

## Royalview Elementary PTA Meeting Minutes

March 1, 2018

### MEETING CALLED TO ORDER/PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS (Laura Kramer)

- The meeting was called to order at 6:36 p.m.

### GUEST SPEAKERS

- Mr. Steve Thompson - W/W Superintendent
  - The levy renewal (*Issue 2*) is coming up on the May ballot. There will be 2 additional levy renewals in November and one more in the Spring. These are "*Emergency Operating Levies*" which is named by the State and is a fixed amount of dollars or a fixed time period. This particular levy is \$7.5 million on a 5 year levy cycle. There was a levy that failed in November, which was an attempt to discontinue the levy cycles and not increase taxes. It is believed that the levy failed due to being confusing to voters. This levy has nothing to do with the bond issue. Bond issued monies can only be used to build building. **This "Emergency Operating Levy" can only be used for general school operations and school finance.** Levy and Bond monies cannot be interchanged. Additional levy information can be found on the WE Board of Education website at the bottom of the homepage. There are FAQs on the homepage pertaining to the levy.
    - The renewal of this levy covers 8% of the total WE budget; without renewal will result in large budget cuts to an already lean budget, which may affect personnel and school programs. Significant cuts were already made to the budget in 2011, which affected personnel greatly (*i.e. 5 years of pay freezes and a total of 8% pay cuts, decreases in health care coverage, 51 personnel cuts in the Middle & High Schools, etc.*). Approximately 80% of the budget is personnel and benefits, which were significantly cut in 2011. The remaining 20% of the budget is not able to be cut due to necessary and uncontrollable expenses (*i.e. utilities, school transportation, school programs, etc.*) School transportation was outsourced which saved \$1.2 million/year.
    - Below is a brief comparison of Mentor and Willoughby-Eastlake budgets:
      - WE spends \$11,000 per student x 8,400 x 2,000 = \$17 M per year x 5 = \$84 over 5 years. Mentor spends \$13,000 per student which equates to approximately \$84 million more spent than WE. Orange Village schools spend \$22,000 per student.
    - All schools need more Mental Health Services, which would require an increase in budget.
    - WE is the only public school in the Country that generates \$1 million per year in revenue via the adult programs. This helps offset the funds for tax increases within the community.
    - Taxes have not been increased for general operations since 2012 and are expected to increase until 2021-22, which is the longest period in history without raising taxes for general operations in schools.
    - If this levy does not pass in May, it will be added to the ballot again in August, which is also costly.

- The threat made against the schools had much criticism for not sending a “dial out” notification to parents. Information is not able to be communicated until cleared by the FBI. The investigation determined that the perceived threat was an old rumor who made a non-meliscious post on Instagram regarding the rumor, which exploded on social media. The actuality of the situation was a rumored comment from a student who was previously expelled. The comments on social media were song lyrics; though perceived threatening by others were not meliscious. There 2 students that are currently in police custody, are due to unrelated events. Once Administration became aware of the posts; immediate protocols were put in place.
  - All WE schools have a system called “Navigate” in which the custodial closets are electronically mapped and available for the police to pull up immediately in the event of an emergency in the schools. The police can also take control of the camera systems in the Middle & High Schools from their cruiser.
  - The “Emergency Operation Plans” are updated and reviewed annually with a contracted consultant from Homeland Security.
  - The “Raptor Visitor Management” system is the majority of the schools. This is the “bull pins” which prevents visitors from entering directly into the hall with students, instead there is a second set of doors, prevent further admission from the office area.
  - Personnel and students have all completed A.L.I.C.E. training which educates on lockdown/securing and escaping in the case of an active shooter. The education also includes distracting attacks to be taken to assist in escaping.
  - Marks Radio Scanners are in the office area which has a button that once hit, sends the police to the school within 3 minutes.
- Below are some plans that would like to be implemented at the schools which include a preliminary budget of \$800,000 to \$1 million/year:
  - There are School Resource Officers (*SRO*) which are off duty police officers at the Middle Schools for ½ days and at the High Schools for the entire day. It is prefered to increase the presence of SROs in the schools.
  - 3M makes a clear product to apply to the glass on the front entry areas of the schools. This does not make the glass bullet proof; however it does make it much more resistant to gun shots and will not shatter like regular glass.
  - Add additional cameras across all buildings.
  - Side doors are a huge challenge due to being propped open by students to make re-entry easier. It would be helpful to add an automatic locking system which would decrease on cost and time to lock/unlock them throughout the day. This system would also include an alarm if the door was propped open. It would be preferred to have cameras at these areas as well.
  - Add additional “bull pin” areas to all remaining elementary schools.
  - Add additional Mental Health Services at all schools.
    - Mr. Steve Thompson is going to advocate to have some relief for Mental Health Needs build into the States budget for the schools; due to Ohio having the highest Opioid overdoses in the Country.

- The interior renovations will be completed in the summer of 2019 with the contingency funds from the “new builds” which has been invested to earn interest (*expected to make \$3-4 million on interest*). Once this contingency fund is obtained, it will be allocated appropriately. North High has newer lockers that will be transferred to Willowick Middle. The glass in the common area at North High will be used at Willowick Middle in the Makerspace.
- A \$8.7 million fire proceed for the fire that occurred at the WE Board of Education was obtained. The building between Bryant and Stratton and the Lake county Captains is being purchased and renovated, which is considerably cheaper than building new.
  - It is expected to have additional monies leftover from the proceed which is hoped to be utilized for additional Mental Health Services. This is possible due to negotiating a “Walk Away Check” with the Insurance Company which includes contracts indicating that neither party can ask for more/less monies.
  - The renovation plans will include a community area to utilize on the 1st floor as well as professional development areas and central office building personnel. There will be an empty floor that is hoped to be leased out.
- It was asked if there was thought to add metal detectors at the schools; however it was determined to be costly to run and present additional outside vulnerability to the students due to the amount of time it will take to get through them.
- Mr. Thompson is opposed to arming teachers. There is much vulnerability of bouncing off the block walls if the target is missed. The odds of a shooting in schools is extremely low.
- Mrs. Metrick - W/E Teacher & Camp Invention Counselor
  - Camp Invention will be at SOI the week of June 4th from 9:00 until 3:30. All teachers are certified. There are many things learned at these camps, including coding. The students created many different types of items (*i.e. robotic dog, self propelled car, solar powered cricket, alarm boxes, etc.*) using upcycling. Parents need to send in old unused electronic devices (*i.e. computers, dvd players, etc.*) to assist in these projects. The cost of the camp is \$225. Please use the code “*idea25*” to save \$25 off the total cost. The PTA offers one scholarship per grade level based on submitted essays.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- February’s meeting minutes were approved by: Jeremy & Sherry

#### TREASURER’S REPORT (Geoff Greenaway)

- February’s Savings Balance: \$70,896.47.
- February’s Checking Balance: \$8,028.27
- Combined Totals: \$78,924.74

#### VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT (Geoff Greenaway)

#### LCC DELEGATE REPORT (Laura Kramer)

- The Founders Day dinner includes a 3-5 minute presentation with pictures from the schools and raffle baskets.

#### SCHOOL BOARD REPORT (Angela Gartner)

#### PRINCIPAL’S REPORT (Ms. Cantwell & Mr Bender)

- The PTA and parents were thanked for the assistance with the “*One School One Book*”.

- The video production team from South's success academy came to Royalview and interviewed students who were dressed as their favorite characters.
- The Sweet Treat rewards for February's "Self Control" was on Tuesday. Sponsorship was obtained from Team IBB and Fiona's; which consisted of donuts, decorative supplies and hot chocolate.
- The PTA was thanked for the Valentines parties.
- AIR assessments will begin April 9th. A schedule is forthcoming. MAP testing will be incorporated in the schedule.
- The school does have emergency plans and training in place. All personnel and students have completed A.L.I.C.E. training, drills, lock down drills. The teachers know what needs to be done inside and outside of the building.
  - The events occurring this week were outside of the school, before school hours and did not involve the school. This was not a school event.

#### TEACHER REP REPORTS (Kg, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, & 5<sup>th</sup>)

- KG: Preparing for the field trip to the Science Center in April. Will conduct Dr. Seuss activities next week.
- 1st: Having fun with activities with the Charlie and the Chocolate Factory book. Will do Dr. Seuss activities. Upcoming concert.
- 2nd: Field trips to the Fine Arts have been completed; the students saw "Winnie the Pooh". Beth Bolus comes in from the Ohio State Extension that does a recycling program with the students. Running records are complete. Some teachers have Junior Achievement speakers come to the classes. Some classes have the students read the Charlie and the Chocolate factory to the class.
- 3rd: Finish measuring units and beginning graph unit in Math. Valentines Day exchanges were done with students from other schools in other states. Finished MAP testing which showed a lot of growth between the Fall and winter scores. Will begin running records soon.
- 4th: Practicing for the AIR test. Majority of classes have gone to the Red School House for a field trip. There were several virtual field trips taken for Social Studies (*American Revolution Museum in Philadelphia and Ohio Wright Brothers in Dayton*). These were interactive field trips using a webcam. Studied fossils and rock formations. Some classes are making Bottle Buddies for reading and research projects.
- 5th: The PTA was thanked for the money to spend at the book fair. There will be a bake sale at the Carnival. Proceeds will go towards the Mayor's Challenge which will purchase 2 friendship benches to put in the courtyard. Some of the money will be used towards the Splash Party to help defer the cost from the parents.
- Special Education: The 5th Grade helpers has been working out very well; the students are helpful and ask questions about the other students. The kids are very friendly with each other.
- Music: 5th Grade is preparing for the National Anthem at the Captain's game on April 3rd; they are learning the history of the song and critiquing the performance of the song. 4th Grade is on the Black Belt in the Recorder Karate. 3rd Grade is on their Purple Belt in the Recorder Karate. 2nd Grade is doing a unit on African Folk Music. 1st Grade is preparing for their program. KG is learning about Irish Music.

## CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- MEMBERSHIP (Laura Kramer): 224 total members. A new Membership Chair will be needed for next year.
- SPIRIT WEAR (Laura Kramer): Orders are open. There will be a table at the Carnival and orders are due March 5th. Samples items will be out on the table.
- PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE (Laura Kramer): The committee met recently to brainstorm ideas of what is wanted; teacher feedback was obtained. Working on contacting the Miracle League regarding the Special Education playground installed by the Captains Stadium. Discussed all the needed changes. Will meet again next week. Working on getting pricing.
- COOKIE DOUGH (Laura Kramer): Orders due last Friday. 140 total orders which is up from last year; however the collection amount is down from last year: Collected \$21,000 with \$900 left to collect. \$22,209 total sales which is 40% goes to the PTA (approximately \$8,000 range; which is a \$2,000 decrease from previous years.).
- CARNIVAL (Jenna Senol): There are 5 Golden Tickets hidden throughout the school (*one being in the cupcake walk*). If a child finds a golden ticket and has a prize; they may turn in their prize for a larger prize with Jenna. There are still 35 volunteers needed to assist with the Carnival games. It has been requested to have additional volunteers sign up online. Some Carnival bins have been placed in some of the classrooms to be better prepared in case the set up is delayed. There are 10 Umpa Lumpa costumes if teachers would like to dress up for the Carnival. There will be a bounce house this year. There is a new Water Bottle Flip game. If there is a snow day tomorrow; the Carnival will be postponed.

## WAYS & MEANS

- POPCORN (Laura Kramer): \$69.50 total sales, \$18.95 on supplies, with a total profit of \$50.55. 500 total bagged popped. Next popcorn day is March 16.
- MARCO'S PIZZA NIGHT (Laura Kramer): 77 total orders, sales were over \$1,500 with a total donation to PTA of \$284.96. Box Night will be next month. Teachers were recommended to have students dress the boxes in Charlie and the Chocolate Factory theme. The 2nd box night will be the same night as the movie night; parents are encouraged to have deliveries made to the school, popcorn will be served. Jeremy was thanked for delivering the boxes and he will pick them up on the 14th and 15th.
- FUNDRAISING UPDATE (Laura Kramer): Currently \$27,554 YTD excluding Cookie Dough.

## OLD BUSINESS

- PTA BOARD NOMINATIONS & NOMINATION COMMITTEE (Laura Kramer): Working on getting the information out in the next few weeks so voting can begin. Nomination forms are available in the back if anyone is interested. There are also needs for committee members as well (*Book Fair, Membership, etc.*).
- SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE (Kristi Petrecca): The due date for the Royalview Scholarship is April 6th. Information has been sent to the Guidance Counselors at North and South; with one application received so far. The student had to attend Royalview for at least 3 years and can be graduating from any high school. If more than 10 applicants are received; there will be 2 \$1,000 scholarship given. The form is on the PTA website and will be posted on Facebook.

NEW BUSINESS (Laura Kramer): Laura distributed sign up for the below committees.

- MATURI TEA (Laura Kramer): May 4th.

- FIELD DAY COMMITTEE (Laura Kramer):
- TEACHER APPRECIATION COMMITTEE (Laura Kramer):

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

- CARNIVAL (Jenna Senol): Saturday, March 3 11a-2p
- KG REGISTRATION: March 8
- 1ST GRADE MUSIC PROGRAM: March 14 at 6:30 Willowick Middle School
- BOOK CLUB MOVIE NIGHT: Charlie & The Chocolate Factory): March 21
- SKATING PARTY: United Skated March 22 5:30 - 8:30

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Camp Invention Essays due Friday March 9
- Compass Challenge: December 23 - April 22
- Next PTA Meeting: April 5 at 6:30 pm.
- Meeting Raffle Drawing Winner: Mrs. Floran

Respectfully Submitted By:

Leslie Lynch,

Recording Secretary

FIND US!!!!

Website: <http://www.royalviewpta.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/royalview.pta?fref=ts>

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