

**Lakeway Elementary PTO
General Meeting
May 17, 2006
LWE Cafeteria**

President Lori Griggs called the meeting to order at 9:20 a.m., with a verified quorum. The minutes from the previous meeting were read with correction noted to amend Kara Gaskamp as incoming VP/Volunteers and to reflect the carnival wristband pre-order prices to \$11.00 and \$8.00. Motion carried to accept corrected minutes.

Principal's Report—Sam Hicks

- Overall, TAKS testing went extremely well. In 3rd-5th grades, all testing combined had only 5 students who did not pass. Third grade had 100% passage of the Math TAKS portion, with 75% receiving Commended Performance (CP). In 4th grade Writing, 100% passed and the CP rate went up as well. In science, 99% of 5th grade students passed, with 68% achieving CP. Last year the highest passing rate was 63%.
- My goal of LWE becoming a Blue Ribbon School is hopeful. Our CP rates are of Blue Ribbon standards.
- Regarding summer projects, ceiling tiles will be replaced for housing new overhead projection displays. Old carpeting will be replaced with tile. The library will be expanded and new security devices will be installed. An iron fence will be installed at the end of the kindergarten hallway, with access to the rear field and swinging gates will be erected on the bus drive to prevent access to the playground and field during school hours. Additional sinks will be added in the nurse's office and special education rooms. The gym will received a new floor and a 1-lane track will be installed on the playfield.
- LTISD will refund LWE approximately \$1,800.00 for one raptor security system.
- Blake Kenyon received his Eagle Scout badge for his Maggie Gable Memorial Trail.
- LWE received several grants from the LTEF. Mr. Hicks received two for a screen for the gym and supplies for the GeoBee. Leslie Morton received funds for Leap Frog Literacy. Diana Porter was awarded a grant in third grade and Tom Seabolt earned \$8,400.00 for a new theatrical stage. The total cost was \$12,000.00 and LWE PTO provided \$4,000.00. Debbye Judge, Allison Cobb and Nancy Dickelman applied for and achieved grants.
- Regarding new school funding, our district will not notice any tax relief. The new business/cigarette tax will be distributed, yet LTISD will not qualify for those funds. All of the money raised in the district should stay in LTISD.

New Business

2006-2007 Teacher Appreciation/Fat Friday Committees—Lori Griggs

This year, the Teacher Appreciation committee was in charge of hosting three events: the August welcoming luncheon, the December holiday celebration and the teacher appreciation week and finale lunch. The Teacher Appreciation committee finished this year under budget. Until this school year, the Fat Friday committee was a parent-supported event. Last year Patty Hoenig requested help to cover the cost of paper goods, etc. Against the wishes of several board members, a motion carried to budget \$700.00 for the Fat Friday committee. In March 2006, the Fat Friday committee needed help

because they were not receiving grade level support. Thus in April, the PTO combined both committees on 4/6/06 to develop a budget for the upcoming school year. A recommendation was made to increase the budget expense from \$2,700.00 to \$3,500.00, keeping the two committees separate, and each will receive a budget of \$1,775.00. Fat Friday will sponsor 7 luncheons with \$250.00 monthly, and Teacher Appreciation will host their 3 functions. It was recommended that both committees have a set group of volunteers to supplement their respective committees to keep from requesting more funds from parents. With the current budget recommendation for 2006-07 including \$1,550.00 for coffee/water service, coupled with teacher gift cards at \$100 per teacher at the beginning of the school year, the board will be spending over \$10,000.00 on teachers.

Teacher Appreciation—Marla Hiller

Our committee is comfortable with decision. Volunteers were over-taxed this year and our volunteer base dwindled due to over-commitments. TA is geared to the working parent, using 6 core members who handle the majority of the work. Expenditures incurred this year were \$1,531.12. In an effort to cut budget, TA will continue to reach out to local businesses, cut back on gifts for staff, and eliminate snacks at faculty meetings. TA will serve at the pleasure of the faculty.

Fat Friday—Patty Hoenig

FF suggested that a disparity existed between the two committees and wanted an amended budget. Without grade level and PTO support, FF was insufficient. Parents were asked to donate small entree' items or cash. FF is requesting approval of current budget to keep the status quo. Removing grade level support would be a mistake.

Discussion followed suggesting TA host events in August, December and May, with no FF functions during those months. FF will sponsor September, October, November, January, February, March and April. It was also suggested to include optional grade level assistance in hosting event in September. If this is not successful, committee would supplement the following month. Motion carried to keep newly revised budget and continue with grade level support, communicating to parents that participation is optional. Motion carried.

