



**Cory Elementary PTA General Membership Meeting
12/7/2018**

1. CALL TO ORDER: The Cory Elementary PTA general meeting was called to order 11/2/18 at 0848 am by Kristine Hawthorne (President); and Ashley Mull (Secretary) recorded the minutes.

2. ROLL CALL: 3 Board Members were in attendance: Kristine Hawthorne (president), Stephanie Campbell (treasurer), Ashley Mull (Secretary).

Cory Representation: Joan Weiser (Principal), Brendan Doyle (Teacher), Dawn Miller (Library),

Also in attendance: see attached list

Minutes from 11/2/18 were approved.

3. PRINCIPAL UPDATE (Joan):

- Thank you for coming to literacy night. We will do it every year.
- Dec 21 Teacher Planning Day: Social/emotional awareness with teachers;
- Math (Minds on Math): how to support parents with challenging tasks, and real-world applications; Vision for technology; Continue work on Differentiation

4. BAND PROGRAM for 4th/5th Graders (Erin Henry):

--Christmas Gainsbrugh –runs a band program at Slavens and University; plays flute since 4th grade; Music is a way to find your voice and advocate for good; teaches responsibility, adjustment, success and learning from failures. Trying to get a Grant from Colorado Public Radio drive. Can rent an instrument; cost is appx \$25/month. Tuition based, \$80/month. Goal is to make it accessible to all. Scholarships are offered (reduced tuition 50%); we do want some kind of investment from families, but no one gets turned away. We go to basketball night, coffee house night, etc.

Parent Question: What instrument is recommended for beginners? Answer: any instrument. Only limit to choice is availability/accessibility. We ask kids who are interested in percussion learn a second instrument.

Parent Question: What is your suggestion for practice? Answer: every day is recommended.

- Next steps: Christmas will come in after Winter Concert, to visit 4th/5th grade classes. Some kind of survey will go out to start in January.
- We will attach the video in the Friday Parent Post

5. EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS (Marti):

- We are spearheading a project to get corporate sponsorships; in the past we have done this mostly at the auction. Yearly starting in January. Difference between this and auction (there will be signs on Cory fence)
- We may get rid of auction catalog; auction still needs its own sponsors; do sponsors get a certain level for contributing goods
- Chart for levels of sponsorship and letter distributed to sponsors

Parent Question: What kind of businesses will you allow to sponsor Cory? Answer: community businesses primarily.

Parent Comment: I am opposed to corporate sponsorships of education. Response: we are obligated to raise almost \$300K per year to support Paras and special programs, and we have to find some way to support this

Parent Comment: Could we vet businesses such that only local owned businesses are advertised? Answer: It is unlikely we can limit to local businesses only; keep in mind families at our school may own national chains or be part of other "big" businesses

Parent Question: How long are the banners up? Answer: 45 days (technically) but practically would be longer

Parent Comment: Could we utilize other spaces in the school? Answer: Only planned area is on outward facing fence

Parent Comment: Could we reach out to local businesses first? Answer: We are reaching out to our current local sponsors of dine-outs, etc.

Parent Comment: Could we form a committee to look into this? Answer: we will consider putting this up for a vote to the wider Cory community, creating a committee, or other options to help parents feel their concerns are being addresses. Board will discuss this and update at the next meeting.

Joan: we get the lowest percentage of money from DPS b/c it is based on free and reduced lunch

6. SALARY UPDATE (Brendan Doyle):

- moving toward strike vote in January
- We are continuing to negotiate with the district, but there are several sticking points, including that teachers aren't incentivized to stay in DPS
- Regional meetings: ours is Dec 13th, also dates on Dec 11th (Manual high school) and the 19th
- What else can parents do? 1) Email/mail district. 2) Strike fund for teachers that can't afford to strike. Announcing fund through GoFundMe. 3) How can we food bank for kids that would be affected by not having school lunch. 4) Alternative locations for kids to go to. 5) Attend board meetings and January bargaining dates (start at 9am, so teachers can't go). Asking parents who are able to, sign up and attend. Denverteachers.org/bargaining. Location TBD.
- Kristine to work with Brendan on another email

7. BUDGET UPDATE (Stephanie):

- Holiday gift for staff running all this week and all next week; venmo option running. Ending next Friday
- Budget is on track. Dine outs going well.
- Will talk about Garden budget next meeting
- Art Committee: shortfall of about \$3000, we think there is a cushion in the budget to relocate more money to the Committee for 2nd/3rd grade
- Call for Vote: Approved to increase budget by \$3000 by majority

8. ADJOURNMENT: Kristine adjourned the meeting at 1004

Ashley Mull

Secretary

Approved: _____

Date: _____

Attachment: Roll Call
 Skeeter Buck 415-845-5447
 Keiko Ali 720-937-8702
 Choon Lee 732-977-6947
 Sandra Clemons 720-838-8385

Shawn Hughes 303-520-2491
Jeff Miller 720-788-5278
Deanne Deeg 303-656-5438
Lisa Zorn lzorn1212@gmail.com
Kristi Stasinos 303-594-3266
Naurin Gilger 832-204-0239
Karla Hand 720-933-4728
Jen Allison 303-717-6756
Alison Yeh 720-327-0726
Jennifer Lee 303-456-5227
Debbie Fimple 720-839-1032
Shaye Champ-Correll 720-391-8468
Laura Tate 817-422-4353
Alexia Eslan lentza@hotmail.com
Kelly Hanson k_laboon@hotmail.com
Danielle Gooden daniellegumina@yahoo.com
Jana Ellis janakellis@yahoo.com
Alison Durnavich alisondurnavich@gmail.com
Laura Quartarone lauraquartarone1@gmail.com
Travis Wanger traviswanger@hotmail.com
Jennifer Reed jenrich24@gmail.com
Erlen Marsh mamoosha9@gmail.com
Kiva Thompson kivamm@me.com