

Maplebrook Home & School

General Meeting Minutes of Thursday, October 17, 2024, 7:00 PM C.T. Via Zoom.

Present

1. