

Sierra PTA
General Meeting
Sierra Elementary School Cafeteria & Via Google Meet
September 13, 2021
Meeting Minutes

Co-President Mary Zimbelman called the meeting to order at 6:32pm, and announced she would be leading the meeting with Co-President Sheryl Doll.

A quorum of members were present through in person and online attendees.

- 1) Introduction of Board
 - a) President Zimbelman introduced the 2021-22 PTA Officers: Treasurer Sarah Crawford, VP Membership Mel Kelloff, Secretary, and Heather Flannery. VP Community Events Lindsay Bunyard and VP Committees Becca Rehme who will be attending via Google Meet.
- 2) Meeting Minutes
 - a) President Zimbelman presented the meeting minutes from the April 2021 meeting for membership's consideration
 - b) Dawn Schippe moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded, and unanimously approved by the members attending in person as well as online.
- 3) Principal Update
 - a) Vice Principal Tennille Foerster provided an update to the membership.
 - b) Vice Principal Foerster announced that Sierra is piloting a new reading program - Into Reading. Teachers are working on planning with HMH coach and instructional coach and have received positive feedback so far. Vice Principal Foerster, responding to a question, indicated that this program is different from prior years' program as it directly related to standards and proficiency scales. The lessons are longer but hit on all components of reading, not just comprehension. There are 6-7 levels per classroom and lots of physical books.
 - c) Vice Principal Foerster presented on PBIS - Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports.
 - i) Monika VanderStek joined for the presentation. Vice Principal Foerster indicated that there is some new information this year. We will be asking for parent representatives on the PBIS committee this year. This is a decision making committee focusing on universal behavior supports.
 - ii) Vice Principal Foerster and Monika VanderStek presented a slide show for the membership regarding the curriculum, processes for recognizing good behavior, and steps for responding to minor and major inappropriate behavior.
 - iii) They responded to questions from the membership and also noted that information was included in the principal communication. They reminded the membership that prior communications can be found online at the Principal's Page on Sierra's website
- 4) PTA Officer Updates
 - a) Membership - VP Membership Mel Kelloff updated the membership that a new membership platform is being used this year -- MemberHub. If you believe you are a member, but can't log in, please contact her. They are also updating the website with the new membership platform link.

- i) She also updated that there are 92 members so far this year. As a reminder you are welcome to attend any PTA meetings, but may only vote if you are a member.
 - b) VP Community Events - President Zimbelman provided an update on recent and upcoming events.
 - i) The ice cream social was hosted at the start of the year.
 - ii) Upcoming restaurant nights include Chipotle on September 20, Noodles & Company on October 13, and Renegade Burritos in November.
 - c) VP Committees - the update on committees was postponed for the end of the meeting
 - d) Strides for Sierra 5K Fundraiser - President Zimbelman provided an update
 - i) Registration is currently at 170. Information on registration can be found in Friday folders and on the website. Please invite your family and friends to register.
 - ii) We are also looking for volunteers, please sign up using the Signup Genius coming out at the beginning of October.
 - iii) We are still looking for business sponsors, look for the link on the website.
- 5) Budget
 - a) President Zimbelman presented the proposed 2021-22 budget for the membership's consideration
 - b) Secretary Flannery explained the shift from funding Excel grants to technology proposed for the year. President Doll explained that the Board reviewed the prior year's fundings and made adjustments based on what was used historically as well as where there were needs for the school. We are moving back to a fundraising mentality, and she noted the Board was very thoughtful about what we are asking people to donate money for.
 - c) President Zimbelman opened the floor for discussion on the proposed budget. Vice Principal Forester responded to a question about whether Arts Night would be held this year, and indicated that yes, currently it is business as usual.
 - d) Secretary Flannery moved to approve the proposed budget, and the motion was seconded. The motion was unanimously approved by those in person and those voting through Google Meet.
- 6) Additional Items
 - a) President Zimbelman presented a teacher grant request received from Meridith Fousel, 4th Grade, for Sum Dog.
 - b) Ms. Fousel was not available at the meeting for questions, but did respond to text messages for additional information. The price requested is a classroom license.
 - c) In response to questions from the membership and responses from Christy Yacano and Vice Principal Tenille Foerester it was determined that the license was likely for 30 students, the program was district approved, and other 4th grade classrooms use a different online component.
 - d) President Doll noted that only \$500 from teacher grants were used in prior years.
 - e) VP Membership Kellof moved to approve the request, which was unanimously approved by those in person and those voting through Google Meet.
- 7) PTA Updates (continued)
 - a) VP Committees - President Doll provided an update
 - i) Tickets for Time signup is currently available and provides volunteer opportunities through the PTA as well as requests from teachers. It will be updated as we learn of new opportunities.
 - ii) We are still looking for committee heads for conference dinners, advocacy, GT, K Graduation/5th Grade Continuation, Back to School

Lunch (2022). Descriptions for all of the open positions are on the PTA's website.

- iii) We are also looking for additional crossing guards and contributions for Snacks for Sierra.
 - b) YCMA Updates - President Zimbelman provided an update on behalf of Lennon Wolfe for the YMCA before/after care program at Sierra including. There are still open spots, and rates are available online. The YMCA is also hiring. Reach out to Lennon with any questions.
- 8) Additional Items (continued)
- a) There was a question about accessing Tickets for Time, and President Doll referred the Sierra PTA website as well as recent parent bulletins from the front office.
 - b) Kudos to VP Membership Mel Kelloff for the updates to the Sierra PTA Website
- 9) President Zimbelman adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.