

## Pelican Marsh Elementary School PTO

### General PTO Meeting

September 12, 2023

The meeting began at 8:30 AM in the PTO room.

- A. President Lindsey G opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. Discusses meetings throughout the year, 2 morning, 2 night. Talks about committees available to sign up for. Events and activities we support. Introduces Holly C regarding Vice President and Sponsorship and Yolanda S, Treasurer. PTO event sheet discussion, can change throughout the year but good overview of PTO event dates scheduled for the year.
- B. Approval of May minutes by Holly C and Yolanda S.
- C. President's Report – Event signups, ways to volunteer, things to volunteer for. Walk and Move-A-Thon coming up. Fall event overview. Any questions?
- D. Dr. Merhar welcomed everyone. Not a lot to report but so great to see everyone and such a nice turn out! Lots of beginning of the school year excitement. Don't forget to check the Pelican Scoop, lots of important information. First day of school was interesting. The deputy suffered a medical episode. At this week's School Board Meeting, Nurse Sue and the front office staff were recognized for assistance to the Deputy, quick reaction to the incident was praised. There was a tornado drill last Friday. Everyone handled it very well. The schools are built for hurricanes, safest place to be. Erisa and Lisa R asked Dr. Merhar about the possibility of uniforms for PME? The request would need to be brought up to SAC and they would have to go through the process to look into it further. Lots of steps to a decision like this. Jessica S asked about room mom volunteers and whether this is something that every teacher does, or if it could be streamlined across classes/grade levels. This is up to the teacher, but it is something we can keep on our radar as PTO to determine the best way we can help if needed.
- E. Staff Liaison Report - Mrs. Bolock is currently on a field trip. Nothing specific to report.
- F. Treasurer Report – Discussed budget for the year, where money goes. A vote was taken to approve the 2023-2024 PTO Budget as presented in the meeting and it was approved unanimously. Yolanda discussed check request forms that need to be submitted to be reimbursed for any PTO specific expenses, electronic and paper formats.
- G. Fundraising Report – Susie was absent. Report turned over to Jamie P to talk about the Walk and Move-A-Thon since it is coming up next month on October 6<sup>th</sup>. She reminded everyone of the timeblocks everyone would be walking that day:

9:00 – 9:50 1<sup>st</sup> and Pre-K

9:50 – 10:40 2<sup>nd</sup>

10:40 – 11:30 Kindergarten

12:15 – 1:05 3<sup>rd</sup>

1:05- 1:55 4<sup>th</sup>

1:55 – 2:45 5<sup>th</sup>

Parents are welcome to come as visitors that to support their students that day. We will also be looking for volunteers and will be sending around a sign-up genius. There is a Walk and Move-A-Thon Committee that has already started meeting, if anyone is interested in being a part of this committee, feel free to find Jamie after the meeting or email the PTO inbox. Packets for students to use for fundraising will be going home soon. This is our largest fundraiser of the year, after this we do small things throughout the year but they are more about the activity itself. We usually try to have one PTO event per month. We will be having quarterly Restaurant Family Nights and our first one just happened with Il Primo, brought in \$280! Thank you to all those who came to support. Great to see so many PME families.

- H. School Liaison Report – Natalie Norris discusses PTO website activities – lots of recent updates made for the year, spirit wear store on the website, and that is where Walk and Move-A-Thon online donations will be made. 5<sup>th</sup> grade celebration will be starting to raise money with donut sales soon. If you are interested in being part of this 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Celebration Committee, you can sign up with Natalie. The first meeting will be on September 21<sup>st</sup> in the morning. Noele W talked briefly about Health Screenings, a couple volunteers will always be needed, communication will go out through the PTO newsletter. Noele is also running the PTO social media accounts – Facebook and new this year, Instagram! Feel free to send over pictures from events or tag the PTO account when you post them. Everything that goes up gets approved, but Lindsey and Noele work closely together. Hoping it will be a good way to provide lots of updates about what PTO is doing.
- I. Hospitality Report – Christy Ullo was absent. Lindsey shared that we will have 4 family nights throughout the school year with different local restaurants. Kelly C is the Family Nights Chair if you have any ideas. A lot of them are already scheduled for the year, the next one will be with Boston Beer Garden in November. Staff Appreciation activities will be ongoing throughout the year. Chabely M and Stephanie H are the Chairs and they have a committee if anyone is interested in helping out. They do quarterly lunches during teacher planning days and then a big Staff Appreciation Week in the Spring. The first lunch will be on Monday October 16.
- J. Enrichment Report – Holly Cunningham reports on spirit wear sale, going on right now. Fun to have the sale on our new Pelican Pride store on the website. We'll have a spring sale too. School Spirit Committee will meet soon, if anyone is interested in joining. Separate from Spirit Wear this year, hoping to do some Friday pep rallies in the courtyard or carline to keep the reminders about Friday Spirit Days going. Hoping to have a few Spirit Weeks throughout the year as well. There will not be any third grade garden lessons this year, but second grade will have lessons in the Spring. If anyone is interested in being a part of that committee, they help with those lessons in the spring, but they also keep the garden maintained throughout the year. The Garden Club, through the school Leadership Clubs, will also be using the garden this year. If anyone is interested in becoming a Family Sponsor, let Holly know and she can get you a form. They start at \$100 and there will be a family banner again hung on the fence. Thank you to all our amazing Pelican Sponsors for their support!
- K. Lindsey wrapped up the meeting by asking if there are any questions. Lisa R, Chair of the Spring Fundraiser, asked how early they could begin planning for that and whether or not the event could be on a Saturday (specifically the weekend of March 1-3). Great idea for that committee to meet now to touch base initially, decide on dates to run by the school and what the Spring event might look like, then they can come back around after the holidays to begin meeting again

and finalize things. Lindsey thanked everyone for coming! The next meeting will be November 14 at 4:30 PM (moved up a little earlier in the evening because the 4<sup>th</sup> grade musical is that night).

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM.