Eastlake High School PTSA 2.8.88

General Membership Meeting Minutes

January 18,2023 **DRAFT**

**Call to Order- President, Laura Hamilton**: Co-President, Laura Hamilton, called the meeting to order at 6:01pm. The meeting was held virtually.

**Minutes and Correspondence-Secretary, Julie Kotler:**  The September 21, 2022, General Membership Meeting minutes were approved and moved into the record.No correspondence was reported.

**Financial Report and Budget Update-Treasurer, Leanne Brodzinski:** Leanne Brodzinski reviewed the year-to-date financial report and highlights: July 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022. We are about 20% behind in membership fees compared to the budgeted income. Similarly, fundraising is about 28% behind. Everything else is in good alignment with the budgeted plan from the beginning of the year. We issued our first round of grants; over $10,000 was granted for school programs (see Grant Committee Report below for details). The final student scholarship (awarded last Spring 2022) will be issued soon.

**School Start Times Taskforce Update**, **Task Force Member, Nicole Steinbok:**

EHS starts at 7:30AM. Nicole said that, for her family, this is a very early school start time. She recalls that, during the pandemic, school started at 9 AM. This is the second school start time task force. This has been a topic of discussion for many years in the district. Dr. Holman decided to have a new task force including parents and staff. The task force recommendation is for high school to start at 8am or later and preschool to start earlier. The task force had seven 3-hour meetings. LWSD has a complicated transportation system with each bus driving several routes throughout the day. It is very expensive to increase buses and drivers, and many drivers do not want a part-time job. After brainstorming, the transportation department presented several options. The goal was to have a recommendation that works for students but is also feasible and equitable. There have been two thought exchanges to collect information from the community. The task force put together recommendations which will be finalized soon. There is no perfect solution. Every family and student is unique. If there is a change, it will be communicated as soon as possible.

**Principal’s Report, Todd Apple:**

EHS has some long-term substitutes stating this semester to due maternity and paternity leave. They are finding some excellent substitutes. Some have made mid-career changes to be a teacher. EHS counseling is gearing up for registration, starting with incoming 9th graders. Soon after that, there will be an AP and College in the High School night (UW courses mostly). This is a great opportunity to talk about balance and meet teachers. Mr. Apple doesn’t know more than parents at this point about the school start times plan or recommendations. There are pros and cons for teachers, students, families, etc. Hopefully the decision will come early in the spring.

NEW BUSINESS

**Grants, Natalie Budish:**

Natalie reported that $10,500 worth of grants were approved. These grants were spread across learning areas including science, technology, art, music, and theater. The library receives a separate grant as part of the annual EHS PTSA budget, so further funds were not granted at this time. The requested all-school communication system was tabled for the next grant cycle so additional bids could be acquired. The astronomy club did not receive a requested grant because, in part, they do not have a staff advisor. Also, the astronomy impacts a very small number of students. Grant funds have all been paid out. There is likely to be a second round of grants in the spring.

**Budget Revision- Cash Reserves Adjustment plan, Leanne Brodzinski:**

The current EHS PTSA bank balance is above what is approved in terms of our reserve fund. We started this year at over $50,000 in the reserve fund. According to past policy, the reserve is supposed to be no greater than $16,000. Based on her analysis, Leanne feels that $16,000 is too low for the reserve fund given our current budget and financial commitments. We will have a committee that will review and revise guidelines for the amount to be held in the reserve fund. However, even if we double the guideline amount (to $32,00 for example), we will have too big of a reserve fund. There is a process that will free those funds: we will need to allocate funds from the reserve fund to a budget line item. Once they are in the budget line item, they can be used. The recommendation is to allocate $10,000 from the reserve fund to grants. Also, there is a line item for YES, a crisis prevention program, $3700. But this program isn’t currently running. So, these funds also need to be freed up so they can be allocated to a different line item. Finally, there has been a request that the PTSA fund MathLab (20-25 students per week; math has received very limited grant funds). It was funded for many years. It is chance for kids to get help or explore more math with faculty. It wasn’t needed during remote learning. When we went back to in-person learning, the administration said funding wasn’t needed from the EHS PTSA. However, currently, the department is having trouble paying for this program. The cost to fund MathLab for the remainder of the year is $2,300. Then, next year we can budget to fund MathLab fully.

**Motion 1: Reallocate $3750 from the YES Prevention Program to the Grants line item in the 2022-23 EHP PTSA budget (motion: Leanne Brodzinski; second: Nikki Balt). 23 in favor; no opposed; no abstentions. Motion carries.**

**Motion 2: Reallocate $2300 from the reserve fund to the MathLab line item in the 2022-23 budget to fund the MathLab for the remainder of the year (motion: Leanne Brodzinski; second: Nikki Balt). 22 in favor; 1 opposed; no abstentions. Motion carries.**

**Motion 3: Reallocate $7,700 from the reserve fund to the EHS grants line item in the 2022-23 budget (motion: Leanne Brodzinski; second: Julie Kotler). 23 in favor; no opposed; no abstentions. Motion carries**

**Nominating Committee, Laura Hamilton:** Laura Hamilton said that a nominating committee is needed to identify board candidates for the coming year (2023-2024). The committee works with the community to identify potential board members, and they complete their work for board review in April 2023. This board slate is then submitted for approval by the general membership of the EHS PTSA at the May 2023 General Membership Meeting.

**Motion 3:** A**pprove the following members for the EHS PTSA nominating committee for the 2023-2024 slate: Leta Hamilton, Candice Wheeler, and Heather Chapman (motion: Julie Kotler; second Leanne Brodzinski). 23 in favor; no opposed; no abstentions. Motion carries.**

**Fundraising – Pass the Hat Update, Kristin Schwager/Brittin Dwyer:**

The EHS Pass the Hat fundraiser has raised $11,427 year to date. At the end of 2022, the same fundraiser had raised approximately $13,245. We have additional fundraising needed just to be on par with last year, and we want to do better. The Ways and Means Committee is hoping to hold a fundraising drive at pick up and drop off. They are also looking at passive income fundraisers such as Krispy Kreme and Crumbl cookie. By current estimates, the fundraising from the Holiday Bazaar exceeded its goal by $900, but a complete accounting of expenses is still outstanding.

**Announcements**

* Join the PTSA
* Donate to Pass the Hat Fundraiser and Eastlake Angels
* Staff Appreciation Luncheon February 8, 12:15-1:30. Volunteer at ehsptsa.org
* Next Membership Meeting—May 17th at 6:00 p.m. (in person)
* Need volunteers for Scholarship Committee-interesting and not a huge amount of work. You can’t be a parent of a senior. Go to Volunteers page on website or volunteers@ehsptsa.org

**Adjournment**: Laura Hamilton adjourned the meeting at 6.57 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Julie Kotler, Secretary