

EPS PA General Meeting

Thursday, September 15, 2011

In Attendance

See attached sign in sheet.

Introductions

Anne Corley introduced the board members present.

Important emails:

Executive Committee: epsa@eastsideprep.org

Class Reps: epsclassreps@eastsideprep.org

Vickie Baldwin, Staff Liaison: vbaldwin@eastsideprep.org

Terry Macaluso joined us to kick off the new school year. She said this is one of the most energy-filled years. The student count is 245 students. Andrew Boyd is the new CFO. There are several new staff. There is building construction all over campus. In a few months, the Black Box theater and TCU will be under construction, combining the buildings to become a theater, cafeteria and student center. The project will take the rest of the year to complete. There is still money to be raised to complete this project.

Questions were taken about parking, computers and EPS' wireless community, Back to School Night (Thursday, September 22), after school activities, clubs and sports, the changes this year to Spring Adventures.

The school will have a new focus on assessment, trips and overall school philosophies to ensure they are in line with EPS' mission.

Class Representatives present introduced themselves.

PA Mission

The purpose of the EPSPA is to promote community, hospitality and school volunteerism. The Association's mission is to facilitate and enhance the relationship and communication between our community of families and the school, to support the school's exceptional learning environment, and to enrich the educational and social experience for families, students, faculty and staff.

The PA is not a fundraising organization.

Debrief on Back-to-School Events/Hospitality

Picnics (Class Reps)

Issues discussed included: when two class picnics happen on the same day, the challenge new families had in figuring out who the student was and who the siblings were (one suggestion is to have nametags for the students), the positive impact of kids getting to see

“faces” before the first day of school, the challenge of choosing a picnic site further away and the rush hour traffic situation.

First-Day Coffee

Issues discussed included: having a second-hand book sale that same morning (a father, Sujal, volunteered to possibly organize a two-day book swap before schools starts0, it was very crowded and the space was too small to socialize and interact with other parents (next year we will use the new building).

Ice Cream Social

This event was for the students only.

Hospitality/October Events

Fall Harvest Event, Friday, October 21st, The Bellevue Club

This event is for adults only. A volunteer committee is needed. This is an evening for parents and staff. It is casual and a way to mingle with faculty and staff. It is not a fundraiser.

Halloween Bowling, Sunday, October 30th, 4-6 p.m., Tech City Bowl

This event is sponsored by the 6th grade class. It is open to the whole school. It is a costume party and includes bowling and a costume contest. There is a committee already meeting and plenty of opportunities for additional volunteers. Tickets will be sold prior to the event.

Adult Bowling, January, Lucky Strikes

Campus Clean-Up, rescheduled for Spring

There are many opportunities to volunteer on the Hospitality Committee. All interested should contact Diane Najm through epsa@eastsideprep.org.

Staff Appreciation

This year we are spreading out staff appreciation throughout the school year. Each Wednesday in March, two grades will bring food to school for the staff. In October and January, Staff Appreciation will take place on professional development days, when only the staff is at school.

School Support Programs

Vickie Baldwin discussed a few easy ways to raise money for EPS. Those programs include: The Celebrated Chefs program, Box Tops for Education, Amazon affiliates program, and the matching funds programs. A parent volunteer is needed to organize these programs. A book fair was suggested. The University Book Store is a new alternative to the Scholastic Book Fair. Lisa Conquergood agreed to research this possibility.

Budget

Karen Triebes thanked all Class Reps for turning in their expenses on time for the class picnics. Changes to the budget included adding “Coffees” at the beginning of each trimester and a Campus Clean-Up project for families with an international potluck. All expense forms get turned into the PA mailbox in the Administration Building. If you want to donate the cost of the item, you must still fill out a form so the PA can keep track of how much activities cost. Funding for the PA comes from the EPS budget.

Other Business

Grade Level Get Togethers

Anne Corley asked if parents had any ideas for class get togethers, which should be planned by Class Reps each trimester. Please send ideas to your individual Class Reps.

General Meetings

A discussion ensued about the best time for General Meetings. A show of hands indicated a Wednesday 2 p.m. meeting does not work well for many of those present. The PA Executive Committee will determine the schedule for PA General Meetings for the school year.

Drop Off

Each family will receive visor cards to speed up the process of drop-off/pick up. Carpools often park in the lot and walk to pick up their kids. Parent parking is available in front of the Administration Building. Discussion ensued about how to navigate the parking lot and places to park during pick up times. Safety issues were reviewed.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 12th, 2 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Brashem.