretary), Richard Brandon (Treasurer), Kat Murray (Member at Large), Jenna Hickey (Member at Large), Jessica Posada (Member at Large)

1. Call to Order, 6:30 pm

- a. Review and approval of the agenda and minutes- Kat initiated approval of the minutes and agenda and Richard seconded. All in attendance approved the minutes and agenda.

2. Fundraising, Jenna Hickey, Member-at-Large (15 min.)

- a. Spirit Nights- Moes Taco Night coming up- February 25, 2025
Jersey Mikes and ChickFila- Have to state that they are with RPES to get the funds
- b. Spring Auction- \$1000 worth of community donations with a few more hopefully coming in, grade level baskets will be a raffle instead of an auction- finalized the list of grade level basket items.
Teacher experiences-9 submitted so far. Board discussed having a starting bid and asking the teachers to suggest a starting bid based on feedback received last year.
- c. Balls on playground- Jenna inquired about if there were funds to replace balls on the playground. Elise asked if we could save this question for the next meeting for the sake of time.
- d. Color Run: Kat Murray, Member-at-Large
RPES will be hosting the Inaugural Color Run Fundraiser on Saturday, May 3. They have had one 1 zoom meeting and have created a volunteer committee. The event will be held at RPES. They are discussing a rain date. Discussion was held over whether we needed additional liability insurance for this event. Mr. Widder was going to confirm whether this was necessary.

Goal will be to have sponsorship of tents and the various sponsors will get to throw out the color powder at the stations. The sponsorship will be how we raise money. There was a suggestion to split the race by grade level.

Registration - around \$10 per person and will include a tshirt and medals

3. Principal Update, Tony Widder, Principal (5 min.)

-Mr. Widder introduced Ms. Monique Holmes who was attending the PTGO meeting. She is the RPES administrative intern and is getting her Masters in School Administration at NC Central. Mr. Widder shared that they are thankful to have her join us this year and to have her attend the PTGO meeting.

-Mr. Widder shared that they are finishing up the middle of the year benchmark assessments, report cards were sent home yesterday and they are excited to be moving into the second half of the year.

4. Teacher Updates – Ms. Duke, Ms. McCurdy, Ms. Carr, Ms. Wilson PTGO Teacher Reps (5 min.)

a. K-2nd Updates from Ms. Duke

-Kindergarten celebrated our new year, 2025, and is excited about our new month of February! We will be learning all about Black History Month, Dental Health, Space, Valentine's Day/friendship and more!

-Second grade will be working hard on learning place value up to 1,000 and reading more challenging texts about being leaders. We are excited about our field trips coming up. We also received our Studies Weekly supplies and will begin using them with our unit on holidays, founders and government next week! Thank you so much for the wellness bar and for all you're doing to support our students!

b. 3-5th Grade Updates from Mrs. McCurdy

-3rd Grade is learning about Animal Adaptations and getting ready to write an Expository Essay on how animal behaviors help them to survive.

-Our 4th grade has been diligently working on learning fractions and their relationship to decimals. We have finished our 5 paragraph essay project and are moving into research of famous Black artists. It is amazing how much the 4th graders have grown! During January math and reading assessments happen in schools across the state to measure this growth in math and reading. Please remember that having your child read for 30 minutes each night at home builds critical reading stamina that is needed to demonstrate success on these long challenging tests. Math homework is important practice building towards grade level expectations for the end of the year.

Fourth grade homework is organized so the first two problems are what we are studying in class. The middle four are review and the last two extend on the learning for the unit. We will balance the rigor of testing with engaging science lessons utilizing the Illuminate our Learning Donors Choose grant. Thank you to everyone who donated! Please check with your child to see if they need any of

their school supplies to be replaced. By this time of year many need headphones, coloring materials, scissors or folders.

