

**Galatas Elementary PTO**  
General Meeting  
January 9th at 10am

- **Attendees: Jessica Buono, Risha Sugden, Elizabeth Jones, Rena Taylor, Neil Decker, Mirada Metrejean, Katie Kegley, Cassie Jezierski, Sabre Gaffikin, Shauna Tysor, Alex Kabu, Judy Michelson, Megan Anzaldua, Terri Singer, Katie Leicht, Megan Thomas, Shauna Tysor, Elena Kambouris, Meghan Sucher, Laura Heeman, Dawn Wright, Michelle Ladner, Denae Wilker, Chrissy Finnegan, Kathryn Kouns, Tiffany Parker, Kacie Stehling, J. Sarang**
- **Sabre Gaffikin, President called the meeting to order at 10:02am, Second Mirada Metrejean**
- **President's Report: Sabre Gaffikin**
  - **Happy New Year! Looking forward to a great rest of the school year!**
  - **Thank you to Jan Cornelius and her hospitality team for a fantastic Welcome Back breakfast for our Galatas teachers and staff**
  - **Reminder the Newcomer Coffee is January 11<sup>th</sup> at 9am – thank you in advance to Sarah Barnes for organizing the newcomer coffee!**
  - **Shoutout to Katie Kegley for amazing spirit days! Our next spirit day will be at Mod Pizza on January 29<sup>th</sup>.**
- **Principal's Report: Mrs. Wilker**
  - **Happy 2024!**
  - **Reiterate the thank you for the wonderful Welcome Back breakfast! Teachers and staff greatly appreciate it!**
  - **Report Cards from the second nine weeks should be viewable starting tomorrow**
  - **Overall student attendance was low in December because of illnesses (5-6% lower than last year at this time). When your students are healthy please make every effort to have them at school.**
  - **Our state safety audit happened this week, everything went well, our campus passed and there were no findings. Congrats to everyone and thank you for helping us keep our campus safe. Shout out to Dawn W. who is our safety representative on campus!**

- As we kick off 2024, we have had 10 new students enroll, we have assigned ambassadors in each classroom to help the new students in navigating Galatas
- Thank you to Judy Michelson and her science fair team. The science fair submissions will be available for viewing during open house on January 18<sup>th</sup> from 5-7pm
- The Galatas 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Robotics team will be competing this Saturday at Irons Junior High – The first team will compete at 9am and the second team at 10am. Good luck Greyhounds!
- Galatas has started a new positive behavior reward system called Bark Bash – focuses on respect, responsibility. Any teacher can award points to classes who are displaying positive character traits. At the end of the two week competition each grade will have a winning classroom who will earn a reward.
- Our next author visit (Matt Marchant) will be on January 22<sup>nd</sup> for our third and fourth grade students. He will be teaching about sharks.
- Upcoming Field Trips
  - On January 24<sup>th</sup>, our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders will be going on a field trip to see the Sound of Music at Woodlands High School (and one of our Galatas third graders is in the show!)
  - Our 4<sup>th</sup> Graders will be taking a field trip to a College Park High School pop rally – going to College Park High School pep rally
- Treasurer’s Report: Mirada Metrejean
  - Recent Deposits
    - Spirit Day – Learning Express
    - Box Tops
    - Corporate Matching Donations
  - Recent Expenses
    - Give Smart Fees
    - Reimbursement reminder – no sales tax, make sure you have approval prior to purchase
- Committee Reports
  - Science Fair Update – Judy Michelson
    - Projects due Tuesday (January 16<sup>th</sup>) - please have students bring them in to the school if possible. Alternatively, parents can drop the projects on the front porch from 8:15-9am.
    - Need help collecting projects and help judging projects (see volunteer sign up)

- All participants will get certificates and ribbons (top project in each grade will get medal)
    - We have 29 projects submitted this year!
  - **Springetti Update – Risha Sugden and Elizabeth Jones**
    - **New Toy Donation – please bring in unwrapped, new toys (can be used in raffle and auction)**
    - **Next Week: Deal or More Deal campaign will kick off– the goal of this campaign is to help us to pay for the things that happen during Springetti (game show competition)**
- **New Business**
  - **Executive Board Nominations for 2024-2025 School Year – Shauna Tysor**
    - **Timeline: The nomination committee will be gathered over the next month, then nominations for the exec board for 2024-2025 will open, the committee will come up with a slate and PTO members will vote in April**
    - **4<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents, please consider helping out our your 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade campuses!**
  - **Spirit Wear – store reopens this Friday through the following Sunday (2 or 3 styles will be available for purchase) – this is your last chance to purchase this year’s spirit wear**
  - **Sci-Tech – if you have a 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> grade student who is interested in volunteering for an hour at the sci tech conference and help run activities – please check Gazette for sign up**
  - **Student Council Toiletries Drive – to benefit seniors through Interfaith**
  - **Library Volunteer Schedule should be going out this week – keep an eye out for that**
- **Sabre Gaffikin, President motion to adjourn at 10:26am, Second Katie Leicht**
- **Upcoming events:**
  - **January 11<sup>th</sup> – Newcomer Coffee**
  - **January 18<sup>th</sup> – Science Fair 5-7pm**
  - **January 29<sup>th</sup> – Galatas Spirit Day at MOD Pizza**
  - **February 13<sup>th</sup> – 10am February PTO Meeting**
  - **February 23<sup>rd</sup> – Go Texan Day**