

Minutes of Laurance Haines School PTA

Wednesday 9th January 2019

Welcomes and introductions

Present: Sebastian Gray (Head) Steph Lennox (Chair), Emma Morrissey (vice-chair) Rebecca Davis (secretary), Nidhi Jajodia (treasurer), Zoe Walker, Kelichi Onyemancheya, Denise Plociennik.

Apologies:

none

2) Log-ins for charity commission and FoLHS email

Denise Plociennik will chase IT for the reset of the FoLHS email and pass on the log-in details to the Chair so that the email address can be checked for the Charity Commission details. If the details are not on the email then Denise offered to contact them directly if necessary. **(As of 25 January 2019 the email was reset and the chair was able to get the Charity Commission login details)**

3) Pedestrian Crossing

It was suggested that the school should be involved in campaigning for a pedestrian crossing at the Vicarage Road, Hagden Lane, Willow Lane junction. The junction is dangerous for pedestrians and this danger will increase once the new developments are completed and the ambulance only section of Sawyer Way is open to all traffic. Chair has mailed Mo Mills but, at time of meeting, had no reply. It was agreed that we need to involve the whole school community, and approach the local community too. Vice-Chair will contact Herts Highways for facts and statistics for the junction, Treasurer will approach the West Watford Community Centre, school will create and carry out a petition and Head will speak to Peter Taylor (Watford Mayor) at an event in school. Chair will also e-mail local MP, Richard

Harrington. The Vice-Chair will also look at the Hospital plans to see if there are any planned solutions to the issue.

4) Review of online survey

Last term a survey was sent out to parents asking for ideas and opinions on the PTA events. 8 people responded and all the suggestions were discussed; some were added to the list below for implementing, whereas others were not possible at the moment.

- Indoor games tables: an Air Hockey table would be used in the Board Games club. The committee will look into prices.

- Buddy/Friendship Bench: school are currently looking at prices for a new bench for this purpose. It was suggested that pupils/School Council could paint one of the current benches to give them ownership.

- More dress-up clothes: a dedicated collection point could be set up on an arranged day to make this simple for parents to donate. Or it could be collected, by prior arrangement, if it was difficult to bring to school. **This could also include any board games/books donated to the lunchtime club/school that need collecting.**

- A class set of tablets: the school is currently reviewing the computer situation and are considering buying Chromebooks as an alternative to the ipads, as a more sustainable solution.

- Giant playground games: the committee will look for offers of these games and purchase when available.

- Cinema trip: it was agreed that the logistics and cost involved with a trip like this would be quite high. However, a Movie night run by the PTA would be a viable alternative, after school. There would be drinks and popcorn available.

- Rollerdisco: Treasurer will contact Sally to find out the possibility of hosting this event at the school and any benefit for fundraising.

5) Fund allocation

The PTA will continue with historic purchases, such as the Birthday books and Leaver's books, as well as requests from the school. Mr Gray asked for 16 PE ambassadors shirts to be introduced this year and additional playground bins. The Chair suggested getting quotes for astroturf in the playground, particularly KS1.

6) Fundraising schedule

A full calendar of events was discussed and provisional dates were chosen for;

Disco

Year 3/4 Disco will be on 15th March, 5.30-7.00 with Grant.

Year 5/6 Disco will be on 7 June, 5.30-7.00

Year 1/2 Disco will be on 12th July, 5.00 till 6.30pm. (tbc)

Following suggestions on the survey there will be a parent Quiz Night on 26th April, at the school. Final details will be arranged at a later date

Summer Fayre – 15th June. This event will be mostly based outside, weather permitting. It was suggested there would be a stall for Father's Day, as it is the next day. Any inflatables would be in the Upper Hall for safety purposes.

Car Boot Sale – date to be agreed for the Summer Term, once the football season has finished.

Christmas Fayre – provisionally suggested for the evening of Nov 29th.

AOB

None. No date was set for the next meeting.