Kenmore Middle School PTA Meeting Minutes
November 3, 2021

**Meeting commenced at 7:03 pm.**

**In attendance:** The meeting was held via Zoom and there were approximately 40 participants.

**Welcome and Introductions** – Marianne Talbot (President) welcomed everyone and called for approval of the September 29, 2021, meeting minutes. The minutes were approved. Marianne reminded everyone that all minutes are posted to the Kenmore PTA website.

**Advisory Council on Teaching & Learning (ACTL) Report –** Christine Suh, Kenmore’s representative on the ACTL, spoke to the group. She explained that the council meets monthly to discuss K-12 instructional issues. The topic discussed at the October meeting was Math instruction. If parents have any questions about ACTL or just want more information, please contact Christine directly at: christine\_j\_suh@yahoo.com.

**Principal’s Report** – Mr. McBride spoke about the two (unrelated) issues that occurred at the school earlier today. The first was the discovery of threatening language (graffiti) found on the wall in the boy’s bathroom. An investigation is being conducted but Mr. McBride stated that the threat is not credible. The second issue was the discovery that a student was in possession of an antique BB gun during the school day. A brave peer brought this to the attention of a staff member and the item was confiscated. The student’s parents were notified, and all are being cooperative. Mr. McBride is confident the building is safe. He explained the importance of the SEL (Social Emotional Learning) component as it pertains to coming back from the pandemic. The building is at 97% capacity. Mr. McBride announced there will be a spectator limit for the winter sports season, more information will come via SchoolTalk. Dr. Duran visited and commented on the wonderful school spirit at Kenmore. Also, a Kenmore alumnus came back to say “thank you” to administration and staff, he stated they were an integral part in his success as an entrepreneur.

**Treasurer’s Report** – Kathy Evans did a quick budget review of the past 4 months. In July, there were 4 members that signed up and a PayPal giving fund deposit was made. In August, 35 members signed up; 18 in September; and 16 in October. Kathy stated that we are in good financial standing. We are high on funds due to low output in 2020. However, this year’s grants have not yet been awarded. The Silent Auction is a big revenue budget item, and we need to find someone to chair that event. In the past it has been primarily an online event but there could be an in-person component.

**Committee Reports** – Mary Dallao (Outdoor Committee): Mary reminded the group that the Kenmore Garden Day is November 7 from 1-4pm. If you have supplies (rakes, wheelbarrows, etc.) please bring them. She stated that 80 tulip bulbs were donated by the Home Depot, Harris Teeter donated snack items. Shana Sandberg (School Supply Kits): Shana announced that she is searching for a new vendor for school kits. Please email Shana (shana.fruehan.sandberg@gmail.com) if you have any recommendations. Jamie Pilot asked how much Kenmore receives per kit purchased. Shana stated she would research and get back with an answer. There was discussion regarding the $77 cost (7th grade kit for 2021-2022 school year) and parents being able to go out and purchase the items at less than half that cost. It was mentioned that this sale is more of a service to parents than a fundraiser for the PTA. Kathy Evans stated $77 is too much to pay for a kit and suggested that the PTA go out and purchase the supplies and have a volunteer group put the kits together. There was concern surrounding finding enough volunteers to make this happen. There was a question about where to drop off extra supplies as many students have too much inventory. The counseling department will take the extra supplies and distribute to those that might be in need. It was also suggested that the teacher supply lists be reconciled against the current supply lists each year. Monica Bonzano (Spirit Wear): Monica reminded everyone to “size up” when ordering apparel. She announced that magnets ($5) will be available for purchase soon. Any spirit wear questions can be addressed to bonzanom@hotmail.com. Tammy Bewitz (Teacher and Staff Appreciation): Rachael Schroeder and Tammy Bewitz now hold Executive Committee positions at Kenmore and Campbell schools, respectively. The PTA needs to find someone to take over the role. Historically there has been a token of appreciation given to staff members prior to the Winter break. Teacher Appreciation week is the first week of May. Contact Tammy (tbewitz@gmail.com) or Rachael (Schroeder.rachael@gmail.com) if you are interested.

**Other Business** – Marianne announced a new initiative she is exploring. She is interested in growing from a PTA to a PTSA and is looking at that application process. She envisions Kenmore establishing a ”House of Student Representatives” that would promote community involvement. Student committees would be managed by parent committee chairs. Marianne will provide more information as it becomes available.

Marianne opened the floor for any questions, there were no questions.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm.**Submitted by:Jamie Pilot
Kenmore PTA Secretary
on November 17, 2021