



Kenmore Middle School PTA Meeting Minutes

Escuela de Kenmore Asociación de Padres y Profesores

November 19, 2020

Meeting commenced at 7:05 pm

In attendance: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, ACPTA, Hispanic Parents Committee Chair, special guest Tannia Talento, Kenmore representative from School Board.

Welcome – PTA President Stacey Finkel with Introduction by Janeth Valenzuela

- Introduction of Tannia Talento, School Board Representative.
- Tannia is retiring from her position and we have two newly elected board members: David Priddy and Christina Diaz Torres.
- Tannia Talento provided a PowerPoint presentation on the November 2020 update from the School Board.
- The presentation included the School Board Action Plan with updates on deadlines for High School Options transfers, Return to School Planning, and Communications options for reaching the School Board.
- A new school calendar was discussed with a recommended start date for school to be August 30th, a two-week winter break, and days of for religious holidays included.
- Discussion of school yearbook pictures for yearbook this year. There are no official plans for school photos for this year, but each school is approaching it in their own way. Kenmore does not have plans to take individual student photos.
- Tannia Talento's term ends on December 31st, 2020.
- The PTA for Kenmore thanked Tannia Talento for all her work over the years on the School Board in support of Arlington Public Schools and as a Liaison to Kenmore.
- Kenmore's new liaison has not yet been determined.

PTA President's Address

- Meeting minutes from October PTA meeting were presented and passed by the vote.
- The updated PTA By-Laws were presented with special notation on a change included for a reduction in the number of required meetings per year from 7 to 5 meetings.
- The By-Laws require updating and approval every 5 years for the PTA to be in good standing with the National PTA.
- The updated By-Laws were presented by motion for approval and approved by the Kenmore PTA.
- The Audit Committee conducted an in-person audit of the budget with all documentation on the budget available on the Kenmore PTA website.
- The Budget Audit was presented by motion for approval and was approved by the PTA.
- The PTA supported teacher's appreciation at the start of school with gift cards. The gift cards are continuing to be distributed when the teacher's come on campus. The remaining gift cards are being mailed to teachers not on campus.

Treasurer's Report on 2020/2021 Budget

- In September there was over \$45,000 in the budget with \$4,000 added through membership.
- PayPal Fees were paid out from the budget.
- There was a purchase of online software at the end of September to support management of the budget for future Treasurers.
- At the end of September, the budget was \$48,997.96.
- In October the budget was \$49,000.00 with \$1,500.00 added in membership and no-sweat donations with the month ending in a little over \$50,000.00
- Most of the budget is spent on teacher grants, in this virtual year for teachers there are not many requests for grants.
- There are presently three requests for teacher grants with one for new band instruments pushed to the end of the year.
- A motion was presented to pay \$1000.00 for PTA Online directory for last year and this year. Motion was approved.
- The PTA presently has 88 paid PTA members to date with 4 Bronze members, 14 Silver Members, 46 Gold members, and 37 sustaining members.
- The mission of the PTA is to serve the entire community therefore expenditure of funds most importantly must benefit the entire community.
- Kenmore Dines out earned \$126.58 from the Lost Dog Café event.
- Next Kenmore Dines out is on November 30th and sponsored by Papatella.

Committees Presentations

- Gillian Frank and Stacey Comstock are the Chairs of Student Services Advisory Council on Teaching & Learning (ACTL)
- Discussion on Memo on Empathy Interviews on ESL. The first memo is December 3/4th.
- Discussion on Social and Emotional Learning – if child is not connecting emotionally in school it does not matter what is happening with teaching.
- There will be three memos on SEL between December and May and the Superintendent will review and make recommendations.
- The Spirit Wear has all been distributed and discussion regarding another Spirit Wear order in the Spring. The committee could use some assistance and looking for volunteers.
- A winter coat drive is currently being organized and distributed to families during the lunch pick up at school on Tuesday, November 24th, 2020.
- Jay Praddle thanked the PTA for providing percussion learning centers at the end of last year. He has used them extensively in the current year teaching environment.

Principal's Report

- There are keyboards available for pick-up for all 7th & 8th graders.
- There are stylus pens available for math.
- There was a very positive staff meeting on Equity/Engagement Inclusion. The school usually hosts a large pep rally for Special Programs but is unable to do so this year.

- Looking at options alternatively for the pep rally to include Choose your Own Plunge Portable Pool for Special Olympics or Racing Penguins.
- In Level 1 reintegration, there have been 10 students on campus, wearing masks and it is going very well.
- There is concern that with a lot of people in the space if there is an exposure it will impact staffing.
- The school has a lot of cleaning, masks, face shields, and fresh air and light along with a good HVAC system for air exchange.
- There is a focus on social and emotional learning and students seem to be doing well.
- The school keeps light, uplifting messages for students in the mornings.
- The staff has been doing a great job in the face of many challenges.
- Parents of Level 3 students have a week to decide whether to remain in virtual or to go to hybrid model in January.
- There are various spots in the school for small group lunches including outside options.
- Once a decision is made to attend all virtual you cannot change back to hybrid, but you can go from hybrid to virtual.
- 200 desks were repurposed for distribution to students.
- Custodians are painting walls and railings and the gym floor was redone.

Official Business concluded, and meeting adjourned at approximately 8:24 pm.