

# Elkins High School PTO

## Meeting Minutes

January 18, 2023

- **Meeting** called to order by Angie Korger at 7:05 pm.
  
- **Members Present:** Angie Korger, Rachel Zetino, Nadine Skinner, Naaila Sami, Kali Shiller, Roxane Johnson, Angelica Morales, Kim Brown, Laura Najera, Vidhya Venkatesan, and Kim Bradby
  
- **Principal Report (Angie Korger)**
  - Ms. Ward (not present at the meeting) said to bring questions to her. Ms. Ward and Dr. Brown will meet with Angie.
  - Ms. Ward asked if we can clean the courtyard. We have already done that; we just can't maintain it. Ms. Ward wants us to blow leaves in the courtyard. Angie talked to the custodian who said she got 2 new blowers and can blow the leaves. The custodian will think about what else can be done in the courtyard. Angie will also ask Rebecca for ideas.
  - Ms. Ward is thinking about opening up the courtyard during lunches. It is currently closed because the students leave it messy. They may have an incentive for the cleanest lunch.
  - Thompson Ferry:
    - PTO Observations: The sidewalk next to the road does not look very safe. The spacers are needed for water to drain into the ditch. A railing would have been a better idea. The detour sent out is not accurate.
    - No new work has begun on the other side of the road. Angie will find out if Ms. Ward wants feedback from us on better traffic flow and safety. We will also find out if Ms. Ward is coordinating with the new elementary school principal about drop off and pick up procedures for next school year.
  - Other questions for Ms. Ward: Staffing issues? What classes will not be offered next year for high schoolers? Can parking passes be ordered ahead for next school year.
  
- **Secretary Report (Nadine Skinner)**
  - Angelica made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 2022 meeting. Laura seconded the motion. All approved, and the motion passed.

- **President Report (Angie Korger)**
  - Teacher Gifting: Ag Department (\$468), Aquatic Science (\$2100), History Department (\$800), Biology Department (\$900), Campus Improvements (paint and benches- \$4500), and Girls Soccer (\$520). We got a contractor price for the paint (\$73/gallon). We have \$250 approved for paint, so we will be buying some more paint. We approved everything that we were asked for.
  - Blue benches to be replaced are for the front of the school and not for the courtyard.
  - We want to put the teacher gifting in the newsletter. Maybe when we introduce teacher gifting next year, we will tell teachers what was given out this year.
  
- **Vice President Report (Angelica Morales)**
  - Fort Bend Education Gala is coming up.
  
- **Treasurer Report (Rachel Zetino)**
  - There is a check for \$35 for Ms. Martin that never got cashed. Kim Bradby will try to get it back if she is not planning to cash it.
  - Rachel filed the taxes. We owed a \$260 penalty to the IRS for late filing because we had to file a long tax form. Wanted to make sure the form was done correctly.
  - Pizza Sales: Class of 2023's weeks have been on "off weeks." We don't really have any work for the classes to do. Kim suggested students doing the flowers in the EHS in the front of the school. Kali suggested classes help student council clean up Knights Court.
  - As of February 20<sup>th</sup>, Amazon will be shutting down Amazon Smile. Angelica sent a link to an article about it on our group chat.
  - Marquee: We are a clearing house for the school only. Dr. Brown is in charge.
  
- **Safety Report (Kali Shiller)**
  - She would like to put stickers on the backs of parking passes. Students can get gift cards for having their passes and answering questions about safety correctly.
  - She did an inventory of bad or missing traffic signs at the school. She will type this up.
  - Lights have not been switched to LEDs yet. Kali will ask at the bond oversight committee meeting tomorrow.
  - It is very dark around campus. Missouri City said that we are 30 lights short on Knights Court. We need more lights around the school in general.

- **Pizza Sales Report (Kim Brown)**
  - We got approval for spring semester.
  - January sales have gone well.
  - We need to keep the 2-pizza limit unless there was a pre-order.
  - We need volunteers for next week's sales.
  
- **Social Media Report (Angelica Morales)**
  - There have been a few spam items lately.
  - There are a lot of EHS events coming up soon. Keep up to date online.
  
