

# September

## Galatas Elementary PTO, General Meeting September 10, 2024 at 10 AM

**Attendees:** Jessica Buono, Katie Kegley, Terri Singer, Judy Michelson, Victoria Bustamante, Megan Andalzua, Jamie Press, Katie Donovan, Nicole Serafini, Marcy Marcun, Andrea Diaz, Anne Rodriguez, Samire Choudhury, Alex Kabli, Renee Brown, Kristina Lago, Carrie, Cappabianca, Catharine Lyons, Michelle Decker, Rena Taylor Mifsud, Jessica Blanco, Karla Letness, Denae Wilker, Michelle Ladner, Gabby Willmore, Sara Carter, Yi Burnley, Christy Scharf, Amanda Gains, Candace Mathis, Lily Jaytiary, Julia Doty, Risha Sugden, Ayse Eleni Kiropha, Sabre Gaffikin, Stefan Roterson, Paula Molina, Kristi Smith, Kristina Mobley, Emily Tyson, Jordan Daniel, Kacie Stehling, Robyn Hinojosa, Alexis Robinson-Johnson, Amy Sample, Courtney Glielmi, Erin Foreman, Holly Oliver, Jessica Schellhase, McKenna Herber, Melissa Niland, Michelle Sonnier, Raygan Kelly, Suela Lajthia, Tiffany Parker, Saumira Poorsaleh.

**Megan Anzaldua, President, called meeting to order at 10:04 AM. Second: Karla Letness.**

### President's Report: Megan Anzaldua

- Welcome and thank you for coming!
- Check website and socials to see what is going on and volunteer opportunities
- Co-Chairs needed for:
  - **Hospitality** - committee for luncheons and breakfast for the teachers.
  - **Special events** - newcomer coffee and movie night in November.
  - **Springetti** - spring fundraiser
- Only 2 Fundraisers all year, all money raised goes back into the school
  - **Fall Fundraiser** - Jordan Daniel and Kacie Stehling
  - **Springetti** - Elizabeth Jones - Looking ahead: if you see toys to purchase to donate or extra unopened keep in the back of your mind to donate for springetti.
- Things to do:
  - Join the PTO
  - Fill out the volunteer form on Conroe ISD
- Corporate Sponsorship off to a good start, contact Katie Kegley if you own a business or anyone you know and would like to support Galatas
- Company Matching:
  - Keep in mind when making a donation that many companies will also match your donations
- Introduction of the 2024-2025 PTO Executive Board
  - First VP Programs - Judith Michelson
  - Second VP Fundraising - Jessica Buono
  - Third VP Membership - Karla Letness
  - Fourth VP Corporate Partnership - Katie Kegley
  - Treasurer - Terri Singer
  - Assistant Treasurer - Catharine Lyons
  - Secretary - Jordan Daniel
  - Parliamentarian - Sabre Gaffikin
- Committee heads are listed on the website

- Thank you to all of our volunteers and committees, especially:
  - Beautification - Rena Taylor and volunteers
  - Hospitality - Gabby Willmore and Lindsay Guier
  - School Supplies - Tiffany Parker
  - Library Liaison - Emma Wagenvelt
  - Marquee - Kate Winterton
  - Spirit Nights - Jan Cornelius
  - Kinder Lunch Volunteers, Lunch Dash Volunteers, PAWS Binders Volunteers, For all those who attended PTO events: BooHoo Yahoo Breakfast, PTO Coffee
  
- **Principal's Report: Mrs. Wilker**
  - Welcome and introductions
    - Assistant Principals - Candace Mathis and Dawn Wright
    - Secretary - Gina Soucy
    - Michelle Ladner - Library Help
  - Thank you:
    - Beautification - Rena Taylor and her team
    - Hospitality - Lindsay Guier
    - Megan Andalzua thank you for all your work behind the scenes
    - Room Parent Coordinator - Rachel Harter
    - School Supplies - Tiffany Parker
  - Upcoming Events:
    - Picture Day (9/12), Watch DOGS - Dads of Great Students - Kick Off (9/12), CISD Art Show (9/14), Freedom and Constitution week (9/16 - 20), CP Homecoming parade: Havana Nights (9/18), Gifted & Talented Parent Info Night (9/24 @ 5PM Galatas Gym)
  - Enrollment - 780 students
  - Top Dog Choir started today (9/10). Car Line will open at 7:05 AM, Tuesday and Thursday, please wait until 7:15AM to get into line if you don't have a choir student.
  - Internal safety audit completed and passed. Students and staff did a great job! State audit still to come. Please help keep Galatas safe and never open the doors. All visitors must go through the front to sign in. State audit to come.
  
- **Galatas Secretary Comments: Gina Soucy**
  - Introduction - Mrs. Soucy is a long time Galatas PTO supporter as a Galatas Parent and now administrator.
  - Room parents - remember to send your emails to Mrs. Soucy before sending them to your classes.
  
- **Treasurer's Report: Terri Singer**
  - Make sure you get PTO committee head approval BEFORE making any purchases. We do not reimburse sales tax. We have the 501(c) form and some accounts already set up: Amazon, Oriental Trading, etc. Costco and Sam's will generally not reimburse sales tax.
  - Reimbursement Request: Galatas PTO website → about the PTO → Boards and Committees → scroll to the bottom. Include all receipts and email approval. Assistant treasurer, Catharine Lyons, will process your reimbursements.

