

Gilchrist Elementary School PTO – March 8, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Scotty Crowe, Caroline Weiss, Eva Horton, Tiffany Cruz, Parker Sullivan, Colby Lindsay, Denis Burns, Amanda Whitaker, Belinda Wise, Hester Ndoja, Melissa Tate, Mary Linzee Branham, Yvonne Martin, Kim Katzenbach, Jenna Nielsen, Tracy Bishop, Victoria Bradshaw, Devin Smith,

The meeting was called to order at 12:02pm

KCCI -Betsy Couch

KCCI has conducted research analysis and GES is a candidate for their crosswalk program. There are two options paint v. thermoplastic which vary in cost. Other schools have had a “safety day” or “safety fair” during which they announced this initiative.

Kia Atkinson – they have identified the intersection of Martin Hurst (nearest the storage facility), per the storage facility’s construction manager there will be sidewalks there. Cost will be \$3-5k to use paint on the crosswalk or approximately \$15k for the thermoplastic which will last significantly longer. There are 8 approved colors by City of Tallahassee. They suggest a paw or bear profile for the design and the school can be as involved or uninvolved as we choose.

Susan Aaron- KCCI wants the buy-in and approval of the board; there are options for businesses to sponsor also. The whole process takes approximately 4-6 months turnaround time.

Per Mr. Crowe the parking/drop off situation remains in Gilchrist’s “top 5”

Approval of the minutes: Motion to Approve Denis Burns, Seconded by Tiffany Cruz. Approved unanimously.

Teacher Liaison, Amanda Whitaker & Victoria Bradshaw:

- Mother/son date night 4/23 at 1pm tickets to go on sale soon and will be circulated
- April 26/27 – Kindergarten orientation 9-10:30
 - 2 days of orientation
 - Volunteer tour guides
 - Caroline to speak
 - Sell spirit wear
- STEAM Carnival
 - Over 1,500 attended
 - \$10k grant helped with supplies
 - Move drink station to inside campus
 - Maybe we need more bathrooms (rent portapotties?)
 - Some kind of sponsorship levels for booths

Meg Gibson & Mr. Crowe

We will need to input ALL school reading materials including instructional materials in to our website listing by July 1st as a result of the Parent Empowerment Act. We will need volunteers to help with this, more information on this to come. Would prefer for it to occur outside of school hours so as to cause less disruption to academics.

Treasurer update: Auction brought in \$13,998.00 expenses so far totaled \$950.00. Soiree did not bring in money but is not intended to be a money maker.

Grizzly Givers- Mary Linzee will do one more push before year end, we received one Legacy \$500 this month. We will need more supplies for benefits. She is working with Chris York to update benefit items for next year.

Auction, Hester – no real update at this time, we will post a thank you to all those who contributed for auction items in the next Gazette

Grizzly Grams – sending flyers home to be distributed week of 4/21

Gazette – deadline this week; goal to have it go home week after Spring Break

Action Items:

Nominating Committee- Belinda Wise, Hester Ndoja and Tiffany Cruz

Slate to be presented at the April meeting. Motion to approve the nominating committee Denis Burns, seconded by Colby Lindsey.

Auction Funds: We need to vote to distribute/spend the approximate \$10k made during the auction as this was a large sum we did not have in our initial budget. Money needs to be budgeted to help with the audit of our budget Suggested items furniture for Café patio (tables with umbrellas), garden program, Increasing teacher budgets

Motion by Parker Sullivan to spend up to \$6,500 in “school enhancements”, passes unanimously. We will have Brittany order the furniture and then reassess what funds are left and apportion same in to categories.

Brief Principal’s Update:

- Over 200 requests for school choice to GES
- Table discussing the school wide survey to our April meeting
- Calendar committee to decide dates for next year, will meet soon

New business: Opening day for the Paw Print Patio (named by Eva Horton!) is on March 30, 2023 right at the beginning of the Art Show.

No other new business noted.

Meeting adjourned at 1:20pm