

**Jackson Elementary School PTA**  
**General Business Meeting Minutes**  
**March 1st at 6pm**  
**Meeting in IMC**

**A. Call Meeting to Order**

- a. Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by President Emmaly Renshaw. Present: Brandon Blankenship, Melissa White, James Girdner, Corrine Schalk, Gale Skogman, Amy Bower, Christi Winders, Amy Blomquist, Nicole Papini, Ryan Patterson, Becky Smith, Julie McMahan & Emmaly Renshaw

**B. Approval of January 2016 Minutes**

- a. Minutes from February 9th meeting were read silently and had no corrections. Minutes were approved as stand.

**C. Reports of Officers**

- a. Membership – Rebecca Smith
  - i. no changes
- b. Treasurer - Melissa White
  - i. During February, we received a check from Target for ~\$2,300. This program will be discontinued in May. Next year, we may see higher SCRIP returns from Target, which has a higher % back to school, so could be in our favor.
- c. Presidents – Julie & Emmaly
  - i. Reviewed Swim night from Feb 12- well attended with about 100 swimmers, need to verify lifeguards are arranged next year, and reinforce no food as a mess had to be cleaned up by some parents. Try to schedule family fun events on non-class party days to spread activities out.
  - ii. Titan's Night this Friday, Mar 4th. Discounted tickets of \$13/ticket due to office by this Wednesday. Students that participate in Fan Tunnel get in for free but must be at Fan Assistance Desk by 6:30. Can pick up tickets at will call window at US Cellular Center before the game.
  - iii. Super Skate Day Saturday, Mar 12, 4-6pm; Discounted admission of \$7/skater.

**D. Report of Principal - Jim Girdner**

- a. Iowa Assessments - may or may not have these next year depending on legislation. There will be new reading series materials coming soon.
- b. Evening custodian, Al Knol moved to Franklin; Deb Cady will be his replacement.
- c. Art Stead is visiting Jackson this Friday, Mar 4th. He will tour building with Jim Girdner and Allison Walters. Discussion will focus on after school reading programs, summer reading programs, and primary grade levels.
- d. 2016/17 District School Calendar - school board approved the calendar and can be found on district website. Every Friday will be an early dismissal at 2:15 & childcare will not be provided during this time.
- e. New Principal Hire
  - i. Position is posted to fill for 3 Elementary schools (Jackson being one of them)
  - ii. District will screen initially at ELSC beginning on Mar 11, then will move to committee. Committee will have 13 total; including 5 staff & 2 parent representatives.
  - iii. Committee will interview up to 4 candidates, TENTATIVELY on March 30, 7:15am-noon; will be a ½ day commitment.

- iv. If interested in being on the interview committee, complete survey in Thursday folders or on PTA Facebook page. This survey is also seeking input from parents on principal characteristics, that is anonymous unless you complete the optional contact information.
- v. By April 25th, the school board should have candidate selection for approval of new hire.

## E. Report of Committees & Coordinators

- a. Volunteer Coordinators
  - i. Spring pictures are next Tues, Mar 8; have enough volunteers to help that day
  - ii. Hearing van came 2/29; should be done with hearing screening for the year
  - iii. Book Fair coming up in April
  - iv. If interested in being a volunteer coordinator for next year, contact Amy Bower to learn more
    - 1. records hours to District in database by 5th of the month
    - 2. coordinates various activities like America Reads, Screenings, Book Fairs
- b. SCRIP
  - i. not many orders, more are buying from grab and go bag in office
- c. Green Team - no update
- d. Garden Club
  - i. had a garden club meeting where students designed their own layouts of what they would like to see in the garden; lots of lemons, strawberries, oranges
  - ii. beginning a plan for this year's garden so if interested in being involved, contact Julie or Emmaly
- e. Enrichment
  - i. have many class options to choose from (art, gardening, engineering, books, science, decorating dolls, cross stitch, games)
  - ii. student signup coming out in this week's Thursday folders (Mar 3)
  - iii. still looking for extras to help on April 2, 9-noon
- f. Spring Carnival
  - i. May 20, 5:30-7:30
  - ii. planning meetings occurring after PTA Meetings

## F. Old Business

- a. Basketball Hoops for blacktop
  - i. still waiting for 2nd check to arrive but want to get order into District to get them installed this spring, so all were in favor of proceeding using funds available in account and even out once 2nd check arrives
- b. Back to School Supplies
  - i. will continue to use EPI for supply packs; ordering available through June/early July
  - ii. next year there will be a district supply list for all schools to use so all students receive the same supplies - is a law. Reams of paper can not be on list. Can get discounted reams from the District, delivered to Jackson.
    - 1. Amy may promote these supply packs at kindergarten roundup in May
    - 2. Will review budgets in May and determine if building budget can cover paper costs or address with PTA other options
- c. Makerspace Group
  - i. a group met in Feb with a focus on having a couple classes available to test how students respond to robotic and coding concepts as this may be a first stage. If students respond well, may look to expand further for next Fall. Some obstacles exist to allow this for a

- during school day program (must directly link to current curriculum lessons, must be able to measure student growth, must be part of Building Plan).
  - ii. also possible interest in a LEGO League but has large time commitments for both volunteers and students, and is limited to just 10 students/team.
- d. Recess Cart
  - i. contacted Kennedy workshop teacher who said if given a plan and all pieces cut, they would assemble; determined we could do the same and may be less work.
  - ii. could be an Eagle Scout / Cub Scout project or Girl Scout Project
  - iii. still looking for volunteer that may be interested in taking on this project; \$260 approved for funds at last meeting

## G. New Business

- a. Funding Requests
  - i. \$250 Additional Classroom Funds for teacher that was not granted funds from the CR Foundation (Amy B. Motioned 1st, Gale 2nd; all in favor)
- b. New PTA Board
  - i. looking for new members to join the PTA board for next year; if you or know of another is interested, contact [jacksonjetspta@gmail.com](mailto:jacksonjetspta@gmail.com)
- c. Staff Appreciation
  - i. Discussed purchasing 2 new microwaves for lounge
- d. 5th Grade School Store Bank Account
  - i. Questions about how to use the funds in this account. Need to discuss further with 5th grade team. Possibly spread the funds throughout the next 4 years of grades.

## H. Announcements

- a. February 29 – March 11 - Iowa Assessments (grades 3 – 5)
- b. Tuesday, March 1 - PTA Meeting at 6pm in library
- c. Friday, March 4 - Kindergarten & Preschool Registration at ELSC, 7am-7pm
- d. Friday, March 4 - Jackson Night with the Titans, kickoff at 7:05pm
- e. Tuesday, March 8 - Spring Picture Day
- f. Saturday, March 12 - Super Skate Afternoon - 4:00-6:00pm
- g. March 14-18 - Spring Break - no school
- h. Friday, March 25 - In-Service Day - no school
- i. Friday, April 1 - Breakfast with a Buddy - 7:50-8:50am
- j. Saturday, April 2 - Enrichment Day - 9:00am-noon
- k. Tuesday, April 5 - PTA Meeting at 6:00pm

## I. Adjourn Meeting

- a. meeting adjourned by 7pm (Nicole motioned 1st; Gale 2nd)