

Maplebrook Home & School

General Meeting Minutes of Thursday, January 23, 2025, 7:00 PM C.T. Via Zoom.

Present

1. Elizabeth Evers
2. Greg Mulvey
3. Colleen O'Donnell
4. Jeannie Gentile (Vice President)
5. Mrs. Ordaz (Principal)
6. Jillian Langer (President)
7. Yulia Levadnaya (Treasurer)
8. Jess Harnish
9. Cory Diedrich
10. Jena McKinnon
11. Mallory McDermott
12. Denisse M. (Secretary)

Welcome

The meeting was called to order and began at 7:02 P.M. Central Time.

Minute Approvals

The November 2024 minutes were approved by an initial motion by Mr. Mulvey, seconded by Ms. McKinnon.

President's Report (Jillian Langer)

Ms. Langer reported on the slow January at the mothership, the Focus 203 session, and the directive to review the budget for the next year. Ms. Langer also thanked the winter party chairs, Courtney Vaccaro and Susan Oppenheimer, and the teacher gift card program organizers, Liz Evers, Nadia Sheehan, and Mrs. Gomez. Lastly, she shared that they made \$215 from their Italian night event.

Ms. Langer next discussed various upcoming events and initiatives. The half-baked goods event, which raised over \$500 last year, is set to take place in five days. Ms. Harnish reported on the successful coin drive, which raised just over \$800, and the new initiatives of gift baskets and the mentor program. It was also noted that the mentor program has seen an increase in sign-ups and is expected to benefit many families. The next Home and School meeting is scheduled for February 27th, and the adult social event at Whirly Ball is planned for February 15th. The meeting also touched on the need for volunteers for the fundraiser portion of the

Whirly Ball event. Lastly, Ms. Langer announced that Ms. Levadnaya will continue as the Treasurer, replacing Mr. Fishbein who stepped down due to the demanding nature of the role.

Ms. Langer discussed the upcoming book fair and the logistics of the talent show, which is planned for either March or April. Ms. O'Donnell raised concerns about the weather affecting the cookie dough fundraiser, suggesting it might be better to schedule it in March. Ms. Langer also mentioned open positions for the general home and school, and encouraged interested parties to reach out. Ms. McKinnon announced that kindergarten sign-ups are ready for the kindergarten preview day, and she is hoping to have sign-ups for 6th through 8th grade ready as well. Ms. Evers suggested that Maplebrook could partner with the League of Women Voters to present a candidate forum for the upcoming School Board election, and Ms. Langer agreed to look into this.

In the meeting, Ms. McKinnon proposed adding a blurb about the Lincoln Weekly Newsletter to the next Wag, which Ms. Manfredo agreed to. Ms. Evers asked about acknowledging a former teacher, Mrs. Columbus, who had passed away, and how the community could do so within the Wag. Ms. Langer and Principal Ordaz discussed how they had been involved in the planning for Mrs. Columbus's remembrance, with Principal Ordaz mentioning that they would include a mention of the NEF 203 Fund in the Wag. Mr. Mulvey suggested that there might be a special budget for such occasions. The conversation ended with Ms. Langer thanking everyone for attending.

Principal's Report (Principal Ordaz)

Principal Ordaz then gave a report starting with the end of December, highlighting the success of the winter parties led by home and school chairs, and the high participation in the Firefighter Challenge. Principal Ordaz also mentioned the successful District Gift Mart, which benefited many families across the district.

Principal Ordaz discussed the school's approach to managing cold weather, emphasizing the importance of students going outside for recess unless the temperature is below 0 degrees. Principal Ordaz also highlighted the need for students to wear appropriate cold-weather attire and for families to label their children's clothing and boots. Principal Ordaz expressed gratitude for carpool participants and watchdogs who have helped during the winter months. Principal Ordaz also mentioned that the school will be sending reports home regarding students' performance on district assessments, and encouraged parents to contact their child's classroom teacher if they have any concerns.

Vice-President's Report (Jeannie Gentile)

None.

Treasurer's Report (Yulia Levadnaya)

Ms. Levadnaya presented the treasurer's report noting the beginning balance for November as \$36,546.19 and the ending balance as \$35,567.91, with major expenses including the \$3,450 for the field trip. Next, the December report was presented as \$35,567.91 and the ending balance as \$33,945.71, with major expenses including the \$14,012.40, \$1,644.47 and \$1,805 gift card program expenses. The treasurer reports and reconciliation reports were saved in the Home and School Treasurer Report folder. Motion to approve both reports was made by Ms. O'Donnell and seconded by Ms. Evers.

Committee Updates

Noted with the President's Report.

Upcoming Events

- ★ January 30 - Open House
- ★ February 20 - Fine Arts Night

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. O'Donnell and seconded by Ms. Evers. The motion was passed and the meeting ended at 7:43 P.M. Central Time.