

EKHLA PTO General Meeting Minutes
November 5, 2020 @ 8 am via Zoom

1. Call to Order – President Brianna Eilers
2. School Representative – Q&A - Principal/Superintendent Kathryn Davis Cohen
 - A. KDC - Thank you for RRW. It felt normal which was nice. It was great to have Officer Morales speak. The kids loved the dress up days.
 - B. KDC - Reminder of the school calendar change, the whole week of Thanksgiving is a holiday now!
 - C. KDC - There have been no COVID cases and no teachers have needed to be out.
 - D. How does she feel things are going? She feels like it's going well. The hardest part is trying to still support the learners at home and give emotional support since it's challenging for parents and students and they're trying to be supportive to everyone and they're trying to keep distance learners engaged.
 - E. What capacity are we at? There are 470 students currently enrolled and about 230 on campus. It's a little more than half of enrollment but not of capacity. Capacity of the building is 600 kids. No classroom has more than 15 students. Latest guidance from CDC is to have students 3-6 ft apart with masks on.
 - F. Is there a point where they require everyone to come back? That's a TEA decision. If TEA supports distance learning then the school is not in a place to say everyone needs to come back. Texas is still a hot spot and SA numbers are inching up so she doesn't foresee that. She would like it noted that schools have not been shown to be super-spreaders. From schools that are back they are clearly recognizing that people that get it are getting it other places and they're not spreading at school because of precautions schools are taking (hand washing, masks, distance, etc.).
 - G. Anything PTO can do or anything they need? Continue with thank you emails and contacts, parents have sent goodies, everything has been appreciated by the teachers and staff!
 - H. Are teachers comfortable having treats on a tray or do they prefer everything individually packaged? They are fine with grabbing from a tray. Teachers aren't gathering, but they are comfortable with serving themselves and taking back to their classroom.
3. President's Report – Brianna Eilers
 - A. New Memberships
 - a. Low for this year - close to 40 instead of usual of 100 - since there was no open house we missed out on new members and since we're not seeing parents in person it's been difficult - also a lot of previous year's members have not re-joined for whatever reason
 - B. Moving meetings to 8:30 am in December to give everyone more time to drop kids off or settle in class at home
 - C. As a board we're going to try to market/advertise more to get the word out
 - a. Signs - maybe say everyone is welcome to meeting - don't have to be a member to attend
 - D. 20/21 Standing Rules have been approved and posted to our website
 - E. Vicki Adelstein - parent & PTO member - she creates Facebook pages for each EKHLA class - she has made one for 20/21 Kinder - (these pages are not associated with the school or PTO pages) - we do not have any kinder parents on

our board - Amanda Lozano is on another page Kinder 20/21 - we asked her to post about PTO

- F. We're still trying to do everything we usually do and we need more parent support and memberships
- 4. Treasurer's Report – Amber Liddell Alwais
 - A. Current balance is \$6,933.10.
 - B. There is still approximately \$58.33 in outstanding funds due to us from PayPal. Some are in transit and others are on hold. We are expecting approximately \$150.00 from the Bingo Proceeds. Next month around another \$200 added to balance.
- 5. Communications Report – Jude Morin
 - A. Technology - looking at different pieces to centralize on the board and with members - to make easier - use non-profit status to get software - this will allow us to get the directory going
- 6. Fundraising Report – Feliza Fleischer
 - A. BOON Supply! Our Fall Fundraiser is here! We're raising money for Eleanor Kowitz Hebrew Language Academy PTO (ID 447364), and we need your help. It's easy! No order forms, no checks to collect, no handing out items. Just send, share, and shop. 40% of purchases go directly to our cause. Fundraiser ends December 31, 2020.
 - B. EKHLA Masks are still available for \$10--child and adult sizes - we'd also like pictures of you or your kids in masks if you can send to ekhlapto@gmail.com
- 7. BINGO Report – Elizabeth Ydrogo
 - A. Received check for \$1,500 - we get \$150 and school gets the remainder
 - B. Quarterly report for third quarter has been filed
 - C. Bingo license has been renewed
 - D. Bingo bank account has been set up - Brianna & Amber set up 11/4
- 8. Committee Reports
 - A. Teacher Appreciation – Sarah Rodriguez
 - a. No report
 - b. Pre-Thanksgiving Treat
 - Monica will ask Ronda if she will approach Einstein Bros.
 - B. Red Ribbon Week - Chair Veronica Barrera - report given by Brianna Eilers
 - a. Red Ribbons on trees, door decorations w/emojis - Officer Morales came and live streamed his speech
 - C. Health Fair - Brijal Patel & Brianna Eilers
 - a. Coincided with Fun Run - had several different speakers aimed at different age groups. Jennifer the Tooth Fairy from Wildey pediatrics and yoga with Marissa Harris pre recorded 15 minute videos for kinder -2nd grade. Futsol and breathing with Eartha Powell pre recorded videos for 3rd - 5th grade. Keldon Johnson from the Spurs with Robert Castillo recorded a video for middle school about sports and mental health. We forwarded all video to Ms. Campbell who then converted them to streamable videos. We then forwarded those links to Ms. Smith who uploaded them on google class for all virtual students and were shown in class for in person.
 - b. Crystal was able to get different items donated including tooth brushes, highlighters, children's cookbook. We gathered to bag them prior to distribution.

The school asked they be bagged and given to the school at least 3 days prior to handing them out. They sent bags home during school supply pick up for students who were virtual and handed them out to students who were in person.

- D. So we've had two good and successful events so far. Next event would be Rodeo Breakfast - will have to brainstorm on that - if you want to volunteer or chair let us know

9. New Business

- A. Reminder from Monica - send thank you notes to donors, speakers, etc. - Brianna/Brijal will get with chairs and send out thank yous.
- B. Maybe putting less formal signs out at school - saying all these things are coming up - here's what's happening in the new year - more than hey come to meeting - more details so new parents know what we do
- C. Was helpful to have yard signs up this month as a reminder
- D. Flyers - put flyers in Health Fair goody bag - people want to be engaged - they don't really know how - you're the p's we need - we need you
- E. Amanda Lozano - she will post on kinder group about PTO

10. Adjournment – President Brianna Eilers