

PAL Meeting Minutes
8/29/22

In attendance:

Anna Hinnant, President
Amanda Yapi, K-4 Vice President
Kochie Vaughan, MS Vice President
Peedie Edwards, Treasurer
Vicki Waun, Secretary

Absent:

Rachel Barbour, HS Vice President

Discussed:

ANNA – INTRODUCTION

- Request for parent involvement in classroom
- PAL assistance so far this year:
 - Provided back to school lunch from McLean's
 - Combined PAL membership with dress down day
 - Alternate two month payment options to make it easier for everyone since we know it's costly for parents at the beginning of the school year.
- First dress down day is 9/22/22
 - Facebook posts/other announcements to come
 - Will be included in a weekly email
- Back 2 School bash on 9/16/22 to be held at MS/Elementary carpool area, 5-8 pm
 - Free for all EWA families
 - Carnival rides
 - Inflatable games
 - Game truck
 - DJ
 - Food Trucks

PEEDIE – TREASURER REPORT (hardcopy handed out to those in attendance)

- Report shows checks (out) and deposits (in) since June 2022. Cannot separate deposit items out yet due to ongoing reconciliation/continuing deposits for Dress Down Day.
- Future PAL support to school – Chromecarts
 - \$7500 per cart, 25 total chromebooks plus cart
 - In the past Boosterthon dedicated to this. Bringing Boosterthon back, either this year or next depending on scheduling availability
 - Boosterthon in the past supported electronics, then moved to security
 - Rhino locks
 - Front door security for HS/Elementary

- Boosterthon takes 46%, EWA keeps 54%. Our net funds raised are between \$20-\$25k
- Candyman/cookie dough moved to Boosters for fundraiser
- Shoe donation fundraiser being looked into at current time
- PAL open to suggestions on fundraising

Audience Questions/Comments:

- Bring back nights out
- Car wash fundraiser (tickets)
- Krispy Kreme doughnuts (coupons)

AMANDA – USED UNIFORM SALE

- Last sale Saturday before open house
- Sold out almost all items in first hour
- Next sale cannot be determined until we receive more donations
 - We take everything except pants/shorts
 - No stains/rips
 - Missing buttons are OK
 - How to donate:
 - Ms. Boykins' desk in elementary
 - Contact PAL
 - Amanda will pick up within reasonable radius
- Volunteers always welcome!
 - Organize
 - Hang
 - Sew
 - Work on sale day
- Ideas for incentives welcomed. PAL currently working on a coupon idea that is not subject to abuse.
- Besides reselling uniforms, we also keep some on hand for emergencies. PAL has donated to two families that were victims of fire.

Audience Questions/Comments:

- Are we receiving a large amount of uniform donations? NO. most parents sell on the facebook page.
- Why were incentives stopped? Due to parent abuse/resell of items.

ANNA – DATES TO REMEMBER/ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO NOTE

- Last week to sign up for annual dress down day on our website is 9/5/22
- The two month pass for dress down day is due by 9/9/22.
 - Next period should be due beginning of November.

- Teacher grants coming up – link will be sent out before track out.
 - Unknown # of grants, max \$500 benefit per teacher
- No dress down day in December due to short month, track out, exams, shop with a cop
- New teacher representatives introduced to assist with communication between PAL and school. These reps will work with the house VP's regarding issues and ideas to support our teachers and staff.
 - K-4: Ms. Aguilless
 - MS: Ms. Howard
 - HS: Pending
- Board Member in attendance – Wayne Dupree
 - Thanked PAL board for their service as well as attendees for their time
 - Noted he and Stephanie Hall (also a board member) met with Peedie and Anna regarding the disconnect between PAL and the school.

Audience Questions/Comments:

- Dads on duty – interest in this from our community. Peedie will work with the board on this to see if it is a possibility.
- Why can't EWA reinstate the required hours/donation amount? Legal issues. More information can be obtained by contacting the EWA board.
- Why is there no PAL newsletter? None since COVID. We are working to bring back.
- Members noted a need to know when and how to volunteer.
 - PAL noted teacher wish lists available online
 - Specific items such as new MS classes have a sign up genius
- What is the PAL budget for teachers? Estimated budget not available yet due to sign ups still in progress. Will have more information at next quarterly meeting.
- How many PAL members have joined this year? Approx. 450 families and 40 staff
- How much is it to join PAL? \$20 membership. \$30 first child dress down; \$20 each addl child.
 - Note this is cheaper than last year which was \$40 per child regardless of number
 - Teacher/staff membership reduced to \$10
- How are our funds allocated? Determined throughout year. Back to school bash is approximately \$7500.
- What does PAL do for members? Last year we thanked PAL members with a mudcat game and dinner.
- What is the status of the electronic sign that PAL has earmarked in their savings acct? Unknown. Need to discuss with EWA board.
- How does PAL work with teachers directly? VP's reach out to teachers directly for information/items needed/how PAL can help. Many emails go without reply.
- Suggestions for better communication:
 - meeting with teachers by PAL onsite during lunch breaks or professional development days
 - incentive for joining PAL
 - utilize Dr. Miller or future executive director to forward emails to appropriate houses since some PAL emails have been blocked or sent to spam