

Grange Hall Elementary School

Parent Teacher Association

General Body Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 29, 2023 at 18:00

- I. Call to order: 18:05
- II. Report of Officers
 - A. President Report
 1. Welcome to the first PTA meeting for the 2023-2024 school year! We encourage anyone who hasn't joined the PTA to sign up - it's a great way to get involved and support the school. No commitment to come to meetings or volunteer, but we'd love to have you!
 2. Thank you to our volunteers!
 - a) Jean Finney, our staff appreciation chair, for the back to school luncheon from Front Porch
 - b) The Gibson family, who worked hard to bring the Kindergarten garden back to life
 - c) All the volunteers who helped with Kindergarten lunches
 - d) Everyone who has been working behind the scenes throughout the summer to help the coming school year run more smoothly
 3. May general body meeting minutes stand as presented
 - B. Treasurer Report
 1. Current Balance: \$94,065.63
 - a) July 31 balance: \$100,075.13
 2. Recent Highlights
 - a) *Since July:*
 - (1) Total income: \$7,761.74
 - (a) Includes Flying Squirrels (\$472), interest (\$0.84), donations (\$588), membership dues (\$1,608), yearbook sales (\$4,638.52), and business partnerships (\$454.38)
 - (2) Total expenses: \$8,418.37
 - (a) Includes teacher appreciation (\$903.04), administrative fees (\$471.98), national and state dues (\$25), education programs (\$4,119.85), fundraiser activities (\$820), and special projects (\$2,078.50)
 - (3) Net loss \$656.63
 3. BJ has signed off on July reconciliation
 4. 2023-2024 Audit
 - a) The financial review for last year was done by our CPA, Aaron Hawkins, and there were no issues noted. It has been uploaded and approved by VAPTA. He has also completed our taxes, which were filed August 1. They have been uploaded and approved by VAPTA.
 - b) Vote to adopt audit
 - (1) Motion: Sarah Battle; second: Melissa Warriner
 - (2) Aye: 19 (in-person: 13, Zoom: 6); Nay: 0; Abstain: 13
 - (3) Audit adopted

Grange Hall Elementary School

Parent Teacher Association

5. Budget review
 - a) *Note during review of budget:* tend to overestimate what we're going to spend and underestimate what we're bringing in; currently have roughly \$94,000, but as a non-profit, we want to only raise enough to cover expenses. Our biggest fundraiser (the Fun Run) is in the spring, so it's difficult to approximate how much money we'll receive $\frac{2}{3}$ of the way through the school year; we are currently trying to slowly spend what we have, so the net losses are necessary and expected
 - b) Vote to pass 2023-2024 budget
 - (1) Motion: Melissa Warriner; second: Laura Yauger
 - (2) Aye: 25 (in-person: 13, Zoom: 12); Nay: 0; Abstain: 7
 - (3) Budget passes
- C. VP Fundraising Report
 1. Thank you to Sarah Battle for all her hard work on the carnival! Vendors are currently lined up and we are waiting on approval from the county before we can move forward and make school wide announcements
 2. *Reminder from Sarah Physioc:* we are able to receive money from the Kroger Rewards program - go into your account and designate Grange Hall in the community rewards (no cost to you!) We are also using the Box Tops app. Just scan your receipt in the app and you can designate Grange Hall to receive money. Many grocery stores are also offering 500 bonus box tops if you buy 5 eligible items for back to school!
- D. VP Membership Report
 1. Currently 211 paid members; gaining members daily and uploading to Memberhub
- E. VP Programs Report
 1. International Night
 - a) Back this year by popular demand! We'll have food trucks, dancers, crafts, and families sponsoring tables representing different countries
 - (1) Four families have signed up to host tables so far, but we are looking for at least 20. If you would like to represent a country, please either fill out the form that will be sent home with your child or complete the Google form that was posted to the GHES, GHES PTA, and GHES Parents Facebook pages. If you have any questions or would like the link sent to you by email, please email ghesptavpprograms@gmail.com **before September 8th**. International Night will take place on Thursday, September 28th from 5:30-7:00 (setup will begin at 5:00).
 2. Grandparents' Breakfast
 - a) Still looking for a volunteer to serve as the committee chairperson for the Grandparents' Breakfast (mornings of November 15th, 16th, and 17th)
 - (1) Takes a lot of planning and preparation, but we would be happy to have two co-chairs if you'd like to split responsibilities. Please reach out to BJ or Sarah if you'd like to volunteer!
 3. Thank you to everyone who volunteered at the Supply Drop Off and to our other past and future volunteers! These events wouldn't be possible without you.
- F. Principal Report (*Vice Principal Emily McCracken*)
 1. Thank you all for your support - we had a great start to the school year! PTA provided a wonderful lunch to welcome back teachers; also purchased water bottles and t-shirts to support the house system
 2. Thank you to the volunteers that helped to get out paperwork to all the GHES families

Grange Hall Elementary School

Parent Teacher Association

3. The counseling team is currently working on a presentation to focus on bully prevention and promoting respect; more information in October
4. There will be two back to school nights: September 12 (grades 3-5) and September 19 (grades K-2); both nights will have two different sessions
5. House system
 - a) Currently working on implementing the house system, which is based on the Ron Clark Academy; goal is to foster camaraderie by sorting teachers, staff, and students into one of five houses; will encourage positive behavior by awarding points
 - b) Grades 1-3 will be sorted on September 11 during resource time; kindergarten will be sorted the following week
 - c) Currently working on house spiritwear!

III. Report of Committees

A. Reflections

1. Theme is "I am hopeful because..."
 - a) Students show what the theme means to them through the following categories: film production, music composition, visual arts, dance choreography, literature, and photography
 - b) Taking submissions through October 20, both in person and electronically (more information will be in the take home folders)
 - c) Opportunity for prizes and to move on to county, state, and national levels
 - d) Please reach out to Pam Willard with any questions

IV. Adjournment: 18:39

- A. *Schedule update: there will be no general body meeting in September (previously scheduled for September 19)*
- B. Next general body meeting will be Tuesday, October 10 at 18:00