5. Treasurer Report, Richard Brandon, Treasurer (5 min.)

- a. January Spiritwear deposits: \$252 Outstanding donations: \$528
- b. Upcoming expenses
 - Teachers/specials reimbursements: \$2.5K
 - Teacher appreciation: \$3K
 - Field Trip Funds: ~\$5K
 - Grants: possible mural/white boards
 - Bus/Cafeteria/Custodian appreciation

There were no January expenses

C. Pending Expenses

- Teacher reimbursements \$580
- Specials/EC Reimbursement: \$162
- PebbleGo: \$1400
- Spritwear: \$500

6. Teacher Appreciation, Elise Bortz, Chair for Whitney Busse, Member-at-Large (5 min.)

- a. Monthly Teacher Appreciation-Wellness Bar went great! Parents bought about 50% of things from our wishlist and PTGO spent \$168 to make up the difference. This was a super easy event to pull off and seemed well timed with all the sickness going around
- b. Stock the Fridge updates- Upcoming Stock the Fridge is February 21st for 3rd grade. Heather Cummings and Rachel Hughes will be collecting and stocking.
- c. School Supply Bar for Teachers- Whitney put out a Google Form to the teachers a few times. She received 26 responses (k-7, 1st-2, 2nd-1, 3rd-3, 4th-5 and 5th-1, other-7.) One response expressed concern that the TA's and support staff are not represented with the school supply bar and that the teachers already have the supplies they need. A suggestion was offered to use the money to get the coffee truck or small gift cards for staff. Other feedback listed sticky notes, sharpies and laminating sheets as popular items. Based on this feedback the group discussed multiple options including 1. Giving classroom teachers who did reply to what they asked for and other staff gift cards. 2. Give all staff gift cards (purchased by parents) 3. Give classroom teacher grade specific baskets with supplies and other staff gift cards. 4. Do one of the above and also a coffee truck. Some staff present at the meeting felt that the School Supply bar was well liked and received and didn't need changing.

- d. February Bus Driver Appreciation- Ms. Boleratz is collecting notes from the teacher for the bus drivers. Whitney will have some sort of treat for their afternoon drive. Leaning towards Nothing Bundt Cakes or Crumble Cookies and potentially an Amazon gift card depending on the budget.

7. Mural Grant Funding Request, Elise Bortz, Chair (10 min.)

- a. Parents Whitney Mallilue and Rebecca Wrenn submitted a grant request for \$4000 (\$29/sq ft) for a mural to be painted by local artist Max Dowdle. The PTGO requested quotes from 3 other local artists. Two were for \$4000 and the third was for \$35 sq/ft
- b. Funding-Elise reviewed that we have \$6,958.31 remaining from the discretionary project line item. The artist has offered to accept payment in 2 installments (one from '24-'25 budget and the second in July from the '25-'26 budget.
- c. Timing- Max says it will take 1 week to complete and he is available between April 17 and June 6th. Max is happy to either answer kids' questions as they pass him (since this will be during school) or have 4-5 kids help him paint. (Board member suggestion- auction off chance to help?)
- d. Design: Board member idea to have school vote on design at the Spring Carnival on April 17th.
- e. A motion was made by Lisa McCurdy to vote to approve request to have Max Dowdle complete the mural for \$4000. Jessica seconded the motion. Vote was completed (Yes: Lisa McCurdy, Jessica Posada, Ms. Holmes, Ms. Duke, Ms. Boleratz, Amelia Howard, Elise Bortz, Kat Murray, Jenna Hickey)

8. Spring Carnival/Family Fun Night, Elise Bortz, Chair (5 min.)

- a. Elise has started planning for the event. She will have a sign up for volunteers. The date will be April 17, 2025 from 5-6:30.

9. New Board Members for 2025-26 School Year, Elise Bortz, Chair (10 min.)

- a. Discussed beginning to advertise the need to fill Board Vacancies. Elise suggested we have brief job descriptions for positions to send to anyone who emails with interest.
- b. Positions '25-'26 :
 - Chair - **Elise** can stay on if no one else wants the position, or can do another position also.
 - Vice Chair -
 - Secretary -
 - Treasurer - **Heather**
 - Treasurer Elect-
 - Member-at-large (Spirit Wear)-
 - Member-at-large (Teacher Appreciation)- **Whitney**
 - Member-at-large (Fundraising)-

- Member-at-large (Communications/Website/Social Media) - **Kat** can stay on if no one else wants the position, but ideally would take a year off the board.

10. Adjourn 7:46pm