**Nottingham Elementary**

**PTA Meeting**

**October 10, 2014**

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

**Present:** Michelle Pendleton, Mr. Moore, Kiko Elliott, Rebecca Cruse, Paula Carvelli, Joy Bella Rose, Ruth Parks, Lisa Johnson, Jenny Rabon, April McMath, Leslie Schoenfield, Karen Smith, Casey Reed, Jenyfer Egger, Rita Igbikiowubo, Kate Potter, Najla Yahiyr, Julie Turrentine, Gina Keith, Mary Hoffman, Kim Benton, Jen Hoskovec.

**Subject: Call to Order**

April McMath moved to call the meeting. Seconded by Mary Hoffman.

**Subject: Minutes**

Karen Smith moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Seconded by Leslie Schoenfield. Approved.

**Subject: Treasurer Report**

Beginning balance as of September 18, 2014 was $57,616.50. Ending Balance as of October 8, 2014 was $67,747.70. See Budget Report and Income/Expense Report.

Please use the proper forms for deposits/reimbursements. They are available on the PTA website. Do not use scratch paper; if you must, attach the scratch paper that is signed, to the properly filled-out form.

**Subject: From Mr. Moore**

Enrollment is 451 today. We have not lost a second grade teacher, but a resource teacher has left to go to Sherwood Elementary.

We enjoyed the joint Open House/PTA meeting/Book Fair. Possibly restructure it a bit next year? Thank you to the book fair team, especially to Lucinda Quixley and Mary Hoffman.

Parent conferences are coming up. Last year, the CIT discussed about 100% face-to-face parent conferences. DRA tests and math assessments are done, so this is a good time for discussions with parents. Teachers are willing to accommodate the parents' needs. Math in Focus meeting is a new program and it is being held here next week, Thursday, 5:30-6:30pm in the library.

We have been concentrating on various professional development projects, namely literacy projects--classroom libraries, subject-specific faculty meetings, district trainings, etc... for the last few weeks.

Thank you PTA for the auction tickets for the faculty. Looking forward to it!

Thank you for the successful food drive! Donations went to Pathways Ministries Food Pantry.

Question: Is the campus open and available for PTA committee meetings after school, around 4pm? Yes, there are several options.

**Subject: From Michelle**

Bylaws edits will be made due to changes in the State PTA boilerplate. Moved by Michelle P. to postpone until next meeting. Seconded by Casey Reed.

Michelle presented the 2013-2014 PTA Gold level award. Great job!

**Subject: From Jen Hoskovec**

Field day is October 31. Coach Chavers has rearranged the schedule to make it more interesting. Theme is Knight Stars Shine Bright. There will be a sign up link on PTAvenue. Coach Chavers got a grant from the Oliver Foundation with the help of Ms. Chu, which enabled her to get the XBOX, which will arrive in November. Boxtops can be used for something else now. Oliver Foundation has a lot of ideas and can fund other good, healthy, lifestyle projects. Maybe we can do one activity per month. Requests for volunteers will be on the weekly eblast as well. Popsicles will still be available for students on field day.

**Subject: Spark Park**

Leslie S.--we have a landscape architect and preliminary designs are available. We will have a second draft by the end of the month. We need to start to fundraise at the end of this year. We will soon have the art component from Ms. Ripley and a physical rendering of the park as well. Tile mosaic mural and ceramic tiles created by students will be incorporated. We are applying for several grants, such as Trees for Houston, which should hopefully yield 30-60 trees. Corporate sponsorships are needed. Actual building of the park will be in the summer.

**Subject: From Rebecca C. and Casey R.**

Please reach out to the signed-up volunteers! More volunteers are needed. PTA officers, please join the PTA! Many teachers have joined, thanks to Mr. Moore.

Casey—there are 38 faculty members now. Regular membership is 143, but would like to be at 160. It's looking good. Let's ask any/all donors to join the PTA; it's an easy way that other schools utilize to boost membership number.

**Subject: Room Parents**

Gina K.--There are some miscommunications among the parents. Rebecca can create a contact list with all classes/students information.

Please 'like' on facebook and send in photos to be posted.

**Subject: Yearbook**

Not too much to report. Theme is Knight Stars Shine Bright.