2006-07 Budget—Shelley McCannon

- In August, the balance will be \$20,101.22, with minute expenses for next year's budget and will be post-dated for the next fiscal year. Budget determinations were made using Fundraising's proposed expenditures. Motion carried to accept the budget for 2006-2007 school year.
- Additionally, Sally Foster and Entertainment Passbooks will be designated under Entertainment Publications.
- Classroom needs will be separated by grade levels and specials for equality and Teacher Appreciation will be recognized as Faculty/Staff appreciation as an expense of \$3,500.00.
- Also proposed was an increase in the Website Maintenance expense of \$10.00. Motion carried.

Wish-List Items—Shelley McCannon

- Special Area/Art has requested an additional drying rack for \$281.92. Motion carried.

Back to School Night—Katie Kordzik

A proposal to restructure “Back to School Night”, where parents would be disbursed information regarding PTO and other non-profit organization that affect the Lakeway community. All board members are asked to assist. This proposal will be presented to Mr. Hicks for approval.

Volunteer Spanish Program—Karen Brennen-Wodchis

Spanish has been offered every week in 1st and 2nd grades since January. Kindergarten classes received Spanish from LTHS Spanish students. Less than \$300.00 was spent on the program because LTISD provided the materials. With a strong core of volunteers, the program would like to continue on into third grade, meeting for 30 minutes once a week. Allison Cobb is currently working with third grade team. Currently, the committee has 14 volunteers, but will require 7 more to accommodate 7 third grade classes. With additional volunteers, the possibility of Spanish could be extended into 4th and 5th grades. Discussion followed regarding time devoted to TAKS testing in the upper grades. A survey was conducted and results will be reported in September.

Volunteer Training Breakfast—Lori Griggs

Volunteer training will be held on August 23, 2006 at 8 a.m., with a ComPASS presentation by Kathleen Hassenfras to follow.

Teacher Gift Cards—Lori Griggs

54 gift cards for \$100 each will be purchased from Wal-Mart and distributed to teachers in August before school begins.

Officer Reports

1st VP/Volunteers—Patty Hoenig

- Kara Gaskamp is ready for transition and the database is updated.

2nd VP/Fundraising—Terry Kelley

- Budget will be essentially the same for upcoming school year.
- Need school store chair person.
- Sally Foster/Entertainment Passbooks will be announced before Labor Day.
- Currently exploring new fundraising options when LWE splits into two schools the following academic year.

3rd VP/Programs—Jay Hiller

Linda Michael will itemize and add ComPASS program.

Faculty Representative—Tom Seabolt

Mr. Seabolt expressed his gratitude on behalf of the entire LWE staff for the board’s assistance this year. He added that the faculty truly enjoyed the May luncheon at the Lakeway City Park and look forward each month to Fat Fridays.

Treasurer—Shelley McCannon

The bank balance as of 5/17/06 is \$20,101.22. Danielle Swanson will be treasurer for the upcoming school year.

The board expressed their gratitude for Shelley’s efforts as treasurer.

Motion carried to adjourn at 10:45 a.m.

Robin Thomas

Secretary

*What would FF budget have to be to not rely on parents \$500.00; get a comm't to supplement FF and try it; Patty—concerned about a switch in mid/stream; Shelley—not an issue to switch; Patty does not feel this change is warranted with out not complaints; Shelly-complaint agst PTO board that we are asking for money from parents; Angela McPhaul—as compromise for the 1st month due luncheon and not hit up parents in Aug/Sept and in Oct collect food and money from those parents; carry over the money (perhaps hit up parents 3 times year and save \$\$ and disburse money over the 7 months;) Lori—try out in Sept., go back to grade levels; Have funds and shift if it does not work; Terry—do not rely on the parents to be successful
SUGGESTION: go thru first 3 months and not ask for grade level support and revisit it; FF—normally collections \$150-275.00 months; Jessica—Room moms feel overwhelmed when their classes are singled out for non-performance. Melanie—LWE does too much compared to other campuses: Terry—this has to be optional if parents want to help or not;*

Lori—agree that FF needs a budget and cont to go to Grade levels at every month and supplement with a set comm't to assist on FF; Terry—all small hits/eliminate; Big picture look at all the things we ask parents to do;

Motion: To keep newly revised budget and con't with g. level support thru one monthly letter with notation that it is %100 optional. (Patty motion); Patty covers copies to send out her letter; Marla—use e-mails; \$225.00 with g. level support;--part of motion!

Discussion on Motion:

Angela McPhaul seconds; motion carries