

Arnold Elementary PTA General Membership Meeting November 14, 2017

6:00pm

Arnold Elementary at Severn River Middle School Media Center

MINUTES

I. Call to Order/Welcome & Introductions - Meeting began at 6:03pm

II. Meeting minutes approved

III. Guest speaker: Elizabeth Rosberg, Past President, Current VP of Arnold Preservation Council

a. Joyce Lane currently under construction to bring it up to code.

b. Three developments are being built with new townhouses and single family homes.

c. Encouraged our parents to get involved in upcoming county council elections to voice our concerns about development in Arnold and the impact on schools.

d. Check www.aacounty.org for updates on B&A trail extension and other projects.

e. Meetings are 4 times a year and everyone is invited to attend. More info on their website:

www.arnoldpreservationcouncil.org

IV. Officer Reports:

a. President:

1. Kerry Petz (former PTA president) is now the cChair of Dr. Arlotto's Parent Advisory Council. Please send any thoughts and concerns to ckpetz@gmail.com

b. Vice President:

1. No report.

c. Treasurer:

1. Current Balance is \$23407.15

2. Audit has been sent and taxes have been filed with the state and federal PTA

3. Walk-a-thon raised over \$13,000 which exceeded our goal!

4. All bills have been paid, so if you have submitted a reimbursement request and have not received payment, please contact Kathi Burroughs.

d. Secretary: No communications to report.

V. Principal's Report:

a. Thank you for the 27 Chrome books that PTA has purchased!

b. Thank you for the coffee bar provided to the teachers and staff.

c. Dr. Recess was a very interactive assembly and played with the kids at recess.

d. Steel drums program paid for by PTA will take place next month for 3rd and 4th grades. All students will attend the assembly.

VI. Committee Reports:

a. Membership- PTA membership cards will be distributed by Thanksgiving.

b. Family Fun-

1. Literacy night coming up this Thursday, November 16th, 6-7:30pm with lots of activities planned for kids and parents.

2. Online book fair for running for 2 weeks.

c. Dad's Club- no report

d. Teacher Appreciation- Coffee bar was provided for staff recently, and lunch is being planned for December conference day.

e. Walk-a-thon- Huge success!

f. Instructional Volunteers- no report

g. Fall Festival- Teachers and room parents helped Beth to organize a very successful festival! Raised over \$2000 for PTA! If anyone would like the fish tank, it is available.

f. Citizens Advisory Council- no report

h. Assemblies- Dr. Recess was great and Justin Berk will be our next assembly.

i. Arnold Cares- Thank you for the snacks that were donated. Holiday needs will be coming soon via signup genius emails. Please contact Alice Bowman if you'd like to participate:
aabowman9@gmail.com

j. Box Tops- We collected over 4000 box tops last month and we received \$413 for PTA!

k. Holiday Breakfast and Santa Shop-

1. December 2nd, 9-11:30am at Severn River Middle School.

2. Breakfast will be in the cafeteria and the santa shop will be in the lounge.

3. Help is needed for set-up on Friday night, or older siblings needed on the day of the event to help young students shop for gifts. Contact Jen Hetherington to volunteer:

jjeenn00@yahoo.com

l. Mids for Kids- Lots of Mids are participating all 5 days of the week and the kids love it!

m. Snowflake Dance- Will take place in mid-February

n. Mother/Son- no report

o. International Night-

1. Will take place Friday, April 6th.

2. If anyone would like to be an ambassador for a country, please contact Jen Hickey (jennifer_hickey@symantec.com).

3. Each homeroom has been assigned a country. Parents are encouraged to tie-in guest reader and guest artist activities to these countries.

p. 5th Grade Promotion- no report

q. Yearbook- Submit photos online.

r. Unity Garden- Aromatherapy garden is being pushed to the Spring due to space constraints.

s. Guest Artist- Most parent volunteers have been providing their own supplies. Kristine Kaske-Martin has a small amount of paint and construction paper available. If materials are needed, please contact her: kkaske@gmail.com

t. Amazon Smile PTA fundraiser: Please sign up for the Smile program on [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and designate Arnold PTA to receive funds... and remember to shop there for the holidays!

VII. Old Business: None

VIII. New Business:

1. A new sub-committee of PTA has been formed to create our own school CAC (Citizens Advisory Council). Jessica Snell-Johns and Renee Sherwood will lead this committee to facilitate discussion on concerns, thoughts, issues related to the Arnold Elementary. Representatives will include parents from each grade, staff members, etc. The purpose is for parents to have a place to go when they have concerns or questions, in order to be connected to the appropriate resource. Please contact Renee or Jessica for more info. reneemsherwood@gmail.com snelljohns@yahoo.com

IX. Announcements:

1. Upcoming PTA meetings: Jan 9th, March 13, May 8th

2. Heather Polk is part of the Special Education Citizens Advisory Council and they are working with the county to create a brochure to go in every student's report cards to draw attention to resources for learning disabilities. Please contact Heather if you'd like more information about resources:

hrobeypolk@gmail.com or Kristine Kaske-Martin: kkaske@gmail.com

X. Adjournment: 7:14 pm