

**Oak Grove School Parent Teacher Organization
Meeting Minutes – Wednesday, May 18, 2022**

1. Call to Order

- a. The meeting was called to order on Wednesday, May 18, 2022 at 9:34 am CT in the Junior High Cafeteria at Oak Grove School. Participants included:

Zoom Participants

Jacki Lewis	Kate Robinson	Anabela Largo	Laura Reutzel
Ambika Mayer	Jaspreet Gill	Manikandan Sivakumar	Karin Pawlowski
Sadia Thiryayi	Laura Bries	Julie Kovach	Daiva Deegan

In-Person Participants

Kate Byers	Beth Zender	Haeli Byrnes	Elisabeth Cobb
Elizabeth O'Neill	Aayshah Mirza	Madhumita Banerjee	Lynsey Wolfe
Jina Rappaport	Melissa Rakestraw	Raabia Khan Mohammed	Cathie DeMoon
MaryAnne Korkut	Jen Barnabee		

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. Minutes from May 4, 2022 were reviewed. Minutes were approved as read.

3. Report of Officers

- a. Presidents (Kate Byers & Beth Zender)
 - i. Thank you notes regarding teacher appreciation week were shared from Mrs. Saia and Miss Kurtz. Thank you notes from Mrs. Flores' third graders were shared regarding the Kona Ice Truck. Numerous cards were received from the fourth grade teaching team and students.
 - ii. The Kona Ice Truck had another successful day at OGS. The process went smoothly, but plan to return to regular ice cream socials following grade level open houses next year.
 - iii. Junior High Library photo project is progressing and 3rd through 7th grade teachers nominated students who demonstrate qualities of an OGS Eagle. Ozzie Suarez is taking photos, and they will be rehung this summer. The PTO is looking for volunteers to help paint the backing canvases this summer.
- b. Vice President (Elizabeth O'Neill). Report from the May 17, 2022 BOE meeting.
 - i. Finance Report. Two options were presented to fund the upcoming maintenance projects. Option 1 includes financing for the summer 2023 projects and Option 2 does not include financing but instead would draw down on the fund balance. If the financing option is chosen the fund balance would remain virtually flat. If OGS does not use the financing option, the district would dip into the fund balance taking it to 47% for a short time which OGS would recover from rather quickly and save the interest from the financing option. A board member noted that going

- below 40% in the fund balance is when there is a risk of the district's financial rating dropping.
- ii. Jr. High Parking Lot. The team is working on securing final scheduling for the parking lot project this summer. Happ Builders is expected to start work the Monday after school ends and complete the project on August 6.
 - iii. Health Update. In the most recent 3 weeks, OGS has seen 16 Covid cases last week, 8 the week before that and 12 the week before that. The cases are scattered across grade levels and 7 of 16 in the most recent week are related cases from outside school. There have been conversations about a Fall surge and since the testing program utilized earlier this year is no longer funded through federal dollars, Allison Sherman has asked nurses to start looking into possible programs for the Fall, if needed.
 - iv. Streaming and recording of board meetings was not on the agenda, but a board member did raise the topic and it was noted that the issue would be on the table for the budget discussion.
 - v. An intergovernmental agreement with D128 was approved. The agreement will allow D128 and OGS to share data, specifically OGS would be able to receive data back from D128 on our students who go on to high school. This will help OGS see how well our students do at LHS.
 - vi. Teaching & Learning Update. There will be a reduction in class sections next year in certain elementary grades. 4th and 5th grade instructional models will remain the same, but will need to be revisited. Listening sessions will continue next year. Themes from the 7 sessions conducted were: balancing OGS traditions with current best practices and that parents value teachers. Allison Sherman noted that she is working on structures to give teachers more input. She also shared that the TAB committee has not gone away. She has met with the OGEA Executive Board to understand problems that the teachers are experiencing and believes that she should have the opportunity to problem solve with them first. If it comes to pass that OGEA takes a position and it cannot be solved then she would bring in TAB that would be inclusive of OGEA leadership.
 - vii. Public Comment. A teacher commented on the need to correct the minutes from last month's meeting. Parents thanked a board member for bringing up the issue of streaming/recording meetings; noted issues with the formatting of written public comment; and raised concerns about the bridge summer program for TAG math students.
- c. Treasurer (Haeli Byrnes)
- i. No official treasury report yet for the month of May since this is a mid-month meeting. Expenses were paid for Teacher Funds, Helping Hands, Teacher Appreciation Breakfast, 5th grade coming of age gift bags, Variety Show and Launch trampoline social.
 - ii. Submit all teacher fund reimbursement requests by Friday 5/27/22.

