



PTA

Date of PTA Meeting: November 19, 2019

Location: Club Phoenix, Vienna Community Center

Attendees: Carine Abdo, Rebecca Aguilar*, Inga Clark, Buck Condill*, Susan Derby, Urvi Desai, Natalie Duncan *, Alecia Fowler, Jen Hallworth, Mary Jo Hoeksema, Lisa Kelso, Andrea Kramer, John Loloyan, Michelle McCluer, Sam McCormack, Alessia McIntosh, Wendy Pearson, Samantha Russell-Porte*, Irina Smirnoff, Amy Vernon, Kelly Volciak

*indicates Thoreau Staff or Guest Speakers

Andrea called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. The minutes were presented from the October 29, 2019 PTA meeting. Amy Vernon made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Michelle McCluer and the minutes were approved.

Principal's Report: Presented by Assistant Principal Mr. Buck Condill: Mr. Azimi is currently on leave. Next Monday, November 25, 2019, there is a Meet and Greet event at 10 a.m. in the Thoreau Media Center to meet Mr. Jon Coch (pronounced Cook). He is Thoreau's Interim Principal.

Student Services Report: Mr. Coch was welcomed to the building yesterday. On Friday, November 15, Mr. Condill gathered the staff together to announce that Mr. Azimi is on leave. The staff has pulled together to continue the school's mission. Mr. Coch is getting to know students and families and he's taking part of upcoming school events including Student of the Quarter, and Winter Concerts. Mr. Coch introduced himself to students today, Tuesday, November 19th, on Eagle News.

Ms. Aguilar highlighted the many community service drives being offered in November and December. Thoreau is doing Thanksgiving Baskets, partnering w/ Navy Federal. This will serve almost 50 families. Project Neighbors, also with Navy Federal, will serve the largest number of families in our 30-year partnership. Also 8th graders are going to Finance Park in December. The SCA also is sponsoring a can food drive. Fiber Arts club is packing shoeboxes for the SOME (So Others May Eat) organization in Washington DC. A toy drive is also being sponsored for the Children's Hospital in DC. The students are being engaged in positive productive activities. The staff is looking forward to annual Thanksgiving pies from the PTA.

PTA President's Report: Andrea Kramer acknowledged that Seema Javeri is coordinating the Thoreau Family Directory. In the past, this had been produced as hard copy, but we're using A to Z company again this year to produce a digital edition.

Andrea thanked everyone who participated in the Box Tops submission this fall. Megan Pauley coordinated the submission and \$312.00 was earned in the Fall collection. Andrea thanked Regan Morgan and Kristine Griepentrog for coordinating the 7th grade Family Dinner. It was a great meal with a fun photo booth and great DJ.

Andrea shared that PTA Bylaws are up for review and update. This must be done every five years and needs to be done this year. We have two volunteers, Stacey Leimbach and Dawn-Marie Singleton, who are working on this. We still need a third volunteer.

Staff Grants Report: the PTA budget has \$7600 available for staff grants. The Fall cycle for requesting grants just closed. We received sixteen applications filled with creative ideas.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Amy Vernon presented this month's report which was printed out for everyone to view. Currently we have more than \$50,000 in the bank. Seventh Grade dinner went a little over budget, primarily due to increase in costs. School store costs are also slightly over budget; however, the budget was set when we still did not have any school store operating. We will propose a budget change at an upcoming meeting after we have a chance to do some realistic projections for expenses and income for School Store. If you have any questions, please contact Amy. If you have any expenses that you need reimbursements, you can do so digitally or by hard copy.

Committee Reports

Membership: Andrea shared Membership Chair Stephanie Bollini's update. The PTA's goal of \$8,000 raised from membership has almost been met. We have \$7365 already this year. Families can still join online or via hard copy. As a reminder our only fundraising as PTA is the "no fuss fundraiser", our goal is \$12,000. We have received \$11,325 so far.

Dining for Dollars: Missy Dixon reminded us of upcoming events: Tuesday, December 10, at the Vienna Inn. They are offering an all-day option. Church Street Pizza will be the Dining for Dollars event in January 2020.

Parent Presentation: The remainder of the meeting was a parent education meeting, as was the traditional concentration of the PTA historically. TMS PTA has partnered with Club Phoenix for today's presentation. Director Natalie Duncan, after-school coordinator for Town of Vienna, welcomed us to Club Phoenix, a free after-school program located at the Vienna Community Center. It is open 2:30-6:30 Monday-Fridays, with extended hours on Friday. They are trying to start the Shuttle Bus program from Thoreau MS to Club Phoenix on Thursdays. Students must be registered in advance. Natalie introduced Samantha Russell-Porte from the Women's Center. Samantha's presentation was titled: Managing Expectations: A Mini Guide for Parents with Teens.

Adjourn PTA Meeting: Andrea ended the meeting at 8:40 p.m.