



## Defer PTO

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors and Officers  
January 9, 2018  
Defer Elementary School  
7:00 PM



**ATTENDANCE:** Megan Bejin, Sarah Coats, Leah Dantzer, Lisa Dougherty, Nicole Fonger, Diana Gifford, Janette High, Lindy Holloway, Amy Leech, Brooke Macuga, Sara Martin, Caroline Murray, Colin Murray, Kate Murray, William Murray, Becca Ozar, Dani Raether, Lisa Rheame, Holly Ryan, Kelly Warnick, Heather Wiegand, Kelly Woolums

1. **Call to Order:** Heather Wiegand (7:06pm)
  
2. **Member Presentation/Request:**
  - a. Dona Johnson-Beach: district-wide *Great Kindness Challenge*
    - Guest student presenter William Murray – PowerPoint presentation
    - Main Message: In a world where you can be anything... be kind
    - Date for Challenge 1/22-26 2018
    - Kids for Peace organization supports National Great Kindness Challenge
    - All 9 elementary schools, Barnes and some high school and middle schools in GPPSS have signed on for the challenge
    - Schools will sponsor a collection of Kindness Care Kits for Crossroads of MI (Moross Location)
    - Collection will be for an assigned 1 item per kid – per grade
    - Communication will go out to students and families this week
    - High school students from North and South will collect the supplies and kits will be assembled at a central location
    - Maintenance staff will deliver the kits to Crossroads
    - Look out for Kindness Checklists coming to your homes soon!
    - Open to Questions:
      - o Can you send in extra items? – yes, just not trial sizes
      - o Can supplies be purchased in bulk? – yes
      - o Can we run a contest to see which grade / school collects the most? - Coordinators will be set at each building – with a goal of 100% per class
  
3. **Review of the November 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 November 31, 2017 \$51,789.41 \*SEE Report
- Balance as of December 31, 2017 \$49,030.08 \*SEE Report
- Still missing funds from the Craft Fair
- Megan noted that the webstore usually cashes out the funds all at once so the check might include the online sales for Defer Wear
- Holly pointed out that she still hasn't received an invoice from the Park Grille. Holly suggested that we send out a check and pay for the bill anyway. Approved.
- Becca clarified the deficit in the Book Fair line items as Defer pays back what is taken in as sales at the Book Fair and earn Scholastic dollars in return.
- November & December Treasurer's Reports Approved.

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

a. PTO council

- Last meeting was the beginning of December
- Meeting was mostly a Show & Tell format
- Guest speaker from Trombly about the Boy Scouts – PTO Council has to step in and help guide Boy Scout leader difficulties

**6. Committee Reports:**

a. Volunteers – Brooke Macuga

- Kelly offered to give an offer on the Green Squad as she needs a new co-chair
- Parveen needs someone to fill in for the Clinic
- Becca needs someone to take on the Book Fair
- Nicole needs a Fun Run assistant
- Holly asked about the need for morning assistant help in the office. Help is sporadic.

b. Fundraising – Kelly Warnick & Nicole Fonger

- Nicole sent out tax receipts.
- October 5, 2018 is the date for next year.
- Contract is already signed with the Fun Run Crew.

c. Membership – Lindy Holloway

- Directories went home the end of November.
- Only high 60s families who signed up for membership. 150 directories left – feel free to offer them to others for \$10.

d. Hospitality – Holly Ryan

- Positive feedback for the teacher luncheon. Thank you to everyone who volunteered.
- Holly researched 10x10 tents for \$60 at Dicks and is willing to purchase them before the springtime and store them in the basement.
- Funds for 2 tents approved.

- e. Communications – Sara Martin
  - Twitter is picking up a little bit.
  - Amazon charity donation designation was figured out and is not being promoted.
- f. School Board Observer – Kelley McLean (could not attend)

7. **Teachers Report:** Janette High

- Thank you for the luncheon.
- The Maccombers was wonderful; thank you for funding.

