

Hill Elementary PTA General Meeting
September 1, 2017- 7:50am

I. Call to Order

President Kim Franks called the General PTA meeting to order on Friday September 1, 2017 at 7:50am. Secretary, Lara Farahani, being present. Additional PTA Executive Board members present included Melinda Anderson, Melanie Waters, Holly Jordan, Jessica Glorieux, Coco Peterson, Debbie Rose and Natalie Rickards.

II. Minutes- Lara Farahani

The minutes from the May meeting were submitted and accepted with no changes. *Karen Treadwell made a motion to approve the minutes. Caleb Sidel seconded. There was a unanimous vote and the motion was carried.*

III. Treasurer's Report- Debbie Rose

- Open house was successful, good net on all programs
- \$187,000 balance on hand
- District cut funding for Think Through Math, which provides STAAR intervention for grades 3-5. Need an amendment to move \$6000 to cover costs to continue the program. Melinda Anderson made a motion to approve. Seconded by Jessica Glorieux.
- Michelle Sidel asked about replacing the sport court that was damaged, Principal Newton replied that a work order was in to the district to fix and replace the cover.
- Julie Range went over the Audit Report. A few checks were missing the second signature, but no major issues. Caleb Sidel made a motion to approve the audit report, Holly Jordan seconded.

IV. President's Report- Kim Franks

- Sock Hop is being run by Melanie Waters and Megan Smith. Will be held on Sept 15 from 5-7. Food tickets are only available online, sno cones are cash only, attendees are encouraged to bring reusable water bottles.
- Back to School is Sept 18 for all grades. There will be a volunteer training that night.
- All volunteers must complete volunteer registration, formerly known as a background check, at austinpartners.org. Must also fill out a confidentiality form to be turned in to Vana. Parents who completed volunteer training last year do not need to attend again while at Hill. Volunteer trainings will be held on Sept.7, 14 and 18.

- Isabel Ceballos organized a drive for those affected by Hurricane Harvey which will continue collecting through next week.

V. Officers Reports

- Membership (Holly Jordan)
PTA is currently at 700 members, which earns us the Early Bird award (75% of members from last year), in order to attain 100% need 40 more members by Sept. 30
- Sponsorship (Jessica Glorieux)
Packages have been streamlined and changed. Upcoming Spirit Night at Firebowl, Modern Market and Menchies
- Communications (Melanie Waters)
Dillo Details changed format over the summer, those not subscribed can sign up on the Hill website, submissions must be sent in by Wednesday night
- Former PTA President Jayne Rosso discussed the annual report, which goes over what the PTA does and where the money goes

VI. New Business

- a. PTA vote to support AISD Bond taking place in November of 2017
 - Kristin Ashy from FABPAC was present to speak about the upcoming AISD Bond. Early voting begins Oct 23 and election day is Nov 7.
 - The Facility Master Plan has been updated and copies of facility projects were made available for Hill, Doss, Murchison and Anderson. Doss and Hill are the number one and two overcrowded schools in AISD and are in the list of schools to have their needs addressed in years 1-6.
 - The plan to build a new NW elementary school was limited in its location search by the need to address the overcrowding at Hill and Doss. By making updates to core capacity at Hill and Doss the cost of the bond could be lowered and the possibility of a location search in the future that would relieve crowding at Davis and Summit opened up.
 - The goal is to reduce the number of portables at Doss and Hill to 2 or 3 portables per campus. Most of the money for the NW area would go to Doss, where the building is in worse shape. Due to mold issues in the 90s, Hill is in better shape.
 - A new two story addition could be added to Hill that would have 10 classrooms, as well as a new gym to open up more cafeteria space, larger library, more parking, and the office would be moved to the front of the school to open more space and address safety issues. A new bond could be presented in 5 or 6 years to further address modernization and a new elementary school.
 - Ashley Perraud asked why schools can't be rebuilt, are we just putting bandaids

on these issues. Kristin Ashy responded that Doss will need to be rebuilt as it cannot handle additions like Hill can. Doss is earmarked to receive \$43 million from the bond to address its issues, and students will be moved off campus while renovations are made.

- Terry Shaw asked about the timeframe for the renovations and if the funds for the bond would be spread out over the five year period, or available all at once. Kristin Ashy responded that the plan is to have all work completed in five years in order to move forward with another bond at that time. Only the most critical needs are addressed in this bond. The bond will not raise homeowner's tax rates.
- Bond money is not subject to recapture and all money will stay in the district. The money from the bond would be part of interest and sinking fund, not the maintenance and operation fund, which is subject to Robin Hood.
- Julie Range made the point that new buildings would shrink the need for money from the maintenance and operations fund in the future. Kristin Ashy further mentioned that new buildings tend to have green features, such as Padron's solar panels that can offset maintenance costs. Older buildings are a drain on the budget, which has \$70-80 million to maintain 130 buildings.
- Michelle Slidel asked about students being displaced during renovations, and what the plan is for Murchison and Anderson. Kristin Ashy responded that it depends on the number of students attending during the renovation, but hopefully portables will be able to handle the students without the need to move. Murchison's population increased 200 students this year and has the largest 6th grade yet. In 10 years the projected population is 1700. The bond plans for a new, attached 6th grade building. Anderson needs drainage, ceiling, and HVAC improvements.
- Natalie Rickards asked how parents could address arguments from other community members about why AISD hadn't planned for more maintenance in the past, closed under enrolled schools in other areas, sold administration offices. Kristin Ashy replied that the district has very finite resources for maintenance, emergencies must be covered first, teacher salaries, etc. Also, due to recapture, half the maintenance budget goes to the state. AISD is currently the number one payer to recapture. There will be school closures and new schools put up on the east side. The downtown administration building is up for sale.
- Robyn Eckermann asked about neighborhood collaboration to address parking solutions. Kristin Ashy replied that community members are invited to attend meetings and offer input on parking issues.

- Alissa Chrisman asked if there were reserve funds in case bond money ran out. Kristin Ashy responded that contingency is built into the project, and educational contractors will be sought to do work.
 - Terry Shaw asked what the projected capacity would be for Hill after renovations. Kristin Ashy replied that capacity will be 870 students.
 - Holly Jordan asked non PTA members to not vote on the bond motion, but that those interested in joining could do so at this time.
 - Kim Franks put forward a motion to support the bond. Coco Peterson and Natalie Rickards seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
 - Plan to form a committee to increase awareness and support of the bond in the community and beyond.
- b. AISD Nurse Staffing- Kelly Tarun
- Due to long discussion on bond, Kelly Tarun was not able to stay until the end of the meeting. However there will be future meetings to address nurse staffing at Hill

VII. Principal Report- Mrs. Newton

- Great start to the school year
- Currently 950 students, about the same as last year
- Population may increase with new enrollments, especially after labor day, or Harvey evacuees temporarily located in area
- Donations for Harvey continue through next Friday
- Superhero theme for the year, with a focus on writing in all grades, writing challenges, and practice in expository writing.
- Trojan Spirit Fest has been rescheduled
- Counselors need snacks to offer to students

VIII. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 9:21am.