- iii. GLCs should check the party money spreadsheets to check the balance remaining for each grade.
 - d. Registrar (Aayshah Mirza)
 - i. Thank you to all lunch volunteers. We only need volunteers for May 26.
- 4. Report of Administration (Jen Barnabee)
 - a. Gratitude was shared for Teacher Appreciation Week.
 - b. Two new staff members were announced. Allie Wilgus - social worker and Lindsay Krieschen - school psychologist.
 - c. Eighth graders who attended Snowflake said it relieved some fears about going to LHS.
- 5. Reports from Standing Committees
 - a. Teacher's Liaison (Jina Rappaport)
 - i. Gratitude was shared for teacher appreciation week.
 - ii. Thank you from Mrs. Rappaport and Mrs. Osterman for new books from the book fair. This year, more students than ever participated in Battle of the Books.
 - b. BSA Pack 194 (Beth Zender for Jimmy Meyer)
 - i. Twenty-five Scouts have moved to the next rank. Boy Scouts will host a Rocket Launch on June 4 from 10am-12pm at the OGS Junior High Field. All are invited to attend.
 - c. Book Fair (Melissa Rakestraw)
 - i. Successful BOGO Fair. \$13,500 in sales (last BOGO was \$10,500). Earned approximately \$1,200 in Scholastic dollars for OGS libraries. As a school, \$2,533 was raised for "All for Books." Reading Power purchased 123 books and an additional \$1,953 was donated directly to Reading Power. Five popsicle parties were awarded to the classes that raised the most money.
 - ii. There was discussion regarding sticking with BOGO in May or returning to an April fair. Comments were in favor of the BOGO in May. Questions were also asked regarding the quantity of books available the last day. The committee will look into ways to overcome inventory issues.
 - d. Community Give Back (Kate Byers for Brooke Schamber)
 - i. Old School Forest Preserve clean-up day is May 22. Volunteers can stay for any length of time, but must report to Shelters A & B at 10am. Staff will give instructions. Be sure to bring gloves and wear appropriate shoes and clothing.
 - e. Field Day (Kate Byers for Dana Huennekens)
 - i. All volunteer spots have been filled. Dana will give office staff volunteer names. Volunteers will enter through the Junior High Cafeteria. Your name and station will be posted. Parents can take students home after Field Day but will still need to follow regular pickup guidelines.
 - f. Grade Level Coordinators
 - i. K-4 (Aayshah Mirza)

1. Kindergarten: Lunch will be pizza, applesauce and water after the slideshow in classrooms. Picnic activities are the same as pre-Covid years. Students will be divided into color-coded groups with volunteers to help them rotate through each station. Sign-up Genius for volunteers went out from room parents.
 2. 1st: Lunch will be pizza and treats. Two inflatables have been reserved through Playground Games. Merchandise (shirts, sunglasses, backpacks) has been ordered. Sign-up Genius will go out tomorrow.
 3. 2nd: Bowling & pizza. Bowling at Bowlero in Vernon Hills from 9:30-11:30am. Return to Oak Grove for pizza lunch from 11:30am-12pm.
 4. 3rd: Lunch will be pizza, water, icees and popcorn. Students will receive a pair of sunglasses with OGS Class of 2027.
 5. 4th: Students will go to Just for Fun Roller Rink and return to OGS for lunch. Lunch will include pizza, water and popsicles.
- ii. 5-8 (Julie Kovach & Laura Reutzel)
1. 5th: Students are going to Canlan and will have lunch there on the last day of school. PTO will not be involved. Teachers have lots of activities planned such as two STEM building activities and minute-to-win-it competitions.
 2. 6th: Students will go to Action Territory in Kenosha, WI on the last day of school. The PTO will pay for a pizza lunch and possibly a donut breakfast.
 3. 7th: Students will go bowling at Bowlero in Vernon Hills on the last day of school. PTO will provide a pizza lunch.
 - a. 7th grade parents are also planning the 8th grade graduation reception including food, decorations and volunteers.
 4. 8th: PTO will provide a pizza lunch on Thursday 5/26. While not coordinated by the PTO, 8th graders will enjoy end-of-year activities including Six Flags and Chicago field trips. A separate committee is coordinating the 8th Grade Dance on Friday 5/27. Graduation is Tuesday 5/31.
- g. New Clubs & Activities (Julie Kovach)
- i. Thank you to everyone who completed the survey. Thank you to Beth Zender, Kate Byers and Jen Barnabee who have been working on this joint effort. Results will be shared with teachers as they discuss considerations for clubs & activities for next year. If there are gaps, we will meet this summer to consider other ways to launch new clubs & activities including, but not limited to, parent volunteers, multi-school coordination and/or one-time events/activities.
 - ii. Summary of survey results:

