

## K280 PTA GENERAL MEETING - MINUTES

(taken by Marisa Russell, Co-President)

November 1, 2018 @ 6pm

### Introductions

<b>President:</b> Kate Artibee	<b>Vice President:</b> Meg Cain	<b>Treasurer:</b> Aaron Thompson	<b>Secretary:</b> Brienne Hayes
<b>Co-Presidents:</b> Marisa Russell Alice Shearon	<b>Co-Vice Presidents:</b> Nicole Di Schino Jeanne McCabe	<b>Co-Treasurers:</b> Kim Dubon Rachael White	<b>Co-Secretary:</b> Melinda LaRose

### Guest Speaker #1, Tom Foley, of Foley Firs:

- Runs the tree stand at 8th Street and 8th Avenue
- Donates \$ for each tree purchased where the purchaser mentions k280
- The school has participated in past years, and has been a great fundraiser
- Works best when parents lets their friends and family know to mention K280 when they purchase a tree as well
- Flyers will go home on Monday, November 19th, stand opens on November 24th and runs through December 22nd.
- High quality trees from a farm in Canada
- Will deliver and set up trees locally for free
- PTA receives the check in Jan/Feb
- Parents can also order online (last year 460 trees were ordered online)

### Guest Speaker #2, Jackie, on K280 as a Zero Waste School:

- One of only a select few Zero Waste schools
- Helps teach the kids recycling concepts, and how they can think about sustainability beyond themselves and for the community

### PTA Communications & Websites

- Website: [k280pta.org](http://k280pta.org)
- Direct donations: <http://donate.k280pta.org>
- Facebook: @ [PTA at K280 School of Journeys](#)
- Instagram: @ [k280pta](#)
- Newsletter (ISO volunteers) - the PTA would like to send out a newsletter (a total of 3 over the calendar year). Seeking volunteers to help put together, PTA would identify content they want to communicate (fundraising events, goals, etc).
- Social Media Committee (ISO volunteers) - we are in need of volunteers to help with taking photos (no kids) of school life, PTA events, pass on information via our social channels (Facebook & Instagram).

### **Recap of Character Day Bake Sale (October 31)**

- Thank you to all who donated delicious goods and fun items, and volunteered their time!
- Amount raised: over \$1K

### **November Activities**

- **Election Day Bake Sale (November 6)** - so successful we're doing it again! School is closed on Tuesday for Election Day, but the school gymnasium is a local polling place, so the PTA will be hosting a bake sale that morning.
  - Link to volunteer: <https://goo.gl/forms/3H3Yn9RST8yd67v63>
- **Teacher Appreciation Lunch (November 15 / parent teacher conferences)** - every year the PTA has helped host a Teacher Appreciation Lunch timed for the November parent teacher conference day as teachers are there for a long day. LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO LEAD THIS COMMITTEE: help select and order food, organize setup/cleanup, decorate the staff lounge, coordinate with administration re: shared space.
  - Link to volunteer: <https://goo.gl/forms/toz60cEAP4ywKP2h1>
- Lice check - we will be working with the administration to bring in the Hair Fairies for a Lice Check
- Thanksgiving Food Drive - it's happening; more info coming shortly!

### **2018-2019 Fundraising Projects & Community Events**

- Year-End Appeal
- Boxtops Drive
- Holiday Toy Drive ('tis the season to give back)
- Holiday Basket Raffle - LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO LEAD THIS COMMITTEE and organize this project - this has historically been one of the most popular fundraisers. In conjunction with the class parents, this committee would help organize several baskets (classes will be assigned a theme "Books basket," "Food basket," etc. and the class parents will help rally parents to fill that basket). Raffle tickets will then be sold throughout December.
- Movie Days - another fun annual tradition, during the winter months, the PTA will host a Movie Day in the auditorium on a cold Saturday afternoon.
- Dance Party
- Multicultural Festival - headed up by the Diversity Committee (staffed by k280 staff members, please see JP if as a parent you are interested in joining)
- End-of-Year Carnival
- Moving Up Ceremonies Gift for pre-k graduation

- City lobby efforts (i.e. bus shelters behind K280 or stop signs) - PTA asks parents if there are any projects around the school that you may be interested in having the PTA's support on
- Suggestions from YOU?

### **Open Forum for new business/questions/concerns**

#### **UPDATE FROM PRINCIPAL SCOTT**

- They are close to finalizing two permanent Assistant Principals (current APs are interim, stationed out of PS10, but often help fill in when Mr Gary can't be here).
- Laptops & smart boards have arrived, and teachers will begin using them soon for student inquiries
- The Character Day parade and bake sale were great fun and a big success!
- A delegation of educators from South Africa visited the school, as they are looking model a school after K280
- Important update: District wide, we have seen registration drop due to recent policy changes regarding immigration and parents are choosing to leave or keep their children out of school. PS 10 enrollment was down, and K280 enrollment fell from 504-455. As a result, they have had to close a class. This was selected by the teacher with the least seniority. The students in that class will be absorbed into other classes, ideally in pairs to make the transition easier. The school was able to keep the teacher who will be helping out in the classrooms where the students have been reassigned to.
- \*They DO NOT anticipate losing another class.
- \*It was recommended that if a parent's child mentions a new student starting in their class, that parents should encourage their children to be welcoming to this new students to make for an easier adjustment.
- One silver lining of the situation is that we will be getting back the Art Room!
  - ISO volunteers to help make the move and set up the room on Saturday, November 10th
- On December 17th, the PS10 kids will be putting on a show for K280 students at 10AM and parents are invited to attend as well (will be held in the auditorium).
- On Friday, November 2nd, PS 10 will be hosting an auction fundraiser at Littlefield's.

#### **Parent Speaker David White:**

- There is evidence that schools located close to highways, are a "health risk" and K280 is 250 feet from the Prospect Expressway, a high traffic area.
- One class has procured an air filter, and the parents are measuring if that will make a difference. Results will take a week.
- The school construction authority is also looking into how we can get a reliable measurement (per Principal Scott).

- The filters cost \$600 for the machine, and \$100 for the filter which needs to be replaced yearly. Is this a legacy gift? Is this something we should pursue with Participatory Budgeting? Next steps will depend on results of classroom test.

**Re: homelessness in our schools** and how often the teachers/administrators are burdened with helping make up the difference in regard to food/clothing/extras; one parent suggested an emergency fund that teachers may be able to tap into for that reason.

**A fundraising suggestion from parent Kathy Lando** - "Wearing Collections" where the school has receptacle for old textiles and once we have collected enough, we receive funds from the organization that pays per pound. More info to come from Kathy.

**Conversation about another fundraiser: clothing swap.** Charge \$5 and invite the larger community to participate.

**Proposal for a sustainable projects committee?**

**From JP: class parents list to be shared on Friday 11/2.**

**A few parents (who currently act as class parents) felt there was a need for one Parent Liaison** who would provide the class parents with information. Not clear if that is something that PTA is able to facilitate and the role is served by JP. There was a request for information to come more clearly, and with more notice. *\*Please note that the PTA Board is taking every effort to distribute information in a clear, organized way, and in a timely manner.*

**A question about what can be done to serve our non-English speaking students.** JP heads up the language committee and is in need of any PARENT VOLUNTEERS who speak another language who would be able to help translate notices.