

PROSPECT VALLEY PTA MEETING

April 6, 2023

3-4 PM



1. Call Meeting to Order

- a. Welcome and introductions- 3:01pm; Emily Noone- 1st grade teacher gave 2 truths and a lie She was actually in a music video!!! Look up Project Pat “ Johnson City”

- ### 2. Approval of March Meeting Minutes (Rachelle Dodge)- Reminder to sign in on attendance sheet. Just one update to the March meeting’s minutes- Voting results from March were as follows: Battle of the Books \$60 was approved; Shed \$3,000 was approved, Spring Student Appreciation Field Trip \$6,000 was approved; DC Field Trip Chaperone \$570 was approved; and DC Field Trip t-shirts for \$232 was not approved. Motion to pass March minutes by: Christine Simpson; Seconded by: Allison Grigel

3. President’s Report (Kari Fragnoli)

- a. **March PTA Highlights-** Battle of the Books, Prospector Post, Load the Lounge by 1st Grade, Consolidation Committees with Kullerstrand Community, Visiting Author for K-2nd graders, Dinners for teachers and staff during conferences by the Hospitality Committee
- b. **Community Building with Kullerstrand-** Send a message to prospectvalleypta@gmail.com if you would like to help make the community blending as seamless as possible.
- c. **Call for Leaders: PV Partnership & Directory-** Kristin Bellini has a 5th graders and has been heading up the PV Partnership Committee; Sara True has done the PV Directory and also has a 5th grader. We are looking for parents to head up these important committees.
- d. **Motion to Vote Process-** PTA follows Roberts Rules for our meeting guidelines. Kari reached out to Colorado PTA to make sure our expense request process was being handled properly. The process should happen as follows: 1) Complete expense request and get it to the PTA board 2 weeks prior to the general PTA meeting; 2) Expense requests are presented during the meeting and someone has to make a motion to vote on each expense request, followed by a discussion of each requested item. Discussion surrounding topics is indicative of a strong community and important to allow both sides to be heard. It gives people the chance to offer multiple viewpoints of an issue. Following discussion, we do not need to send it to a vote. (i.e. the school or a parent offers to cover the cost and/or donate the requested item); 3) After the meeting, minutes are sent to the PTA along with an electronic form to the general PTA to vote yes or no on each request.

4. Treasurer’s Report (Angie Gibson via Hillary Joseph)

- a. Budget Review- please review Treasurer’s Report for complete details- we had about \$1,000 in Expenses come through in March
- b. March Expense Requests- Approval on \$60 for BOB, \$3,000 for shed, \$6,000 for field trip and \$570 for DC Trip chaperone.
- c. April Expense Requests:

- i. **\$15,000 STEM Classroom (Andy Schrant)**- STEM has been approved by the district as our 4th special for next year. The low-end budget to outfit the new STEM lab/program is \$35,000-45,000. Andy has found some money to fund this in his budget but he is requesting PTA's help to fund the rest of the supplies/materials. Question- is this a recurring/ongoing cost? Andy said he anticipates needing only about \$5,000 for a budget each year after this year's start up cost. Motion to vote by: Jenny Henderson and Seconded by Christine Simpson. Andrea Thompson asked if there are any grants for this that we could apply for? Andy said not this school year (too late) but perhaps for next year. She also asked if we can reach out to other schools to see about repurposing discarded equipment? Andy said the district has a website that we can "shop" from, but there isn't anything on there that is what we need. Cara Jakab asked how much carryover in PTA funds we have for next year and was advised it will be \$15,000, if we were to approve both expense requests from today. Kristin Bellini mentioned this would be a great item to promote for a future corporate sponsorship capital investment. Leslie Weinstien also mentioned we can continue to fundraise for the STEM lab in the Fun Run this fall.
- ii. **\$500 Continuation (Kristin Bellini)**- In our budget for the year, the Continuation committee has \$1,500 allocated- however there are additional expenses for this event, including gifts to the school and teachers, and other end of year events for the 5th graders. The committee is requesting an additional \$500 to use towards this year's continuation. Motion to vote by Andrea Thompson; Seconded by Emily Harris. Discussion about the need to review the Continuation budget for the future so families will not need to fund this themselves (in the past, 5th grade families have always bridged the gap between budget and actual expenses). Kristin brought up that a lot of the money from last school year's carryover, plus the money raised this school year, has been raised from the outgoing 5th grade families and there would be a lot of community goodwill by allocating more funds to this. Natalie Nix mentioned that it would benefit all 5th graders and reduce the expectation/burden on those families. Sara True said we raised this much money, she thinks it should be spent throughout the year. She doesn't feel like it is fair for families to be continually asked for money (Load the Lounge, for example) or to donate items during the school year. The PTA board has been looking into ways to address this for future years. One idea is to propose two budgets: Budget A will reflect conservative numbers with our expected income; and Budget B would reflect more lucrative numbers based on exceeding Fun Run goals. Budget B would then adjust each committee's allocated amount, decreasing the need to vote on expense requests throughout the year. Both would be voted on during the first meeting of the school year and if the Fun Run exceeds their goals, budget B would kick in. Leslie brought up a counterpoint that donating items/time is preferable to families who cannot contribute financially (i.e. baking brownies for Load the Lounge or volunteering in the class versus fundraising in the Fun Run), so there may be a place for both types of "asks". Hillary mentioned that if anyone has ideas for consideration for next school year's budget to email us at prospectvalleypta@gmail.com. Samantha Walker has younger kids so she's unfamiliar with what the Continuation committee's budget covers. Kristin listed: the Continuation event at the end of the school year (decor/food), a

memory book for each student, flowers, a gift to PV from the kids, an outing to the park or mini golf or a pool day which usually includes an “ask” of the parents (volunteers to chaperone, bring food and drinks, etc.). Brittany Kempf asked: What happens if the increase is not approved? Well...then something gets cut or parents step up. Kari Fragnoli mentioned something that might help in future years is to start planning Continuation earlier in the year- to offer the planning committee more time to source ideas and potential donation of goods/services .

5. Principal's Report (Andy Schrant)

- a. **Staffing Update-** There was a big staffing update in this week's Flash. All licensed positions have all been filled for next year. However, the 3-5th grade AN teacher accepted a job at PV, but has since decided to go somewhere else, so they will be reposting the position. 2 Kindergarten paras are still needed for next year so that all 4 classrooms will have their own para. We are officially at 600 students for next year so that has given him some extra budget money for salaries. He is looking to hire another para for lunchtime/recess support so we have more eyes on the kids. Also looking to hire another AN para. He is still finalizing staffing from Kullerstrand's current staff and transferring possibilities of coming to PV. He is really hoping to have a JCMH employee here at PV at least half-time, and hoping to be able to fund a full-time JCMH employee.
- b. **Construction Update-** Because of the asbestos issue in the old building, and having to remove brick manually, the demo has been delayed. The length of the delay has not been determined yet. The addition will open by August but the playscapes, blacktop, parking lot and hug and go zone readiness will all depend on the demo progress. Andy has been guaranteed that we will have access to the North field by the first day of school. He's also been told that both north and south bound traffic on Parfet will be able to enter PV next year. Also- just a note- the brick on the addition will not match the brick on the new building because it is no longer available (already!).
- c. **Lockdown Drill-** Andy had previously decided not to do a lockdown drill at the new building, but now has rethought it. Lockdown drill will be happening next week on Monday morning because he wants to do anything possible to increase safety at PV. Andrea Thompson asked if we do anything for the kids after a drill to settle any nerves from the kids. Andy said the staff knows how to “read the room” and will address this on an individual basis- he trusts the staff will be able to handle any issues if they come up.

6. Committee Reports

- a. **Vote on the Board Candidates** (Leslie Weinstein)- We have 2 board members returning: Hillary Joseph (current President- Elect, new President) and Angie Gibson (Treasurer). Motion to vote on the following candidates by: Ashley Palubinski, Seconded by: Sara True
 - i. President-Elect: Shannon Thomas- Current PV Parent who has been very active in the PV community and a significant leader of many projects, including revamping and managing the PTA website.

- ii. Secretary: Majken Berglund- Current Kullerstrand mom and strong advocate for kids and families. She is focused on helping all of us move forward as one community.
 - iii. Special Board Member-at-Large Appointee: Jessica Tribbett- Current Kullerstrand mom dedicated to working on building community cohesiveness. She has served on the PTA Board at Kullerstrand and has been instrumental in leading many important initiatives there.

- b. **Advocacy Update** (Leslie Weinstein)- PTA was created in part to promote advocacy for students and having our voices heard in the legislature. We are looking for someone who is interested in bringing this committee back to PV by looking into current issues and how we can take action as a group. If you are interested, email prospectvalleypta@gmail.com.
- c. **Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) Committee** (Leslie Weinstein)- Madelaine DeVan is leading the charge to head up this new committee and looking for enthusiastic partners to join the team. We will be advertising this to both the PV and Kullerstrand communities, so if you are interested in taking part, email: madelaine.devan@gmail.com
- d. **Battle of the Books** (Amy O'Neill)- We finished 3 rounds of BOB (5th, 2nd and 3rd/4th grades)- We had 30 students in 5th grader participate, and the 2 winning teams merged and went on to the Jeffco competition. We also had 2nd graders competition, and then 3rd/4th graders competed against each other this week (18 teams of 3rd/4th graders- close to 50 participants). This upcoming year will be her parent volunteer's last year, so we are looking for someone to help out next year and take the reins the following year. Many thanks to Ryann Hardman for her work on BOB over the years - the kids really do enjoy this event.
- e. **Spring Author Visits** (Amy O'Neill)- We had a Brazilian author visit last month- the kids loved her accent and a few students got to speak Portuguese with her! There was also an author visit from an author who wrote a book about Colorado wildfires- she was impressed with our students' knowledge about wildfires. There is another author visiting this week for the older grade level kids.
- f. **PV Showcase** (Emily Harris)- This event was previously known as the Spring Fling and because it no longer needs to be a fundraiser, it is a showcase for our AMP teacher's work with the kids. There was a flier in this week's Monday folder so you can RSVP for one of three dinner time slots- please return this by 4/15 so plans can be finalized. Also, we are in need of cakes for the silent auction, please sign up. In addition to showcasing the AMP work by our students, there will be a Science Fair happening as well. If you can help out, please sign up for volunteering during a meal serving, greeting or cake auction shift when your kid is not performing.
- g. **Spring Mixer** (Rachelle Dodge)- Save the Date for May 11th- We've reserved the pavilion at the newly renovated Prospect Park from 5-7pm for a Community Mixer for PV and Kullerstrand families. All are welcome! We'll have a few food trucks on hand, or families can bring their own picnic dinner. We're working on some fun ideas to get the communities to mingle at this event so they can get to know each other prior to the new school year. Any ideas? Please email prospectvalleypta@gmail.com.

- h. **Volunteer Award-** We had two nominees of outgoing PV parents. Kristin Bellini was a nominee- she has been a room parent, Read At Home committee, Fun Run committee, Classroom Volunteer and Chaperone, Day of Event volunteers for events, Corporate Sponsorship Program. Sara True is the second nominee and this year's winner - she has been here for 16 years! She used to be the Carnival chair, Silent Auction chair, Gold Rush committee, Simply Committee, PV Handbook and Directory, Spelling Bee, Book Fair and so much more.

7. Open Discussion-

Andrea Thompson asked if traffic continues to be crazy at the beginning of the school year, will we consider a soft start? Andy said that instructional time needs to be considered and we'll review this as we get closer or at the Accountability Meeting next week. He is optimistic that we will be able to handle the additional traffic. Brittany Kempf asked what is being done to improve traffic at PV? Recommendations from the group to park in the church parking lot as a pretty simple and close option. Someone suggested adding a WR Police Officer to serve as a crossing guard. Andy confirmed this is not something WR will support.

Angela Hendershot from Kullerstrand offered up additional support for funding the STEM classroom and mentioned how the Robotics Club at Kullerstrand had 3 teams out of 8 teams move forward in competition.

8. Final PTA Meeting:

- a. May 4, 2023

9. Adjourn Meeting: 4:22PM

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

April 4-20 - CMAS Testing
April 7 - Spirit Day PV Colors
April 7 - Grades 3-5 Spring Author Visit
April 10 - Deadline to order yearbooks
April 13 - Accountability Meeting
April 21 - PV Spirit Day (Future Self Day!)
April 24 - Kindergarten Load the Lounge
April 26 - PV Showcase - NEW DATE
April 27 - Grade 5 Orchestra Performance
April 27 - Day Without Hate
April 28 - No School District-Wide teacher work day

In-Person Attendance:

Rachelle Dodge
Kari Fragnoli
Hillary Joseph

Andy Schrant
Allison Grigel
Emily Harris
Andrea Thompson
Natalie Nix
Sara True
Korey Stites
Jenny Henderson
Caitlin Gindi
Samantha Walker
Kristin Bellini
Emily Noone
Ashley Palubinski
Leslie Weinstein
Cara Jakab
Shannon Thomas
Amy O'Neill
Angela Hendershot
Christine Simpson
Brittney Kempf
Aimee Dixon
Via Zoom:
Lindsay Koller
Isabel Everett
Marycate Brickey
Alia Nicholson
Dan Weinstein
Lori Strand
Kim Davis
Madelaine DeVan
Jessica DiCroce
Amy Carmack