**Subject: From Lisa J.**

Use of Paypal to buy auction tickets is available. Website posting fee was waived, thanks to Mr. Johnson. People are buying auction tickets online. Please have a sign-up for volunteers at the end of each weekly eblast.

**Subject: Miscellaneous**

Directory—will be available in the next week or two.

Publicity—Katherine Gray is doing a great job. School information has been submitted to SBISD, Memorial Examiner, the Chronicle, and Absolutely Memorial.

Bulletin Board—looks great, thanks to Kathleen LeClair.

Red Ribbon week—hosted by Ms. Halfin. Aida Jerome will help.

Dads and Donuts—did not go over budget.

Luncheon was a success! Next is hosted by 4th grade families.

Pie giveaway—in November. Lunch will be catered. Any ideas on which restaurant?

Odyssey of the Mind—need coaches. Please contact Mary Hoffman.

**Subject: Auction**

April McMath—we've already exceeded our underwriting goal, so the auction party is paid for. We've sold 75 tickets so far; need to sell 150. $14,000 in donations to date, and it does not include parties and other big-ticket items, such as the JJ Watts item, etc...but we could use more event tickets and vacation homes, etc...

**Subject: Grants**

Leslie S.--we turned in an SBEF grant application on October 3. Ms. Golden and Leslie S. have filed a Target field trip grant (for George Ranch). Each grade level has applied for a grant of some sort. XBOX grant was already discussed earlier. Other grants are pending for SPARK. If you have any other ideas, please let Leslie know. Constellation grant paid for our new, beautiful weather station!

**Subject: From Mary Hoffman**

According to Dr. Klussman, the district enrollment is down 700 more than expected. Goal is to let all juniors to take the SAT. Pizza vendors have been changed, effective October 18. Frozen whipped drink (?) to be test piloted in elementary schools.

Spirit items—Tervis cup money has been refunded; not enough requests. The blue women's cut shirts have not been distributed yet due to mistakes made by the manufacturer. We have made $111 from Marco's spirit night. More events are coming up. We will do a boxtop call in November.

Book Fair--$1,700 collected for All for Books! All spent on books for the classrooms. Parents did not buy as much this year for classroom libraries. Ms. Dale won the All for Books contest with $250. 3 other classes collected over $100.

$3,366 income from the book fair. We did not have volunteers—only 8 volunteers for the week. Last year was not good, either. We had more traffic due to Open House, but was it more chaotic? There were lots of positive feedback, but the volunteers were lacking. To be discussed further.

**Subject: SBEF Liaison**

We need a liaison. Please come talk to Michelle Pendleton.

**Subject: Reflections**

Melissa Ramirez is in charge. Flyers went out and entry forms are in the library. Due November 3.

**Subject: Environmental**

America Recycles is on November 14. 5th grade Girl Scouts will help.

Gardens—Sara Tyler is planting beans with students as we speak.   
Weather station is up! Mr. Thibodeaux , Mr. Barone, and Ms. Giesecke, thank you for your hard work!!

On Wednesday, Constellation came out and did a promotional video with the 3rd graders and with Mr. Moore.

**Subject: Extreme Science**

4th grade is having it today. 5Th grade next week. We are ok on volunteers.

**Subject: Fun Friday**

Craig Parks is doing it single-handedly. He needs more volunteers

Sign-up genius should be on eblast each week.

**Subject: Library**

Gina K.--it's going well. Please come in to help whenever you can, for however long you can. Wednesday is our busiest day and we have no volunteers that day. Let's ask the community for help. Grandparents are great help in the library.

**Subject: Think Stretch**

In 2013, parents ordered 100 books, but the PTA bought 186 books. 45% of ordered books were returned at the end of the summer, and 45 certificates/medals were awarded. In 2014, 171 books were ordered by parents, and 177 books were ordered by the PTA. 174 were distributed and 82 were returned from students. 59% return rate. Better return rate by younger students—PK/K had 79% return rate and 4th/5th at 34%. About 36 postcards were sent to Mr. Moore over the summer. Summer sessions held in the library was a good idea.

Next meeting is November 7 at 8:15am.

Adjourned at 9:35am. Leslie S. moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mary H.