

Galatas PTO General Meeting September 10, 2019

A Galatas PTO General Meeting was held on Tuesday, September 10, 2019 in the Activity Room at Galatas Elementary School. A quorum of voting members was present.

Attendees: Emily Frazier, Stacy Wahle, Nicole Neumann, Anthony Dingar*, Jessica Buono, Jennifer Smithson, Lisa Galassinni, Tammy Ruiz, Katie Leicht, Rajashree Gathoo, Tatiana Sawyer, Aarthi Banaphar, Lesley Work, Christina Benavides, Judy Michelson, Bethany Straub, Kristen Nuckols, Larisa Olson, Denae Wilker, Laura Waldron, Shauna Tysor, Claire Naufal, Kimberly White, Katie Kegley, Michelle Nolen, Becky Barton, Megan Devoren Thomas, Lisa Gwaltney, Noelle Jahncke, Xiaoxian (Cherry) Chen, Javeria Arif, Heather Johnson, Megan Dysard, Christina Davis, Janet Kwon, Amy Brown, Kari Daily, Miaomiao Shi, Paula Silva, Micaela Molina, Lori Labian, and Sabre Gaffikin

Shauna Tysor called the meeting to order.

Parliamentarian

- Becky Barton reviewed the Robert's Rules of Order.

President's Report

Amy Brown motioned to approve the May 2019 minutes. Catherine Preddy seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

- Shauna thanked everyone for being at the meeting and made notice of the new members who attended. Thank You letters from Teacher's Appreciation Week in May were passed around, as well as thank you cards from the students for Science Camp in May 2019. Shauna also thanked Emily Ellis and Ana Lanni for the BooHoo/ Yahoo Breakfast on the first day of school, Dee Howell, Kimberly White and Nicole Neumann for their work with Spirit Wear, Alice Hynes and Cher Lynch for organizing school supplies, and Laura Waldron and Judith Michelson for the school kickoff teacher breakfast.
- Shauna gave reminders for:
 - Individual Picture Day- September 26
 - PTO Membership Drive Still Going
 - Directories will be sent out early October
 - PTO Website has been redone- Thank you Rajashree Gathoo
 - Volunteers needed for Decorations, Front Office Helpers, Fall and Spring Fundraisers, Teacher's Appreciation and Yearbook photographers
 - Ways to fundraise
 - AmazonSmile Accounts
 - Kroger Card can link to Galatas PTO
 - BoxTop Apps
 - Please Fill Out Volunteer Application on Conroe ISD website
- Bond Election November 5
 - PTO Members encouraged to get the facts about the bond

- Proposition A and Proposition B were lightly discussed
- October 7th is the last day to register to vote before elections
- If the bond fails a Contingency Plan is in place
 - Information from Conroe ISD Bond site was given

Principal's Report

- Mrs. Wilker acknowledged that Galatas Elementary would be set to receive a new HVAC System if Bond Proposition A passes. She reiterated that CISD will only give facts about the Bond information and will not give opinions.
 - Dr. Null will be doing Question and Answer forums around the district before the election.
 - Mrs. Wilker encouraged PTO members to please inform themselves from reliable sources and encouraged everyone to please go out and vote.
- Mrs. Wilker thanked the PTO for the Kindergarten Lunch Helpers, volunteers during Parent and New Student Orientations, Staff Lunch coming up Friday, Sept. 13.
- Mrs. Wilker encouraged those in attendance to how they can help. Parents are very welcome at Galatas Elementary School.
- PE will have their report on iPad use available by the next PTO General Meeting.
- The Woodlands High School Football players, who were former Galatas students, will be reading Friday, Sept. 13.
- Conroe ISD: Hats Off to Reading begins September 11.
- Reading Week is approaching October 7- 11 and coincides with Book Fair.
- Progress Reports will go out this week (Sept. 9-13) except for Kindergarten
 - Mrs. Wilker reminded parents the requirements in 3rd grade are a big jump from the 2nd grade requirements, so if progress reports seem lower than expected, please be aware they have greater requirements and improvements will be made.
- Mrs. Wilker presented a video to remind parents of car line etiquette.

