

## ERA PTO 2nd Quarterly Meeting

October 29, 2018

### Call to order

2nd PTO Quarterly meeting was held at ERA forum on 10/29/18. Attendees were Christie Wills, Resmy Kurian, Amanda Weidner, Shilpi Khare, Jodie Greer, Karen Oglesby, Sahra, Anu Philip, Kara Celt, Dr. Bruce Locklear, Jean Soule, Max Hasert. Meeting was called to order by Christie Wills @6:32pm, secondly passed by Resmy Kurian and passed by rest unanimously.

### Notes

#### Eagle Scout Project – Presented by Max Hasert

Max Hasert is a senior at ERA and a Boy scout through Troop 338 in Savage. He would like to coordinate an Eagle Scout Project at ERA. He wants to do an event similar to Festival of Nations in which he will have students do research about their own culture/ethnicity/ religion and share it at the event. It will take place in January in the evening at the school. Mr. Wade Sutton is willing to be a faculty mentor for this event. He requests PTO support by funding for food services. Max was encouraged to use and submit our PTO Sponsorship form once he has obtained an estimate of food costs.

#### Youth Frontiers Courage Retreats- Presented by Jean Soule (student counselor) & Dr. Bruce Locklear (Principal of Schools of Logic and Rhetoric)

Jean Soule made a presentation about Youth Frontiers retreats for ERA Students. ERA has been able to provide these retreats for 5<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders. However, our current 7<sup>th</sup> grade class has a high need, based on data showing high levels of pillar referrals, detentions, and students who are failing classes. These retreats have shown promising results in younger and older ERA students who have attended, based on post-retreat surveys. Cost for this event is \$2,995. They are requesting PTO for some funding for this retreat.

#### Updates from Committee Leaders

**-Jodie Greer-**Updated on School Supply Kits for this year—There were 596 kits sold and about \$400 profited to PTO. Jodie has agreed to head up this project again for the '19-'20 school year, utilizing the same company.

**-Karen Oglesby-** Used Uniform Sale Committee- Things were working well this year for uniform sales. Most of the purchases were made for Lower School students. Improved storage and organization have streamlined the process. The committee has started a Uniform Bank in which uniform items can be loaned to students in case of uniform infractions or accidental issues.

**-Anu Philip-** School Directory App Committee (MySchool Anywhere). There are 442 families signed up and would like to reach out to more middle school families and lower school families. Total cost so far has been \$396. If over 500 families sign up, the cost may rise another \$100, which is still under the \$500

budget. The committee is looking into using a different app next year, that would consolidate the many apps that are required of ERA parents for various reasons.

**-Heidi Anderson-** See It... Save It! is the rebranded Redemption program from previous years. Would like to get the word out more so students are recognizing redemption items and collecting them at home. It is a great way to profit for school, over \$3000 last year. The committee is working on timing for upcoming contests and improving visibility of contest prize winners. Heidi would like to use the PTO Facebook page to advertise, and was added by Christie as an editor to the page.

### **Financial updates (see attached financial handouts)**

Income is on track for the year. RTR profits fell \$1300 short of goal, but Uniform Sale profits and Annual Family Contributions exceeded goals and made up for this deficit. Spending is on track for the year.

### **RTR debrief**

- Administration gave positive feedback on the event. It was well-organized and more set-up time this year worked well. Security and Parking was well executed. The gym worked well for inflatables, and games were well-spaced in the forum. Next year, would like to see RTR coincide with homecoming week.

- Some excess supplies and prizes were purchased, but can be used next year, which will save on costs.

- Next year, could consider a Middle School Event to follow RTR (7-9pm) using same inflatables, selling pizza, etc.

### **Memorial for Isha Kambil/Other Students and staff**

-Memorial bench for Isha has been approved by the members because it was proposed from last year, up to \$500. Administration has requested a maintenance free (plastic) bench with engraved plate. Christie Will work with Karen Connor and Kelly Schiffman to get this purchased.

- Amanda Weidner will look into more details for memorial for other students and staff. Considering a memorial garden using memorial for her son, Nathan, a former ERA student who passed away 2 years ago.

### **Upcoming Events:**

**-Festival of Treats (week of Dec 17)**

**-Uniform Sale and Teacher Conference Meal (Monday, Feb 18)**

**-Roller Garden Party ( Saturday, March 9, 4:30-6:30pm)**

**Motion to adjourn was made at 8:14pm by Christie Willis and passed by rest of the attendees.**