



Ross Elementary School
PTA Executive Board Meeting Minutes
October 7, 2019, 8:50 a.m.

In attendance:

Kate Gardner, President | Alison Brody, Vice President | Owen Ozier, Treasurer | Jenny McAllister, Secretary | Debra Olson, Upper Grade Representative | Amit Thakkar, Lower Grade Representative

Welcome & Approval of Minutes

President Gardner called the meeting to order and welcomed the board at 8:50. The Board approved the minutes of the August meeting with one edit.

Treasurer Update, Owen Ozier

Fundraising and PTA spending are on track with previous years.

President's Update, Kate Gardner

a. PTA Membership Campaign:

- Approximately 73% of families have joined the PTA so far.
- Alison will draft an email that we will ask room parents to send to each class to encourage a few more families to join.

b. Upcoming Events & Event Leadership:

- Picture Day: Friday, October 25
- Spooktacular: Wednesday, October 30, 6:00pm. Alison and Kate will lead this event, but we need additional volunteers. In addition to the parade, we'll have a Monster's Ball with DJ, photo booth, pizza for purchase and other activities.
- PTA General Body Meeting. Wednesday, November 6, 5:30 pm.
- Ross Screen on the Green. Wednesday, November 6, 6:30 pm. Alison will lead this event. The movie will begin at sunset and we'll use a different vendor from last year.
- Ross Tree Sale. Pre-sale on Saturday, November 30 and Sunday, December 1. Tree Sale on Saturday, December 7 and Sunday, December 8. Thomas Bottom's dads and Haley __'s Dads will co-lead the tree sale this year. They have started talking with businesses and restaurants on 17th Street about advertising and/or selling trees from their patios.
- Bake Sale: Saturday, December 7 and Sunday, December 8. Jenny and John McAllister will lead the bake sale.
- Spring Auction: Saturday, March 7, 2020. We will hold a pre-sale for the summer camp items in January. This year we may split the auction chair job into two positions – procurement and event/logistics. Alison



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would be interested in co-chairing the procurement portion of the auction. Board members are reaching out to parents who may be able to fill these roles.

- c. **Communication:** Some parents expressed frustration that they did not receive sufficient notice of the Walk to School Event. Other parents have complained that they receive too many emails from the school. We will continue trying to strike the right balance between providing enough, but not too much communication.

Principal's Update (via email), Holly Searl

a. Answering Recent Questions from parents:

- Playground: some parents expressed concern that certain elements of the new playground are beyond the capabilities of the younger students. Principal Searl explained that because the playground equipment must serve kids from ages 4-11, certain parts of the equipment are meant for children to grow in to and will not be developmentally appropriate for all Ross students. Teacher and staff ensure students use the playground equipment safely during the school day. Parents must monitor their children's use of the equipment after school.
- Lice Communication: some parents were concerned that some families may be unaware of the proper procedures for reporting lice. Principal Searl said she would include a reminder in her next update for parents and teachers about the procedures from the Ross Family handbook for reporting communicable illnesses, including lice.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30am; the next PTA EB Meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 28th, 8:45 a.m.

MEETING MINUTES RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY JENNY MCALLISTER,
SECRETARY