Treasurer's Report

- Emily Frasier discussed that Galatas Elementary PTO has 501c3 status- meaning we are a non-profit organization.
- Emily reviewed proper procedure for Reimbursement and Deposit Forms.
 - No reimbursement if it is more than 30 days after the event.
 - 2 Signatures required on Reimbursement Forms, committee chair and your own
 - Sales Tax is not reimbursed
 - Do not purchase any personal items if using tax exempt code during a purchase
 - Reimbursement checks require 2 signatures so please allow 7- 10 days for check to be ready after submission of reimbursement forms.
- Monthly Report
 - \$74,894.27 in PTO Bank Account
 - In May 2019 the PTO approved waiting until Sept. or Oct. 2019 meetings to decide on fulfilling the leftover \$6295.34 of the Wish List.
 - Conroe ISD policy required the PTO to write the check for the copier on the Wish List, leaving \$3714 in the school's account to put toward the leftover Wish List cost.

- \$2581.34 remained of the 2019 Wish List

Amy Brown motioned to pay the remaining \$2581.34. Becky Barton seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

- A question was raised by a PTO member of the possibility of having a grass field/ area created on the Galatas playground. Mrs. Wilker explained the district requirements for a playground renovation of that extent and because of the expense and work required to meet policy, it would not be approved.

Committee Reports

- Health and Safety- Lisa Stultz-Bleakley gave report on the upcoming Walk to School Day on October 1. Galatas has a huge participation level in this event. Volunteers are needed for Cross Walk Helpers and Chalk the Walk. Red Ribbon Week is also coming up on Oct. 21- 25, this year's theme will be Healthy Choices, possibly a day focused on helmet safety.
- Fall Fundraiser- Kimberly White gave an update on the upcoming fundraiser. After looking through previous years there was no difference in the amount of money raised through check writing campaigns or fun runs organized through a company. This year the fundraiser will be run through Fun Run Time from October 18- 30th. The Fun Run will take place at Cattail Park on October 30th. Volunteers will be needed for the Fun Run. More information will be made available in the beginning of October.
- Yearbook- Janet Kwon gave a yearbook update. Yearbooks are on sale now at early bird pricing of \$30/ book. In November the price will increase to \$35. It is a 120 page full- color yearbook. The cover art contest for the students will begin Oct. 1st. All students can participate. 2018-19 490 copies were sold and 59 extra were purchased to sell to anybody who did not buy one earlier, 53 of those were sold. 4th Grade Baby Photos are free and will be collected soon, Ads for 4th graders can be purchased on the Balfour site at time of yearbook purchase. Volunteer photographers are needed, at least one for each grade.
- Programs- Lisa Galassini reminded of the upcoming programs and encouraged volunteers: Reading Week Oct. 7-11, Bedtime Story Oct. 8 with Julian Franklin, Oct. 11 Storybook Parade, and Oct. 31 Science Day- Bones/ Skeleton themed with a Planning Committee meeting on Monday, Sept. 16.
- Lost and Found- Kristen Nuckols reminded PTO to please label your children's items they bring to school. Every 9 weeks the Lost and Found will be sorted. Items unable to be returned will be donated. Parents can check lost and found when they come for lunch to identify any lost items. Amy Brown reminded everyone the Transportation Department also has a lost and found for items left on the buses.
- Marquee- Amy Brown gave an update on the marquee and signage around the school. The letters are running out and the sign is in poor condition. In the next couple of meetings Amy Brown and Courtney Henry will present a request for budget for marquee needs. PTO was reminded to be aware of the parking spaces that were purchased at Springetti. Please do not take the space if not yours and discourage others from parking in someone's purchased space.

Springetti

- Michelle Nolen, Nicole Neumann and Bethany Straub gave an update on Springett. The theme is USS Springetti. It is the PTO's biggest fundraiser of the year. A carnival type event that students always enjoy. It will be held March 27, 2020 from 5- 8:30 PM. Tickets are limited due to capacity limits from fire department. They always sell out. Many volunteers are needed for this event, and everyone is encouraged to participate. Sept. 25th at 10 AM there will be a Kick-off Meeting. Springetti website will go up in the next month.
- Spirit Nights- Larisa Olson gave an update on Spirit Nights. Chick- Fil- A Spirit Night will be coming up Oct. 16 or 17, notice will be given. Looking to make Spirit Nights easier to participate in by bringing vendors to Galatas for events like Movie Night and other events.

New Business

- Becky Barton acknowledged the passing of Roger Galatas, Galatas Elementary School's namesake. Mrs. Wilker informed us that the Galatas Family requested his passing to be quietly observed. Galatas Elementary plans to donate to CISD Education Foundation. Mr. Galatas always supported our elementary greatly and enjoyed reading to the students. He often read The Giving Tree and Oh, The Places You Will Go.

Shauna Tysor motioned to adjourn the meeting. Noelle Jahncke seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.