

**Cherry Run Elementary PTA  
General Membership Meeting Minutes- April 2021**

April 14, 2021

Pam Wilson	Monica Fischer	Michael Lupton	Laurie Wilson	Kim Painter
Terri Thomas	Molly Quinones	Molly Quinones	Kristin W	Jessica Thurman
Tracy McConachy	Michael Lupton	Monica Fischer	Krissy Schmidt	Jennifer Dixon
Unknown	Mark Bibbee	Lisa Baxter	Kim Painter	Jen-Bill Roche
Vicky Trump	Megan Van Hoy Dwyer	Lisa Hammond	Katherine Seto	Jason McConachy
Eric Hooks	Dan Neumann	Anne Newmann	Alyssa Adeyemi	Elizabeth Busby
Elizabeth Carroll	Catherine Brown	Angela Messenger	Ashley Kudirka	

- Jason opened the meeting by establishing that we had a quorum. He apologized for some confusion with the link.

<https://cherryrunelementarypta.org/info/budget/>

<https://cherryrunelementarypta.org/info/meeting-minutes/march-2021/>

- Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion: To accept the meeting minutes from our March 16th meeting.

Moved: Lisa Hammond

Second: Katherine Seto

Minutes approved

- Nominating Committee Report – Pleased to report the following nominees for next year’s board:
  - President: Dan Neumann
  - 1<sup>st</sup> VP: Michael Lupton
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> VP: Jason Thurman
  - Treasurer: Kristine Schmidt
- Jason thanked the nominating committee. We don’t need to vote for Jason because he is filling the second of a 2 year term that was voted on last year. We also don’t need to vote for the Secretary role since Ashley will be continuing her 2 year term.
- Use of Directory – Friendly reminder not to send mass emails. This is just for contacting friends or acquaintances.

- Principal's Update – Dates for SOLs:
  - May 3<sup>rd</sup> 3-6 all virtual reading
  - May 10<sup>th</sup> all virtual in math
  - May 13<sup>th</sup> all in-person for math
  - May 17<sup>th</sup> is only for 5<sup>th</sup> grade science
  - May 20<sup>th</sup> - in-person for 5<sup>th</sup> graders.
  - Jeannie Waters will be sending more info. Meals and transportation will be provided.
- Question: The opt-out of SOLs. Just want to check that by opting out it won't hurt the school because the form says that it can hurt the school.
- A: We are required to have a 95% participation rate so that schools don't only test the top performing students. That has been waived for this year.
- Q: Will students be told that there may be info on the test that they haven't learned so they don't have anxiety.
- A: We will let them know, but that is what we do every year because there are always experimental stretch questions that aren't counted.
- Q: How long is the test?
- A: It could be as quick as 15 minutes, but we will put a reasonable time limit. We allocate about an hour. Some kids will want to go longer, but if they get very frustrated, we will not make them keep going.

Mr. Bibbee noted that the school received a lot of money from the PTA's silent auction. We used the money to improve our classroom and school libraries. We bought over 100 new guided reading books across all grade levels K-6.

They range in level from A to 60. During virtual learning, students were using Pioneer Valley online and we are now able to use these in small groups as well. This was a great use of funds at a time when our budget was cut. We usually have about \$115K for supplies. That is based on the number of students enrolled. They took away all of our carryover money this year because of Covid. This year we only had \$84K. So getting \$4K from the PTA was a great help that helped with a huge need.

The PTA wants to thank Cindy Allen who has done amazing work with the Silent Auction. A \$1000 donation came from Whole Foods. That was because Cindy asked. Also want to thank Foomz Adeyemi for helping with the silent auction.

Note: The Silent Auction committee chair position will be open next year. So if you're interested in planning this event, please consider this position.

Ann Neumann is already working on school supplies for next year. We have a new vendor this year. It should be an easier buying experience due to a larger order and delivery window.

- Budget Update – Teachers, please make submissions for reimbursement.
  - Doing well since there has not been a lot to spend money on this year.
  - Staff members, if you want to submit an expense report, please do so soon.
  - We've been able to maintain a balance and kept funds for the end of year.
  - Q: Is it possible to continue sound equipment for music? This is a multi – year purchase – does not have to all be bought at the same time. So whatever we could do toward that would be great. When elementary schools are set up, we

get a very minimal sound system. We kept some of the equipment from the old sound system that we had before the renovation. This includes microphones, cabling and equipment that could be used in a play.

- A: Let us know the cost and we will determine if it is doable.
- We weren't able to do donuts with a loved one or sweets with your sweetie this year. So we would like to use the funds (\$450) for those towards an ice cream social. It will be a grab and go ice cream sandwich to keep with the distancing requirements. There will be food allergy sensitive options.

Move that we reallocate \$450 from Donuts with a loved one to an ice cream social.

Motion by Dan Neumann

Second: Unknown

Motion passed

- Running Club – We have not funded this. The funds from this go right back to it. We would like to raise this to \$2000 from \$1000. The fee to join the club will balance the money going out. So this will not affect the budget.

Motion: Jen Roche

Second: Unknown

Approved!

We are also exploring bringing in an author for a reading event. We plan to use unused funds for an assembly for this. We don't need to vote on this, just wanted to mention it.

- Yearbook – Terri Thomas: Order link is out to start ordering the yearbook. So far, 50 have been ordered towards our goal of 300. We are offering on Monday, only for students who missed class picture day, an option to have your picture taken. There were 50-60 students who did not have their photo taken. This will be outside on Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. The other option is to take a selfie and send it to [yearbook@cherryrunelementarypta.org](mailto:yearbook@cherryrunelementarypta.org)

- Thank you to those who have sent in candid photos. We have had an overwhelming response, but welcome additional photos. **Deadline is April 16<sup>th</sup>**. An artist designed the cover for us. You can see it on our PTA Facebook page. Mr. Bibbee will include a link in his email tomorrow.

- Staff Relations - Teacher Appreciation Week - May 3
  - We welcomed staff back with succulents that said "Thank you for helping us grow."
  - We provided goodie bags and shamrock shakes for St. Patrick's Day.
  - Boxes for virtual teachers "Thank you for bringing sunshine into our world..." All yellow box.
  - Coffee and chocolate will be delivered next week.
- Updates and Looking Forward



Comment on behalf of the audit committee. We do work after school ends. It was an all 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents team last year. We will need all new audit people for next year. Please let Jennifer Hallman know if you're interested. No experience necessary.

6th Grade parents are selling glazed donuts boxes for \$10.50. Donations are welcome too. This is for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

Meeting closed.