



Captain Johnston Blakely Elementary School Blakely PTO General Meeting Minutes

Date: September 11, 2017

Time: 8:15 – 9:30 a.m.

Place: Blakely Art Room

Attendees: Yam Li, Sandra Demars, Brandi Cypher, Kristine Cox, Bonnie Thatcher, Elise Dunn, Lindsay Fiorito, Helen Jung, Xiao Yan Zhou, Kristian Kildall, Makiko Matsushita, Tim McGee, Christina Aitchison, Sarah Jones, Rebecca Miller, Lara Deits, Sam Featherston, Sok Featherston, Julila Myricle, Sue Morris, Nancy Kohn, Melanie Danali, Sarah Rous, Jamie Berg, Siri Miller, Glenda Brooks, Marion Avril, Lauren Birk, Stacy Schneider, Lorin Roberts, Lizzie Berg, Missy Render, Kara Beckman, Maggie Donaldson, Laura O'Connell, Lori Hungerford, Erin Cyger, Lisa Timmins, Chris McCann, Alli Shilf.

Start 8:15 a.m. Welcome & Introductions – *Erin Cyger & Lisa Timmins*

Approved 2017-2018 PTO Board:

Co-Presidents: Erin Cyger & Lisa Timmins

Secretary: Laura O'Connell

Treasurer: Alli Schilf

Volunteer Recruitment: Lori Hungerford & Heather Jo Kochevar

Communications: Elizabeth Walsh

Grants: Chris McCann

Enrichment: Smiley-Grace Kulesza

Auction Chair: OPEN

How to be involved

- Come to meetings – second Friday of the month at 9 a.m.
- Volunteer – visit blakelypto.org/volunteer for info
- If you want to volunteer in the district, you need to go through the process of being approved (see website)

Eden – Positive Parenting Classes, provided handout. Classes begin at the end of September.

8:25 a.m. Meet Blakely's new counselor – *Krista Sodi*

- Has 4th grader at Blakely, 7th grader at Woodward. Moved here 20 years ago, Undergrad degree from Western in general education and special education, taught 5th grade. Got Masters in Social Work at UW, with emphasis in child mental health and multigenerational practice with families. She is here at Blakely Tues-Fri.
- Will focus on Social/emotional learning, facilitating communication between home and school, help parents with strategies, and provide/refer to outside resources in the community.

8:29 Lisa Timmins, BSF Report. Funds things PTO cannot. At Blakely, BSF funds our STEM, the Social Emotional Learning initiative, grants on district wide basis.

8:30 a.m. Principal's Report – *Reese Ande*

- Thank you's: PTO - 2/3 of our budget comes from you, 1/3 comes from the state. Kyanne – she's amazing, calm, welcoming, makes our world easier (we can't thank her enough!). Blakely staff – they work very hard before school starts.
- 8th year at Blakey, 21st year in education. There is a good mix of veteran and new teachers at Blakely. His wife is the ceramics teacher at the HS. Daughter is a junior at the HS. And they have a new puppy!
- New teachers: Elaine Hanson – Music, Elise Hardy – filling in as differentiation specialist, Krista Sordt – counselor, Carissa Tormanen – resource specialist, Latisha Blacker – SLP, Alec Grimm – PE, Bedell – teaching STEM, PE on Mondays, 4th grade with Ledbetter.
- Come to Parent Nights, Tues is Kindergarten, Weds is 1st/2nd, Thurs is 3rd/4th
- New Blakely building – cost of building has exponentially gone up. They have been working on making cuts. This will be 45 million dollar building – they have been working to balance fiscal responsibility, and building a building they promised to voters. Want school to fit into the natural environment. Also wants the school entrance to be obvious. School busses will drop off in one location, parents will drop off in another. Building will meet and exceed current earthquake code, will see this in some of the exposed architectural design. Flexible learning spaces outside each classroom cluster. All classrooms have line of sight. Timeline- right now on schedule, plan is to break ground in Feb. Portables will be moved in the next month. At that time, recess will become limited to the back to upper left quadrant, and front field. Coming up with recess games for those areas. Construction goes until June 2019. Current building will be demolished right after school gets out. New building opens in September 2019. There will be webcams, so students/families can go online and watch the building process.

9:01 a.m. Auction update – *Lisa Timmins*

- January 20, 2018 at Wing Point Country Club
- We don't yet have a single auction chair, several committee positions filled. Also looking for someone to head up procurement team.
- The auction represents 90 % of our budget
- Donate your time volunteering or your services

9:04 Trivia question – how many new families to Blakely? 79!

9:05 a.m. Upcoming PTO and school activities

- Parent Nights this week at 6:15 p.m.
 - Tuesday: K
 - Wednesday: 1st/2nd
 - Thursday: 3rd/4th
- Family Picnic, BYO – Friday, 9/15, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Bubbles, sidewalk chalk, casual fun time together.

- Blakely Spiritwear – coming soon! (see preview of design above)
- Health Screenings – 10/5 & 10/6
- Picture Day – 10/13
- Conferences – 10/26 & 10/27 (No school)

9:07 Kyanne has tickets for children in the front office for the state fair

9:09 a.m. May meeting minutes – all APPROVED

9:10 a.m. Adjourn

NEXT MEETING: Friday, October 13, 2016 at 9:00 am in the Library