



## Defer PTO

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors and Officers  
November 14, 2017  
Defer Elementary School  
7:00 PM



**ATTENDANCE:** Jenny Andris, Megan Bejin, Carmie Buhalis, Sarah Coats, Nicole Fonger, Janice Fox, Janette High, Lindy Holloway, Amy Leech, Brooke Macuga, Sara Martin, Kelley McLean, Becca Ozar, Dani Raether, Lisa Rheame, Holly Ryan, Christy Sherding, Kelly Warnick, Heather Wiegand, Kelly Woolums

1. **Call to Order and Introductions:** Heather Wiegand
2. **Member Presentation/Request:**
  - a. **Defer Students:** Will & Ella- request for playground equipment
    - The students referred to the 7 habits while making their presentation and included a photo board, classroom surveys, and approximate cost of options for a merry-go-round and gaga pit. They also asked the PTO for suggestions and questions.
    - Someone asked what was a gaga pit and an explanation was given.
    - The PTO thanked the students for their thorough presentation and told the students that they will consider the idea and look into safety, exact measurements & placement, etc. and get back to them.
  - b. **Kevin's Song Representative**
    - Overview of Kevin's Song Education Task Force – SEE handout
    - The organization has met with GPPSS schools looking for liaisons between Kevin's song and the PTO/school to attend meetings, promote programs, report back, etc.
3. **Review of the October Minutes:** Kelly Woolums
  - Minutes Approved.
  - All approved minutes will be sent to Computer Lab assistant Letty Moussiaux [moussil@gpschools.org](mailto:moussil@gpschools.org).
4. **Treasurer's Report:** Amy Leech
  - Balance as of October 31, 2017 \$31,716.00 \*SEE Report
  - Get Moving Crew funds from Fun Run will appear in November Report

## 5. Vice President's Report: Kelly Warnick

- a. PTO council
  - Highlights – 11/6 community luncheon with leaders, PTO presidents, pastors, etc.
  - Dr. Rheaume noted that Defer would be honored to host next year.
  - Blue Ribbon meetings are open to the public.
  - Monteith has a bike rack if anyone wants one.
  - Trombly has a book club.
  - Kerby has a diversity club w/ team building events at the school
  - **Defer PTO Mission Statement (2015): The PTO exists to enhance the school and Defer community by supporting a quality 21<sup>st</sup> century learning environment while working collaboratively with and as an advocate for students, educators, parents and related stakeholders.**
  - Becca Ozar offered that Kevin Ozar facilitated a workshop for the PTO Board in 2015 that helped form the mission statement in 2015.

## 6. Committee Reports:

- a. Volunteers – Brooke Macuga
  - New chair for publishing center – Lisa Mannino
  - Craft Fair sign up has been sent out to volunteer pool and those signed up originally
- b. Fundraising – Kelly Warnick & Nicole Fonger
  - **FUN RUN final numbers: \$25, 830.88 Net Profit**
  - **Total Expenses \$2636.04** - includes pizza parties, Sweeties gift cards, popcorn, day of supplies, than you cards, superstar gifts, etc.
  - 36 Superstars received their Defer Wear hats last week including 2 to students whose family donated extra funds outside of their students' profile.
  - 208 students raised the individual goal or over \$50 received a gift card to Sweeties with 5 extra cards going to students made possible by a donor.
  - The Top 20 fundraising families were invited to the Nerf Party at the MAC donated by the MAC and it was very well received. In addition 3 more families were randomly selected to attend the party as guests. Hungry Howies donated ½ of the food and Pepsi donated the Gatorade. Leftover Gatorade was given away at the Movie Night.
  - Next year Nicole Fonger noted that the PTO could reasonably put a higher goal for the Fun Run into the annual budget.
  - Let's go ahead and spend the money!
- c. Membership – Lindy Holloway
  - 23 shirts were ordered including the larger size shirts as requested at the October meeting.
  - Directory went to print with 65% of parents having verified their information. They should be delivered after Thanksgiving.
  - Mentor program status – same number of mentors, etc.

- d. Hospitality – Holly Ryan
  - 95 people came to the progressive dinner.
  - Bill is still outstanding but forthcoming.
- e. Communications – Sara Martin
  - Anything for PTO communications has to come through Sara first. Thursday is deadline for Friday newsletter. Last minute information can come out through Facebook & Twitter
  - Yahoo blast is a bounce back system that was in place before Sara was in the position. The bounce back speed is limited. We are still using it because it is still being used and read in the community.
  - Defer uses MiStar's Intouch system and Yahoo with the emails that families use when they register. This is what Ann Lightbody uses for all family notifications/emails.
- f. School Board Observer – Kelley McLean
  - The Board has pre-sessions before the meetings each month run by Rebecca Fannon who sits down with PTO board observers and gives them a synopsis.
  - Introduction of revision of K-12 art curriculum is being considered.
  - Interesting note: GPPSS does not use DTE electricity but a cheaper option.
  - District Open House was promoted.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading Level State requirements discussed and how the district was going to address this bill.