1. Received 359 individual responses (one survey/student). 235 families completed the survey.
 2. More than 50% want to see more clubs, intramurals and one-time activities such as field trips and dances. 46% want to see more competitive team sports. There were also around 100 students +/- interested in open gyms and multi-school clubs & activities.
 3. Top 3 results with the most interest were Soccer, Art Club and Basketball. STEM and Cooking Club were next. This was overall K-8. Broken down by grade, we can also narrow into interest areas by age group and there are a lot of other popular opportunities.
 4. It is important to keep in mind, this survey does not represent the entire school and we know there are existing clubs & activities that have been and would continue to be very successful that may not have ranked as high in this survey, but it does provide good ideas of new clubs & activities to consider.
 5. More than 90% of those surveyed would also be willing to pay a small fee to support a club or activity.
 6. There was interest, as well as some specific comments received, regarding more investment in extra supplies for existing activities, particularly from the older grade levels - so assessing those needs will also be reviewed.
 7. We also received some feedback on other activities not mentioned, and on allowing for the selection of more options in the future, and/or separating sports and clubs, so this feedback will be reviewed and taken into consideration prior to next year's survey.
- h. Partnership Fundraising (Beth Zender for Jill Procop & Rachel Margelos)
- i. End of year report:
 1. Rocky Mountain Apple Fundraiser grossed \$2684.76 with 50% donated back to PTO which gave us a profit of \$1342.38.
 2. Clucker's donated 20% back for a total of \$400.
 3. Tsunami Car Wash donated \$350.
 - ii. Next Tuesday 5/24, will be the last fundraiser. Donati's Pizza will donate 20% of all pizza sales ordered over the phone and online (note OGS in notes).
- i. Variety Show
- i. The Variety Show is this Friday 5/20. Tickets are available on RevTrack. 115-125 have already been sold for each show. Bring cash for the Student Council's concession stand.
6. Report from OGSEF (Raabia Khan Mohammed). OGSEF will award three Teacher of the Year awards across three categories: K-4 Teacher, 5-8 Teachers and Related Services. Winners will be announced on May 27. Mrs. Tazzioli requested a new STEM lab table. Allison Sherman requested \$9100 for Project Lead the Way; however, a grant was obtained. OGSEF has approved \$250 mini grants for fall. Finally, new board members

are Jeff Barry - President, Hillary Bolke - Vice President, Kristen Chandler - Treasurer and Nicole Gas - Secretary.

7. Old Business

a. Proposed Budget 2022-23

- i. Melissa Rakestraw made a motion and Raabia Khan Mohammed seconded the motion to approve the Proposed Budget for 2022-23. Motion passed unanimously.

b. Proposed Bylaws Revisions

- i. Cathie DeMoon made a motion and Raabia Khan Mohammed seconded the motion to approve the Proposed Bylaws Revisions. Motion passed unanimously.

c. Proposed Officers & Committee Chairs

- i. Sustainability and Family Fest committees still need a chairperson. Executive board can unanimously vote to appoint a chairperson if/when someone steps forward.
- ii. Melissa Rakestraw made a motion and Hillary Bolke seconded the motion to approve the Proposed Officers & Committee Chairs. Motion passed unanimously.

8. New Business

9. Announcements

a. Important Dates:

- i. May 20: Variety Show at 4pm & 6:30pm
- ii. May 22: Community Give Back at Old School Forest Preserve, 10am-12pm
- iii. May 24: Donati's Fundraiser
- iv. May 27: Field Day, 8-11:30am

10. Adjourn

- a. The meeting adjourned at 10:37am CT. The next meeting will be in September. Be sure to follow OGS PTO on Facebook where 2022-23 meeting dates and times will be posted.