

LAKEWAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTO
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 05, 2006

President Lori Griggs called the meeting to order at 9:04 AM.

In attendance were: Kim McCarthy, Lori Griggs, Pat Peck, Tracy Good, Vicki Price, Danielle Swanson, Kathy Mennen, Jessica Evans, Erin Canada, Christy Orr, Virginia Deniso, Georgia Clegg, Allison Cobb, Robin Thomas, Patty Hoenig, Linda Michael, Margaret Godman, Terry Kelley, Shirley Prescott, Sam Hicks, Shelley McCannon and Lori Foster.

The minutes were approved as written for the May 2006 general meeting and the August 2006 special meeting.

Principal's Report: Sam Hicks

Mr. Hicks expressed his thanks to the PTO. He stated that more money comes from the PTO than the district and that the PTO provides many extras that wouldn't exist without our support. At times, we have the unusual luxury of having more volunteers than are actually needed. Mr. Hicks was even more thankful for the time and energy given by our volunteers.

Mr. Hicks gave a construction update. Completed: Unsatisfactory floor tiles were replaced, sound boards have been installed in the cafeteria, and a bus and security gate have been installed. Still in progress: picnic tables, classroom telephones, classroom projector systems, and video cameras at certain exits.

Mr. Hicks reported great news about the TAKS scores for our campus. Out of approximately 2,000 elementary schools in Texas, our 3rd grade reading/math scores were in the top 10; our 5th grade reading/math/science scores were in the top 25 and our 4th grade writing scores were phenomenal.

Mr. Hicks asked that homeroom parents not accommodate class coffees. This request is for several reasons: complaints from parents who can't attend the coffees, the possibility of a child being discussed unfairly and FERPA laws.

Allison Cobb, Assistant Principal, reminded each volunteer to sign and honor a confidentiality agreement.

Mr. Hicks then reviewed the tardy and absentee laws. Our Raptor system will be used to log students and their tardies. Excessive tardies will result in a letter to parents. If tardies persist, a conference will be called with the parents. If tardies still persist, the courts by law must become involved. There are certain laws that govern how LTE must handle tardies and absences. Each student is required to attend 90% of instructional days, with or without excuse. There are also truancy laws which govern unexcused tardies and absences. Tardies do not accumulate into absences. A student is considered tardy after 7:50 a.m.

Guest Speaker: Barbara Galaway-Patrick, Director of Food Services at LTISD

Barbara reported that renovations for LTE's kitchen are underway. The staff has new uniforms with 'Pyramid Café' Logos. LTE's cafeteria manager has been out with a broken ankle, but is expected to return on 9/12. Beverly Hicks has been filling in in the interim.

Barbara reported that the Food Services Department has been working hard to educate and inform parents about school cafeterias, their programs, their staff, their commitment to nutrition and awards LTISD has received. Each staff member at LTE's cafeteria has attended school and workshops and is in the process of being certified. LTISD was awarded an exemplary gold award for food & nutrition services, scoring 100 out of 93. They were one of three districts in Texas to receive the award. Our district writes the specs for the food it serves and requires vendors to meet very stringent guidelines for nutrition: fat content not to exceed 28%, no trans fat, nothing with 15 grams of sugar or more, etc. .. There has been a 30% increase in the amount of fresh fruits and vegetables being served. Educational posters are displayed around the cafeteria with varying themes. LTISD is also in partnership with Compass to provide 5 nutrition seminars this year—1 on sugar, 1 on calcium, 1 on breakfast, 1 on obesity and 1 on anorexia & eating disorders. Barbara reported that calcium is at a crisis level in our country,

with only an estimated 11% of students aged 11-19 getting the high demands of calcium their bodies need at this age. She also reported that obesity is at an all time high and that Texas has the 3rd highest child obesity rate in the nation.

Barbara reminded parents to use their online services to not only pay on their children's account, but to sign up for automatic email reminders when those accounts are running low.

Mustang Mixer: Virginia Denisio

The Mustang Mixer has been moved this year from Carlos-n-Charlie's to Lakeway Resort. The committee has estimated that the ticket price will be \$40 a ticket this year, a \$5 increase from last year. The increase is mainly due to moving the event thus providing a nicer venue. Prices for teacher tickets will not increase and there will be a new item on parent ticket order forms to sponsor a teacher's ticket.

Faculty Member Report: Georgia Clegg, Kindergarten

Mrs. Clegg expressed the staff's appreciation for the support of the PTO.

New Business & Treasurer's Report: Danielle Swanson

Teacher Wish List Items:

TAGT Conference: Mr. Seabolt & Mrs. Morton requested \$1,900 to send 10 teachers (6 1st grade teachers, 3 3rd grade teachers and 1 5th grade teacher) to this conference in Austin. Shelley McCannon moved to approve the request. Jessica Evans 2nd. All were in favor. The motion passed.

1st grade: Mrs. Morton requested a carpet for her room as her carpet was removed. The cost of the carpet is \$344. Danielle Swanson moved to approve this request. Terry Kelley 2nd. All were in favor. The motion passed.

3rd grade: Mrs. Johnson requested a carpet for her room as she is a new teacher and thus doesn't have one. The cost of the carpet is \$344. Mrs. Beeson requested 'English from the Roots Up', one for each 3rd grade class to help with reading, writing and spelling. The cost is \$167.72. Danielle Swanson moved to approve this request. Kim McCarthy 2nd. All were in favor. The motion passed.

4th grade: The 4th grade team requested a set of 132 self-correcting multiplication cards. The cost is \$137.94. Danielle Swanson moved to approve this request. Robin Thomas 2nd. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Campus Technology: Kathy Mennen requested \$3,311.24 for 24 digital cameras and 2 portable carts for all students at LWE to use for class projects, technology integration with curriculum, yearbook photos, computer lab projects, etc... Kathy also listed as an option in her request, purchasing half now to determine teacher/student usage. The cost would be approximately half the original request depending on shipping. Terry Kelley moved to approve purchasing 12 cameras and 1 cart. Patty Hoenig 2nd. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Office: Mr. Hicks requested the reimbursement of raingear and umbrellas for monitors and four Sam's membership cards for office staff. The costs of the raingear & umbrellas were \$375.00 and the cost of the Sam's membership is \$140.00. Patty Hoenig moved to approve this request. Tracy Good 2nd. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Danielle moved that our 2 tax-free days this year be Fall Spirit Wear and Sally Foster. Linda Michael 2nd. All were in favor. The motion passed. Auction and school supplies are automatically tax-free.

Danielle also moved to increase the school supply expense line item from \$25,000 to \$27,294.45. Tracy Good 2nd. All were in favor. The motion passed. Shelley McCannon is researching the cause of this deficit.

Carnival: Linda Michael

Linda reported that carnival ticket price would be reduced this year from \$15 to \$10. Linda moved to increase expenses by \$2,500, making the total approved expenses for the carnival \$7,500. Patty Hoenig 2nd. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Lori Griggs announced that future PTO meetings would be the 2nd Tuesday of the month, instead of the 1st Tuesday starting next month for the October general meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kim McCarthy
Secretary