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

- Thank you for the luncheon, Craft Fair, everything.
- New nighttime custodian.
- Family Flag Night is this Wednesday. Flags due Friday.
- Town Hall Thursday morning at 10:30am led by the student leadership teams.
- Dragon Dens will focus in on the Great Kindness Challenge.
- Kindergarten & Young 5s information night 1/18 7:00pm at every school – just parents
- Diversity Meeting 6:30 at Maire 1/18
- New Defer Motto in Hallway: Learn to Lead and Lead to Inspire
- Mural contest – collaborative painting for the Nottingham wall
- We will continue to have these changes happen throughout the building to really stand out as a Leader in Me school
- Still looking for parent as the Leader in Me liason – provide school to family connection
- Team Brainstormed about Wish List Items: \*SEE Spreadsheet
  - o Chrome Cart and 30 Chrome Books for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor will be purchased from building budget is already planned
  - o Invest in I-pads for the reading teacher and for the gym
  - o Flexible seating items \*SEE Handout – allowing teachers to pick & choose items
  - o Looking to use building budget and continue to partner with the PTO
  - o Discussion was had around the table about what has already been spent out of the budget and Fun Run to approve some of the items from the wish list. Questions were made regarding the apps and programs that we renew yearly and a request was made to have a master list of the apps/subscriptions/and renewal dates so that the PTO can just approve them all. **\*A list will be brought to the next meeting for approval.**

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

- Nothing to report.
- Thank you for all the work you do and for helping with having a newborn at home.

## 10. Old Business:

### a. Craft Fair Review:

- Things went well. The student council bake sale went well.
- 180 participants (approx.) registered.
- JNHS and Parent Volunteers filled in.

### b. Book Fair Review:

- Overall it was successful. We earned \$5000. Becca was not pleased with the offerings of books and the quality of books after 5 years. The next coordinator might look into the offerings of other book fairs.
- Still doing the Spring Book Fair. We will need more volunteers.
- Becca needs someone to take over the Book Fair next year. If you love books and introducing books to kids Book Fair is a fun thing to coordinate.
- Consideration will be given to not having all the extras (toys, etc.) at the Book Fair.

### c. Playground Equipment: Gaga pit

- Want to continue the conversation because the students were passionate about the
- Contacted Natural Playground Company \$1700 for the ready-made pit. This expense does not include flooring & construction. Mr. Mannino thought turf might be more durable. Approx. Total of \$3000.

## 11. New Business:

- Kelly Woolums – Recess Transformation Suggestion: Playworks
  - o Kelly noted the need to rethink recess and play at the school. She asked PTO to use PTO Fun Run funds to sponsor a specific goal / program such as Playworks. Memembers were asked to think about having an organization like Playworks come in and transform recess: the one activity all day every day that all kids are engaged in – the need to build a stronger, safer, more empowered recess community.
  - o Dr. Rheume applied for a grant for this program and Defer gym teachers have attended a workshop with Playworks.
- Dani Raether - Lunchtime Enrichment
  - o In need of volunteers; we only have 6 so far. Suggestions were given to add more details and specific class listings, sibling friendly, etc. details to try to get people less intimidated about signing up.
- Kelly Warnick - Kindergarten Night on 1/18. Proposal for Defer pencils with flags announcing Spring Social, PTO, Fun Run, Basket Raffle
  - o Request for pencils for \$100.00 for 250 pencils. Approved.
- Lindy Holloway – Spring Events Revisited
  - o Spring Social Date– May 24<sup>th</sup> Thursday night 6:00-8:00pm.
  - o Spring Progressive Dinner was brought up by Lindy. Holly mentioned Euchre night as an alternative.
  - o Fall Progressive Dinner date set - October 13, 2018

- **Next Meeting: Revisit Donuts with Your Dragon, BINGO, Spring Progressive**

**12. Member Comment**

- None.

**13. Adjourn 8:52pm.**

Minutes Submitted by Kelly Woolums January 10, 2018

**Next Meeting:** February 13, 2018