

Ross Elementary School
PTA Executive Board Meeting Minutes
December 7th, 2017, 8:45 a.m.

In attendance:

Nora Rigby, President | Kari Cunningham, Vice President | Matt Adinolfi, Treasurer | Kate Gardner, Secretary | Debra Olson, At-Large Member, Upper Grades | Shanti Sale, At-Large Member, Lower Grades | Holly Searl, Principal

• **Welcome**

o President Rigby called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. and welcomed the Board. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes of the November 2nd, 2017 Board Meeting and the November 8th, 2017 General Body Meeting.

• **Financial Update**

o President Rigby provided an update on the weekend's Holiday Tree & Bake Sale: in just one weekend, the PTA made \$25000 from the tree sale with online sales to continue this weekend for the remaining trees. The Bake Sale brought in \$1800 and Principal Searl shared that she sent thank you notes to the Bake Sale Chairs as well as to parent Karissa Lofton who not only provided her SUV for tree deliveries, but also contributed a ton of delectable desserts.

• **School Supplies**

o Given the recently approved House tax bill that would eliminate the teacher spending deduction, the Board discussed classroom supplies and agreed teachers should not pay out of pocket for school supplies whether or not this provision becomes law. Discussion ensued regarding gift cards from both the PTA and DCPS budget that the faculty receive at the beginning of the school year, with the remainder of the stipend disbursement to take place in the New Year.

• **Winter Family PTA Event**

o The Board discussed options for a Winter PTA event and decided on a Bingo Night to be held at the JCC in late January or early February with Lower School Representative Sale to coordinate.

• **Field Update**

o Vice President Cunningham provided another update on our turf replacement. She has met with representatives from Field Turf, who has done 80% of installations in D.C. Field Turf will provide a few estimates, to include Field Blades with pad and different infills, including an organic product, as well as a "no infill" turf, requiring monthly maintenance. As installation cannot take place when the temperature is below freezing, the replacement would likely be done over Spring Break. Information to be provided to the school at the February 7th General Body Meeting.

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• **Community Sponsorships Update**

o Upper School Representative Olson and Lower School Representative Sale provided an update on the community sponsorship initiative. They reported on a list of community partners to target as well as a community partner form listing benefits for our sponsors. After discussion of the Tree Sale success and upcoming Auction, the Board concluded that the initiative should be tabled for the Fall with a larger service-oriented mission in mind for fundraising purposes.

• **Childcare Updates**

o Principal Searl informed the Board of changes in staffing in the JCC After School Program: Stacey Herman has accepted a position at a different institution and Justin Love, our main point of contact, has been promoted as the new Director of After School Programming.

• **Announcements**

o The following announcements were made:

- Teachers Mulford and Pazmino won a Field Trip Grant
- There will be a gift given to Charlie Eliis to thank him for his volunteer work.
- The 4th & 5th Grade Musical will be held at the Keegan Theatre again this year in April and the PTA will not charge for tickets.
- Grades 4 & 5 are looking for a new teachers' aide to replace Ms. Huet who left in December.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

Adjournment: The next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 4th at 5:30 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY KATE GARDNER, SECRETARY