**7. Teachers Report:** Janette High

- Thank you for the Tuesday Treats!

**8. Principal's Report:** Lisa Rheume

- Thank you for everything! Dr. Rheume noted that the PTO lives up to their mission statement.
- The Open House had 11 new families who showed up. Dr. Rheume is open to suggestions.
- Defer's Robotics Team will compete in the spring.
- I pads were delivered and students were so excited.
- Music updates – November 18<sup>th</sup> tree lighting singing in the park.
- Winter concert 12/12 – grades 1, 3, 3/4, 5, choir
- Spring concert 5/9 – k, 2, 4, magnet, choir
- Mrs. Moses requested the MacCombers to come back 12/15 @ 2:30pm for 45 mins. The fee is \$400.00. Motion for PTO to cover the cost of the assembly was approved.
- Dr. Rheume attended the GP District Diversity Alliance Group. Defer is hosting the 11/30 meeting at 6:30pm. Information on the meeting will come through the newsletter; all parents are welcome to attend.
- Conferences will be held 12/6 & 12/7 with report cards coming home beforehand.
- The student's first Town Hall was exciting with a community piece as students wore their Defer shirts and discussed togetherness and thankfulness. These meetings are all student led.

- Student council elections were held today.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading level state mandates are being addressed and the district/school is working on formalizing the process for evaluating student progress from NWEA test scores in Reading. A note home will be forthcoming.
- As a Leader in Me school Defer is looking for a parent to be a Leader in Me parent liaison. The lighthouse team meets once a week so perhaps a parent could attend these meetings to learn more about what is going on at school and how the habits are being applied to make the school to home bridge.
- Dr. Rheume started a Defer Facebook page that includes the Tweets from the PTO to connect the school and the PTO. More information to come.
- It was double-checked that Defer is a "one and done" fundraising school so that the office can pass this information along to any organization that calls requesting fundraisers.

#### 9. **President's Report:** Heather Wiegand

- Opened up conversation on the playground equipment. Notes about the gaga pit were talked about. Defer teacher Kari Mannino's husband may be able to assist with construction. Consensus was made for more information to be gathered on the gaga pit option for playground equipment, as something new is needed for the older kids. The PTO will look toward a spring installation when the ground thaws.
- Discussion was had to have gym teachers order more playground balls, soccer goal nets, etc. to come out of the \$300 line item for these supplies from the PTO budget.
- No board meeting in December. PTO president hosts/sponsors a holiday event. Last year Becca Ozar hosted feather bowling at the Cadieux Café. This year's event is an Open House at the Wiegand home. Please see online Invite.
- If interested in being a Kevin Song liaison let someone know. Jenny Andris a Defer parent already attends; maybe she would be interested in being a liaison.

#### 10. **Old Business:**

##### a. **Craft Fair:** Sat. Dec. 2

- Some parents are still looking for flyers but the new system is working well. After tonight the registration will shut down and a sign-up for times will be posted. 156 students signed up so far and this is similar to last year's sign-up.
- Bake Sale committee communication is forthcoming.

##### b. **Book Fair:** begins Sat. Dec. 2 & runs through Friday, Dec. 8

- Book Fair – This year the Book Fair will begin with the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the craft fair through the next week of conferences. Volunteers are needed as well as a possible intern for training to take over next year. Becca Ozar and Heather Wiegand won't be able to be on site for a lot of the scheduled times.
- \$100 Scholastic dollars left. The Scholastic catalog can only be used to redeem this money.
- Haunted Garage earned \$722.00. It was suggested that the PTO could use these funds to pay for the Gaga pit, which would go along with Mr. Williams who is a gym teacher/coach.

## 11. New Business:

- Becca Ozar is on the Human Sexuality Advisory Board. If you are interested in being on the board please let Becca know. Meeting is 4:00-5:00pm on 11/29.
- Fan Faces, a Trombly student small business, was presented by Becca Ozar.
- Brook Macuga suggested the PTO purchase pop up canopies for events. This will be looked into and purchased at a later date.
- Basement Storage - Nicole Fonger organized the basement storage and advised people not to purchase paper products without checking the boxes first.
- Spirit Wear – Megan Bejin will have a table at the Craft Fair. Orders placed by 12/15 will be in before Christmas. Megan asked for suggestions for new items to feature. Holly Ryan suggested fleece/picnic blankets.
- Conference Food – Traditionally the PTO supplies food for the staff during conferences. The conference time is different this year. Last year Which Which was ordered. Holly Ryan offered to pick up and order from Jersey Mikes on Wednesday between 4:00-5:00pm.
- Missy Kinyon posted an article on Facebook about unwanted food in the trash. Discussion was had about how the school might address this issue. Forgotten Harvest offers programs.
- Lunchtime Enrichment sign-up will be coming soon. It was suggested a questionnaire looking into people's interests/talents and a list of past offerings.

## 12. Member Comment

- None

## 13. Adjourn 9:02pm

Minutes Submitted by Kelly Woolums November 16, 2017

**Next Meeting: January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018**  
**NO REGULAR DECEMBER MEETING**