

**Patterson PTA
General Meeting
Minutes
April 15, 2014**

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:37 a.m.

Meeting participants included: Michelle Bassi, Elaine Stecklein, Danielle Minnerick, Maura Finnerty, Michele Frost, Julie Mitchell, Lori Crosby, Rita Malloy, Alissa Chrisos, Karen Young, Jorie Snyder, Esther DeSouza, Jennifer Cole, Julie Heitman, Holly Morlock, Laura Remack, Colleen Garrison, Holly Duck, Emily Dobry, Gira Rajan, and Xuefei Han.

II. Approval of March 11, 2014 Meeting Minutes

With a motion from Holly Morlock and a second from Gira Rajan, the March minutes were approved.

III. Election of 2014-15 Officers

The section of the PTA bylaws pertaining to election of officers and the Nominating Committee report was reviewed. The Nominating Committee slate of candidates included the following:

- For president – Elaine Stecklein
- For vice president of administration – Colleen Garrison
- For vice president of enrichment – Liz Lawrence
- For vice president of finance – Danielle Minnerick
- For treasurer – Becky Swartz
- For secretary – Holly Duck

A call for additional nominations from the floor was made. No additional nominations were forthcoming. With a motion from Rita Malloy and a second from Karen Young, it was approved to close the nomination and conduct the election by voice vote because there was only one candidate for each position. A voice vote for each candidate was conducted and each candidate was elected to serve on the 2014-15 PTA board.

IV. Presentation on Common Core English Language Arts (ELA) Program

Lori Crosby, a Patterson teacher and member of the district committee responsible for developing curriculum for the Common Core ELA, provided information on the way this new program will be implemented next year. She provided background on why this program was developed noting that there was a need to better prepare students for college and careers. The emphasis is on critical thinking that requires student to analyze, discuss, evaluate and justify their work in all their course work. She discussed assessment methods that will be utilized and talked about ways that parents and the PTA can support program implementation

V. Principal's Report

Michele Frost reported on the following items:

- School supply kit order forms will be sent home soon. It was noted that purchase of assignment notebooks has been included on the supply list as the PTA, in an effort to reduce its cost, will no longer be supplying these notebooks.
- Parent input forms for next year's class selection have been distributed.

VI. President's Report

Michelle Bassi reported on the following items:

- The district committee to examine grading scales has started work and its recommendations are expected soon.

VII. Treasurer's Report

In lieu of Becky Swartz's absence, Maura Finnerty reported on the following:

- Based on current revenues there will be sufficient funds to cover program costs for the remainder of the year. There are still several PTA activities occurring before the end of school including: STEM Academy Day, Donuts for Dad, Field Day and 5th Grade Celebration. Checks were recently issued for Field Day water bottles, the Wheel of Wisdom assembly (this includes a deposit for next year's assembly), teacher appreciation, the 5th Grade Sock Hop and the variety show DJ.
- Committee chairs were reminded that the deadline for submitting expense reimbursement requests is May 30th except for PTA activities occurring after May 30th.

VIII. Vice Presidents Reports

- Finance/Fund Raising – Danielle Minnerick reported on the following:
 1. Participation at the Chipotles restaurant night was good with over 50 people participating.
 2. Summer Bridge Book order forms have been distributed
 3. Next year's Patterson Palooza will be held on October 24th and a planning committee has been formed that includes: Esther DeSouza, Kim Grikis, Karen Young, Amy Sutcliffe and Rita Malloy.
 4. The Square 1 Art fundraiser orders are due on Friday. It was noted that some parents would have liked artwork that was a bit more reflective of each student's creativity.
- Administrative/Service – Elaine Stecklein reported on the following:
 1. Efforts are underway to finalize plans for Teacher Appreciation Week which will be held May 5th thru May 9th
 2. The Community Care Committee is looking for volunteers to help provide meals.
 3. The ISPD Special Needs Representative, Jyoti Limaye, created an informative display on autism awareness.
- Enrichment/Social – In lieu of Liz Lawrence's absence, the following items were noted:
 1. Emily Dobrey and Gira Rajan noted that final arrangements are being made for STEM Academy Day which will be held on April 25th.
 2. Karen Young noted that reading program tickets to the Kane County Cougars have been distributed. The game is on April 26th and the Patterson choir will be singing the national anthem at the game.
 3. Michelle Bassi noted the success of the April 11th variety show and thanked Xuefei Han and her committee for all their hard work.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m.