- Provided the current statement of financial position. Income thus far is coming primarily from memberships, friends of Galatas, corporate sponsorships, school supplies, yard signs and stickers.
  - New Venmo account to donate for monthly teacher luncheons.
  - Current Expenses - copier maintenance, fees on paypal account, beautification, art contest, back to school breakfast, directory spot membership, paws binders and stickers.
  - Questions about budget? Talk to Terri Singer or Megan Andalzua.
- **Robert's Rules of Order: Sabre Gaffikin**
    - Bylaws are accessible on the PTO website
    - Why don't we have evening meetings? We have to have a quorum and meetings in the evening have low attendance.
- **Committee Reports:**
    - **Programs - Judy Michelson**
      - Walk to School Day - October 1st, Gabby Willmore coordinating this year.
        - Chalk the walk from Hayden's Run to Cattail Park.
        - Be on the lookout for the signup, check the Gazette and Socials.
      - Science day - October 31st
        - Theme: Bats
          - Kids will learn about the ecosystems, ecolocations, and bat caves
        - Parent volunteers are needed, be on the lookout for signups
      - Red Ribbon Week and Reading Week will be combined this year. More details to come at the October meeting.
      - Questions:
        - Sara Carter- walk to school day choir students? They will talk to Mrs. Ramos to plan for them to attend.
        - Alex Kabli - planning to write all the kids' names again? Yes, will write all of their names. Leo Park CP (husband is in charge) - 3:45 PM can they help?
    - **Membership - Karla Letness**
      - Join the PTO + Membership Drive
        - Shared personal experience with joining the PTO and how it can help you find your place in this community.
    - **Spirit Nights - Jan Cornelius**
      - 9/20 - 6PM - 12AM @ Adventure Kids: pizza, ice cream, adventure play kids.
      - 9/24 - Spirit day at Russo's pickup and dine-in
    - **Lunch Dash - Kimberly Pye**
      - 2nd and 4th graders need volunteers for lunch dash. Sign up on social media.
    - **Exxon Mobil & Beautification - Rena Taylor**

- If you or your spouse are an ExxonMobil employee - for every 5 volunteers 20 hours we get \$500 for the school. Be sure you are including "Exxon" in the description of sign ups.
    - Beautification - if you want to help out, weeding, etc. please reach out.
      - Thank you for all who helped get ready for the beginning of the school year
      - Thank you to Nature's Way Resources for donating the mulch
    - Question:
      - Jan Cornelius - Can we make a community garden for the kids? 2nd and 3rd have a garden.
  - **Hospitality - Kacie Stehling**
    - Co-chair needed
    - Volunteers Needed: teachers breakfast/luncheons - switches monthly. Cookie wonderland, teacher appreciation week.
    - 9/11 Teacher luncheon - honey bee ham. Donation from Starbucks for mid day coffee.
  - **Fall Fundraiser - Kacie Stehling & Jordan Daniel**
    - Get excited! More information to come at the October meeting. Hoping to put some of the proceeds towards a new shade structure for the playground.
    - Sign up to help!
- **New Business**
  - Over the summer - Mrs. Ladner took a job at the library. This is notice for the next meeting that we will need to vote Jordan Daniel into the secretary role.
  - Jessica Buono - brought forms to register to vote - 4 seats for CISD up in this election
  - Katie Kegley - If you or someone you know owns a business and would like to support Galatas email her the information. Plenty of events and items to sponsor. Directory the website, teacher luncheons, thankful Thursday socials posts.
  - Christy Scharf
    - Fall picture day (9/12)
    - Yearbook - more information coming soon
  - Judy Michelson - 2nd year doing programs - if anyone is interested in the position next year reach out.
  - Question:
    - Renee Brown - Teachers luncheons are they the same day each month? No, but they are pre planned each month.
  - Alex Kabli - Spirit wear orders to be delivered this week - should be there next Friday (9/13) and/or Monday (9/16).

All meeting dates are on social media. Fish bowl drawing winners - Michelle Decker and Risha S.  
**Meeting adjourned by Megan Andalzua at 11:25 AM. Second: Jessica Buono.**

- **Upcoming Events**
  - **September**
    - 12 - School Picture Day & Watchdog Pizza Party Kickoff @ Galatas - 5:00 PM

- 17 - PTO Breakfast @ The Kitchen (4526 Research Forest Dr.) - 9:30 AM
- 18 - Read for a Better Life
- 18 - TWCPHS Homecoming Parade @ Market Street - 6:30 PM
- 20 - Parents Night Out @ Adventure Kids (2400 FM 1488 #900) - 6 PM - 12 AM
- **September**
  - 24 - Spirit Day @ Russo's (33335 College Park Dr., Ste 300) 11 AM - 8:30 PM
  - 26 - Newcomer Coffee @ Galatas Activity Room - 9:00 AM
- **October**
  - 1 - Walk to School Day
  - 4 - Kinder and 4th Grade Group Pictures - 8:15 AM
  - **8 - PTO Meeting - 10:00 AM**