



Salem Elementary School

Home of the Salem Coyotes

An AdvancED/NCA Accredited School

Mr. Ryan Knapp, Principal

Salem PTO Meeting
September 13th, 2018

Open the meeting - 7:06 pm
Number of Attendees - 25

1. Welcome to PTO & Introduction of President.
 - a. Show of hands of each grade parents represented (all grades had parents in attendance).
 - b. Mission of the PTO – Enhance educational and social experience of our students.
 - c. Highlight of what PTO did last year (see flyer).
 - d. Introduction of Vice President.
 - e. Introduction of Treasury elects – Latoya Haygood & Liz Deutch.

2. PTO Treasury Elects – Introductions & Vote.
 - a. Each candidate introduced themselves and spoke about their experience and how it would assist them with the position.
 - i. Latoya Haygood recently held the position of Treasury on South Lyon East’s senior all night party committee.
 - ii. Liz Deutch – Financial Planner as her profession.
 - b. Vote was taken using prepared ballots and blank papers to write in vote (attendance was higher than expected). Vote was tallied after the meeting Latoya Haygood is the new PTO Treasurer.

3. Budget Review and Approval –
 - a. Question: from parent: Miriam Corvino;
 - i. Is this typical of how we start each year?
 - ii. Crissy McNulty – Yes – Startup costs for Back to School Bask and Teacher & Staff checks are the two big items for the start of the school year. See Budget and Financial report for specifics.
 - b. Question from parent:
 - i. What are the Track Shirts?
 - ii. Mrs. Settle – When Salem 5th graders go to the annual track meet the kids all have the same color shirt to represent Salem.
 - c. General discussion about Amazon Smiles, Kroger community points, Bushes Points.
 - d. Motion to Approve budget Crissy McNulty, second Kelly Nyquist.

4. New for 2018-2019 School Year: Events: Yoga, Family Movie night, Math Night – Family portraits. Jan – craft night. Breakfast with a buddy (replaces Doughnuts with Dad’s and Muffin’s with Moms). Spirit Wear will be all online this year – link to be sent out next week for KV Sports.
5. Email distribution list – new this year for PTO emails. Parents can sign up.
6. General discussion about Fundraising-
 - a. Bunny Hop to replace Turkey Trot – moving the event to the Spring.
 - b. Yankee Candle – Fall fundraiser for people that would like to purchase something as they support the school. Mrs. Settle mentioned 40% goes to the school.
 - c. Box tops
 - i. Question from Parent – How to attach or send in?
 - ii. Candy King – Do not staple, tape or glue to sheet or in a baggie. New Mail box will be in front of the office next week for Box Tops.
 - d. Opt out fundraiser letter was discussed – Latoya Haygood mentioned she has seen this to be successful in her previous position and mentioned many times bring in more than expected.
 - i. Kelly Nyquist – Motion to incorporate the letter for 2018-2019. Miriam Corvino 2nd the motion.
 - e. Corporate sponsorships – Crissy McNulty – If anyone knows of anyone that would like to donate to our organization she has a sample letter that can be used. Contact PTO for a copy.
 - i. Parent Comment – Liz Deutch – Corporate/Business sponsor for each classroom for the Bunny Hop, displays a flag outside of classroom door.
 - ii. Mr. Knapp – To confirm the School Board Policy as it would be sponsorships.
7. Treasurer report – Crissy McNulty gave the Treasury report.
8. Teacher report - Mrs. Settle gave the report.
 - a. Thank you PTO from all the teachers for the startup checks.
 - b. Thank you for all the months planned out communicated.
 - c. Back to School Bash was a success.
9. Principal Report - Mr. Knapp addressed the group.
 - a. Safety of the school and the ALICE training that the staff attended. Watch for October date to meet at one of the larger schools in our district to help parents understand ALICE training and how it works. Training was led by the Washtenaw County Sheriff’s department.
 - b. Watch Dogs - Will take place this school year – Working out logistics with the parent that will lead the initiative. Dads volunteer at school to be a role model for kids to see and interact. Dads will spend time in their own child’s room in addition to assisting where needed within the school. Grandpa and Uncles are welcome.
 - c. Discussed parent donations. Requesting reams of paper allowed Mr. Knapp to put \$1200 back into the school budget to assist with such things as guest teachers so teachers can take part in professional development opportunities.
 - d. Question from Parent –
 - i. What do you mean by putting your mark on the school?

- ii. Mr. Knapp talked about the importance of community and how kids benefit from the community involvement. Fostering the Salem Family – “In reality they may not be yours but they are ours”. You may see a child at school and it may not be your child but it is our child – each child is part of the Salem family, no matter where they go. Fostering the relationship between students and when they move through the school system in to middle school, high school and beyond that is a Salem student and we look out for one another.
- iii. Discussion from other parents talked about importance of lifelong friends and examples of their experiences. One Mom talked that she was redistricted out of the Salem school but moved back because of the family atmosphere at Salem. Another mom spoke about once our kids move to Middle School the opportunities to volunteer in school is much lower than Elementary, this is the time to make relationships that will hopefully last through their K-12 education and beyond.

10. Meeting Adjourned 8:20 PM.