- **Membership Report (Kim Bradby)**
  - Vendor dropped of some random sweatshirts (no tees). She will give first dibs to certain volunteers who help out a lot on campus. If anyone wants to purchase, let her know. Kim needs to look up the a la carte price.
  - Some parents are still joining the PTO.
  - We will discuss maybe moving to a platform other than Woofoo for next year.
  - Angie will ask Ms. Ward for an update on the school spirit store.
  
- **Shared Dreams Report (Roxane Johnson)**
  - Tap into student council and see if they want to do a Shared Dreams drive.
  - Ms. Ward said there is already a lot going on at the school.
  - The next Shared Dreams drive is in February. Roxane will look up the specific items requested.
  - Could different classes hold drives to earn their pizza money?
  
- **Senior Class Report (Angie Korger)**
  - Trying to do a movie picnic on the law for Valentine's Day (for friends). Want to get donations for desserts. Waiting on a date. Do not have approval yet from school.
  - They want to do a fundraiser. Angie suggested a check writing campaign.
  - Senior trip is to Camp Cho Yeh on April 28<sup>th</sup>. Transportation is provided. Deposit has been put down already.
  
- **Hospitality Report (Laura Najera)**
  - November lunch from Piada went well. Ordered for 150.
  - December: bought snacks and drinks from Sam's Club. The school wanted us to come every day with snacks with a short notice. We just dropped off snacks and drinks on one day.
  - Roxane said that the Kroger on HWY 6 will donate day old pastries if you ask.
  - No events planned for January.

- February is counselor appreciation week. On February 8<sup>th</sup>, will give out cookies from Tiff's Treats and a Starbuck's gift card to the counselors and assistants.
  - Maybe do a Feb event with money out of teacher gifting. Angelica made a motion to use up to \$1000 from teacher gifting for hospitality to bring in the Traveling Coffee Truck to teacher in-service day on either Feb. 16 or 17. Naaila seconded the motion. All approved and the motion passed. Laura will email Ms. Ward and copy Dr. Brown on the email.
  - We need a May date from Ms. Ward for teacher appreciation.
- **YES Report (Naaila Sami)**
    - She has entered in hours, as well as day and venue.
    - There has been no YES day at the cafeteria.
    - People are curious as to how many hours they have.
    - She found a cloud-based app that we can use. Kids can enter their hours, and Ms. Sands can approve or disapprove. It doesn't cost much.
    - It was suggested to talk to Mr. Lamb, as he does YES hours for the academy. He does it through Schoology. Can Ms. Sands learn what Mr. Lamb does and do that. Naaila will contact him again (he did not respond to her before).
    - Naaila will send info on the app to Angie. Can we run it on the PTO webpage?
    - What is the drop-dead date for seniors to submit and finish their YES hours?
    - Kali said to contact Ms. Bonus for software information at the school.
- **Unfinished Business**
    - Can we do something for the entire student body? Maybe for Valentine's Day? It was suggested to hand out conversation hearts at lunch. Kim Bradby will take this over- purchase 1000 items. Angie will work on getting the permission for the event.
- **Announcements**
    - Ms. Ward asked for a table for PTO for tomorrow's 8<sup>th</sup> grade night.
    - Random Acts of Kindness: We have gift cards to send out to teachers. We will send out 2 this month.
    - Attendance seminar was tonight. Attendance is a huge issue. Can have 8 excused absences in spring semester and be exempt from finals. But what is an excused absence? Each school is interpreting the policy differently.
    - Next Monday, the PTO is taking some H Tea O to the board of trustees for board appreciation at 5 pm.
    - Please ask about open positions for next school year. We will need a new president for next year. Text Angie privately your thoughts for next year.
    - Report VIPS hours. There was a post on Facebook. Angelica will send the link out.

- Board Appreciation dinner is in May.
  - Next year, we will have an event in December where we will wrap holiday gifts for teachers and staff. Wrapping has already been purchased on clearance.
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- **Meeting** adjourned at 8:56 pm by Angie Korger.
  
  - **Minutes** respectfully taken by Nadine Skinner, Secretary.