

Parents & Teachers of Eastview (PTE) Minutes of December 2, 2013 Meeting

7:03 P.M. - Meeting called to order

Kelly Jatczak called the meeting to order and welcomed all of the parents, teachers and administrators. She provided the minutes from the November 4th PTE meeting for review and opened the floor to questions. Yvonne Mundorf moved to approve the minutes from the November meeting. Sandy Martin seconded - 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention - motion carried.

Treasurer's Report A current ledger of PTE income and expense was provided to all in attendance. Gigi Bendis provided an explanation of the recent transactions which included \$196.70 deposit from Escript, and that a \$10.00 check previously issued had cleared. Cindy Carvey moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Tim Turner seconded, 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention - motion carried.

Committee Reports

Box Tops - Yvonne Mundorf shared that a box to collect Box Tops is now available for students in the main office. There were questions regarding if there would be competitions between classes/grade to see who would bring in the most box tops. Yvonne replied that at this time the goal is to make students aware that we are doing this program and encourage them to please contribute. Additional information would be included on Eastview's web page to provide information on the program. Ideally the goal would be to generate as much income from this program as was formerly generated through Escript.

Butterbraid Sale - Discussion regarding this fundraiser included dates to promote the sale. Sales would most likely be up if the sale was done before other groups also sold these. Delivery for the butterbraids could take place closer to spring break or possibly near the Easter holiday for families to enjoy. Potential dates for the sale would need to be coordinated with Ms. Magnuson before a final date would be chosen.

Citizen's Advisory Council (CAC) - Sandy Martin shared that a presentation on Common Core offered by the District was the highlight at the November 7, 2013 CAC meeting. Common Core encourages higher level thinking which has students focused on in-depth answers and making inferences rather than basic responses. Reading programs will be working more with non-fiction reading. Cindy Carvey inquired about the current grading scale and if this would be addressed by CAC. She has spoken to many parents regarding this and has not gotten a lot of positive feedback. She has heard that parents are concerned about how this new grading scale affects class ranks. Additionally parents have raised concern about the lack of communication provided by the district as to why the change in the grading scale was needed and how the process was implemented. Mr. Donner shared that there is a committee being put together to address the issues regarding this matter being brought forward by parents and teachers. He also stated that criterion used for colleges in determining acceptance includes a number of factors, GPA being one but also ACT scores and work keys are also reviewed as a part of the

acceptance process. Mr. Donner also shared that the new grading scale does not make it easier to achieve a better grade. Rather the new grading scale provides a better balance for scores at the lower end of the scale. In addition to a more balanced grading scale, the new scale has also provided more conformity within school departments as to how grading is implemented. Departments now have a late homework policy that is applied to all classes in a particular department. Additionally, departments are more consistent with how grades are weights as to tests, quizzes, assignments and homework. There will be a member of the grading committee to meet with teachers on January 6th as a part of the teacher institute day. The next CAC meeting will take place Thursday, December 5th at 7 o'clock in the evening at Elgin High School.

Escript - Amy Spenser shared that Safeway, the parent company to Dominick's is closing their Chicagoland locations, including the store in Bartlett by the end of December. Mariano's has been purchasing several store locations however the Bartlett store is not one of them. The Escript program will end 12/30/2013

Website/Communications: Kelly Jatczak shared on behalf of Donna Hall shared that she is working on getting all the current information posted to the Eastview PTE web page. If you have any new information to be added please send details to Kelly Jatczak.

Chili's Cindy Carvey reported that the feedback she had heard about the month long No-Cook night with Chili's located on Rte. 59 in Streamwood sounded successful. She would be following up with them by December 6th to determine how much was raised.

Any purchases made in November would provide with a coupon for Eastview with 10% of the purchase before taxes upon presentation of a coupon as a part of Chili's Give Back Program. Cindy is also planning on contacting Panera to find out if they would be able to set up a similar program. It would be more likely to have a week rather than a whole month. Looking at a date in February as the possible time line for this event.

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Administrators Report

Mr. Donner announced that the winter E-newsletter would be available on line by 12/5. The newsletter would include details about the change in the Escript program, the roll out of the box top program and the continued effort to raise funds for the intruder door locks. There is still time to get any last minute information to Mr. Donner for the winter newsletter.

Girls' basketball tryouts will be January 7th. Informational packets are available in the office. In order for girls to participate, the informational packet and physical must be completed. An informational meeting will be held December 19th

Boys' basketball season was coming to a close. The 7th grade team enjoyed a successful season. They will be participating in the championship game on Tuesday, December 10th.

Progress reports were sent home with students on Monday, December 2nd

Explorer Test results are in. Results will be reviewed with students on Tuesday, January 7th during student's English, Math, Reading and Science classes. In these classes, teachers will go over questions with students and help student's correct questions that were wrong and help them to understand how to achieve the correct answers. In reviewing the questions, the teachers are able to better understand what students are learning and areas that need additional work. Parents will be able to ask questions at the January PTE meeting about the Explorer tests.

High school orientation for 8th grade students is underway. Tuesday, December 10th Bartlett H.S. will have guidance counselors at Eastview working with students for pre-registration. Incoming freshmen will be able to register for classes beginning December 12th. Questions and concerns regarding high school registration are to be directed to Bartlett High School. Students attending South Elgin H.S. will also have pre-registration on Tuesday, December 10th with registration beginning December 17th.

Mr. Donner spoke about the presentation by the Transformational Task Force at the November 4th school board meeting. The task force is recommending a 9 period class day for middle schools. This is based on the fact that current instructional time at the middle schools is less than at the grade schools. U-46 middle schools have less instructional time than any other middle school in our region. Region being defined as schools in Kane, Cook & DuPage counties that have like demographics and size. In spite of this, Eastview Middle School is still ranking as the highest performing middle school in our district. Eastview students are showing the most growth per student in the district. Students at the middle school are forced to choose between classes like Spanish or AVID if they are involved in the band or orchestra programs. They are losing out on valuable educational experiences. The question was posed as to why class time shouldn't be lengthened rather than adding 1 more class. Mr. Donner explained that students at this age and grade level do not show any benefit from longer class time. They are not more productive because of a longer class. Another question was about more homework because of one more class. Mr. Donner explained that in most cases, the students are being offered the opportunity to take part in another class because they are already taking band and may benefit from AVID or they have chosen to take Spanish but would also like to take chorus. The additional class offers an opportunity for more learning. Parents are strongly encouraged to reach out to the district to express their support of this initiative.

The new Illinois State School Report Card is now available through the school and district's website.

Old Business

The PTE board is still in need of a secretary. Anyone who is interested may contact Kelly Jatczak.

New Business

The next PTE meeting will be Monday, January 13, 2014. We will cover the results from the Explorer tests.

2014-2015 PTE board - new officers needed

Any agenda items should be forwarded to Kelly Jatczak.

Tim Turner moved to adjourn the meeting. Cindy Carvey seconded. 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention - motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.