**Nottingham Elementary**

**PTA Meeting**

**January 30, 2015**

Scheduled Meeting Time: 8:15am Actual Starting Time: 8:20am

**Present:** Maria Schick, Michelle Pendleton, Mr. Moore, Kiko Elliott, Ruth Parks, Jenny Rabon, Leslie Schoenfield, Mary Hoffman, Jenyfer Egger, Courie Anderson, Brooke Vescovo, Gina Keith, Kate Potter, Heather Ruisard, and Rebecca Cruse.

**Subject: Quorum**

Quorum Present

**Subject: December Minutes**

Brooke V. moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Seconded by Leslie S. Approved.

**Subject: Treasurer Report from Brooke V.**

Beginning balance as of December 10, 2014 is $97,086.63. Total income is $893.96. Total Expense is $8,277.67. Ending Balance as of January 28, 2015 is $89,902.92. Chase PayPal amount is $1,524.

SPARK bank account has been set up (current Chase PayPal account).

**Subject: Mr. Moore**

Jennifer V. and Leslie S. came to the faculty meeting to talk about SPARK.

There are 17 refugees from Somalia as students at Nottingham. We have gotten about 25 international kids in the last few weeks, representing countries such as France, Iraq, Syria, Thailand, Somalia, Rwanda, and Ethiopia. Catholic Charities is hosting families in Sheffield Square apartments. Mr. Moore is working on transitioning these kids into school life. LEP (limited English proficiency) assistants are available. Catholic Charities is helping with other activities for these kids. We may be getting more kids. Many of these kids have been in refugee camps and some do not know their birthdays. Kate P. is helping with this situation.

Library is in dire need of young readers books, esp. ABC books for these kids. A lot of labeling of names of objects can be seen around school, to help these kids learn English.

Current enrollment is 461. 5th grade-90, 4th grade-74, 3rd grade-76, 2nd grade-65, 1st grade-61, Kinder-59, PreK-24, Life Skills-7, Apple-4. Next year's number is projected to be around 407, which may mean that we lose a teacher from each grade. Also part-time assistant principal. Teacher number is determined in March, so if a teacher is losing her/his position, they must start looking for it elsewhere. If we keep getting more refugees after March, we are in trouble because we will not have enough teachers next year. Could we appeal this to the Board? It's all about the numbers. It is determined in March, so there is not much to base the appeal. The Memorial Apartments may not be built like planned, due to economic changes, which may affect the numbers as well.

Ms. Halfin, the counselor, will be retiring. We will have someone new on February 11 temporarily. Someone else will replace her for next year.

Dr. Wallis' meeting was great. On March 12, we have Kids and Anxiety with Dr. Moore.

We have the dental van coming next week. Usually about 40-45 kids benefit, but we do not currently have enough kids signed up. We need more kids to make this happen.

CCCP program is a program being test piloted by 7 schools, including us, to build better writers and have better vocabulary.

**Subject: From Leslie S. and Gina K. re SPARK**

$107K has been raised! Neighborhood campaign has started. Getting printed brochures tomorrow and will go around local businesses to distribute. We are approaching possible donor employers, looking into art grants, and organizations, such as cancer societies. We have sold 2 bricks already. We may talk to churches as well. PayPal link is updated by Lisa J. and she will continue to update the SPARK site. We may reach out to past alumni, or people who want to have memorials in the form of bricks. We will have Knight Run champ bricks, which may give all students a chance to have his/her own brick. Thanks to Gina K., Leslie S., Jennifer V., Greer W., and Jennifer Y., among many others, who have contributed greatly to SPARK so far.

**Subject: From Maria S.**

Bylaw changes—Michelle P. moved to approve the changes, seconded by Mary H. Approved.

What's changed? Dues are $10, a new VP is added, dates of meetings have been changed, and the Exec. Board composition has been changed to reflect the current needs.

**Subject: Nominating Committee**

Kate P. volunteered to be on the nominating comm. to fill the last spot. Members are: Kate P., Michelle P., Heather R. Meg M., and Katherine G. Alternates are Gina K. and Julie T.

Leslie S. moved to approve the nominating comm. Seconded by Brooke V. Approved.

**Subject: Budget Committee**

Brooke has formed the budget committee. Mr. Moore should also be included in the committee. Maria S. moved to approve the committee. Seconded by Gina K. Approved.

**Subject: From Rebecca**

Company we are using for the yearbook is Balfour. Please submit and upload photos!!

**Subject: From Michelle**

We are making the rewards for Brain Freeze. We got 90 books back! We don't know which grade won yet.

Number in attendance at Math and Science was about the same as last year, 200. Gym closed earlier this year. Overall the feedback was positive.

Odyssey of the Mind—we have 2 teams and judges. March 7 is the competition. We must pay for the tournament. We will probably not go to State, unfortunately.

Gardens—MDUMC does service project monthly helping the community; Kate P. and Ruth P. will plan something, possibly to help our gardens? Or spruce up the PreK area?

We had the luncheon this week. Parents and pastries will be next week. 3Rd week of February is luncheon hosted by the 2nd grade families.

**Subject: From Heather R.**

We have received 100% of the auction money! $50K. We are not sure if we are doing the carnival this year; will probably decide in March. Most likely we will not do it this year. There are several younger moms who are very excited about the carnival; they could lead, if they are willing. Heather R. will reach out to them.

Next year, maybe we can do combo carnival/SPARK dedication.

**Subject: From Mary**

Knight Run is March 6. Donations will be collected after spring break. Prizes are no longer cumulative, meaning you only win prizes in your level, not all lower levels. Would like to ask for donations of water bottles from the PTA. We did not ask for separate underwriting for t-shirts because those are the same people we have asked for SPARK.

Locatelli's spirit night fundraising is coming up.

Subject: Other programs/Misc.

April 15 is the Reflections reception at 5:30pm. All kids will get certificates.

We had a photo in Absolutely Memorial!

700 apples have been donated to the food bank, run by Rev. Kang.

3rd graders got the apple cores into compost bins.

Ms. Ripley is cutting shirts for the loom outside. She needs help.

Exec. Board will have a budget meeting in March.

Let's have a lunch meeting on March 6 on Knight Run day w/ box lunch for volunteers.

Go Texan Day photos for fundraising? February 27.

Adjourned at 9:45am.