

Greenbelt Elementary PTA
Minutes, May 5th -- 7 pm

Notes in Bold offer opportunities for parent to become more involved, addressing real needs of our school.

1. President's Report – Anne Gardner

New Deal Café event: \$100 profit; full crowd and further cooperation with Café is welcome

Artful Afternoon band concert: Bands played independently and then together. Middle School Jazz Band also played--their director is very energetic--Good Concert!

Teacher Appreciation Week: Lunch on Monday, Breakfast Wed (thanks to Mimi for coordinating the latter). Friday all staff will receive goody bags! Parents are encouraged to send in notes appreciation to our teachers this week.

Mural project is completed (under budget) and fitted to the hall entrance. We need ideas on how to coat the tiles for protection.

Grant proposals: We are working on some proposals—more info to come.

Possibility of before/after care at Greenbelt Recreation Department. (As many as 60 kids remain on this waiting list!) Anne has composed a letter to lobby the city manager for use of a dedicated space in the community center building. A program there could potentially provide expanded opportunities for activities.

Attendance at the upcoming ACE (Advisory Committee on Education) awards at the city council meeting Monday will provide an opportunity to meet with city officials for this lobbying effort. The award presentation begins at 8 pm, followed by the council meeting.

Behnke's fundraiser profited \$104 (that's \$1,040 in sales!)

2. Principal's Report – Ms. Seidel

Basketball game against Greenbelt Middle School went well as part of bridging the MS with our Elementary school.

6th grade will attend a bridging event at the MS for three hours on May 21st, 9:30 am. Various presentations will be given. Parents can attend this event.

Class pictures next Tuesday, May 12th. Information will be sent home.

GES has received \$11,000 in materials for our K classes. Puppets, beanbags... things teachers requested that our K classrooms previously lacked. MSDE will complete a walk-through for our K and Pre-K classes. Parents are invited to help prepare for this evaluation by the state, by completing a pre-walkthrough check. Contact Ms. Seidel.

Landscape renewal is needed sometime prior to the end of the year.

3. Treasurer's Report

a. Request for additional large storage bin for K/Pre-K bikes/outdoor equipment - \$300

Amy Hansen motions, Kirsten Dabelko second; motion passes.

Volunteer needed to deliver storage unit to school.

b. Request for \$90 to buy beeswax for art projects.

- c. Each grade has requested funds for field trips @ \$250 each.
- d. Possible future request, not to be worked into the currently proposed budget: AR (Accelerated Reader) online suggested by Ms. Seidel to facilitate in-class testing. This received an endorsement by one of our parent-teachers who works in DCPS. His 6th Grade students are able to function independently in this testing. Cost is an estimated \$5,000, but Ms. Seidel will confirm this amount.

4. PTA Board elections – Amy Hansen

(New members take over July 1st)

President – Mimi Noorani passes vote unanimously! Mimi would like to work on enhancing arts integration into our school culture. Diversification of learning styles, more teacher/ parent interaction are other concerns expressed by Mimi.

Vice President – Melissa Sites passes vote unanimously!

VP Legislation – Joan Whelan passes vote unanimously!

Treasurer – Brigid Willson passes vote unanimously! She has many new thoughts on raising funds. Credit Card, OneCause programs that offer percentage of purchase (akin to our Amazon program)

Secretary – Michael Relland passes vote unanimously!

Representative To State PTA Counsel, to be nominated at the PTA Board's choosing. Anyone who would like to be part of the Board, but were not elected to those position, are encouraged to contact one of the PTA officers.

Our PTA has grown substantially since its inception.

5. Approval of the budget

Discussion/ changes for next year's budget:

- 1) Add line in both income and expenditure for "Grants."
- 2) "Field trip support" line added in expenditures, to hold the place for likely future requests.
- 3) Scholastic News processed by PTA this year, collecting monies and providing vouchers for students to receive this educational magazine. PTA tried to lessen the burden on the teachers and the school by collecting money and coming up with the necessary shortfall of uncollected money. Discussion held on whether this classroom resource should be provided by the school or the PTA, as well as how the money can be accounted clearly.
- 4) Refreshments/ Prizes for Honor Roll Assemblies. It will remain at Zero.
- 5) Incentives expenditure line currently at Zero due to this year's inactivity.

Melissa Sites moves to approve budget; motion is seconded; motion passes unanimously.

(The budget can be amended to accommodate future changes.)

6. Audit Committee formed: Jon Gardner, John Burens, Alan Turnbull

7. Upcoming events:

May 11 – Greenbelt Middle School hosts a Women's Day open house.

May 13 – Multicultural Dinner – Parent help is requested—contact Anne!

May 26, 7 pm – Prospective and current parents meet to form a PTA group.

May 29 – Career Day

June 2 – Spring Band Concert with brief PTA meeting at the start, 6:30pm.

New school year: We will need help

-Preparing bulletin boards for teachers.

-Staff welcome-back: breakfast/lunch/ goody bags

-Welcoming new parents and students on the first day (August 24th)

-Labor Day Festival book sale – collecting, sorting, moving and selling books; contact Melissa Sites if you can be contacted at the end of summer for this big PTA event.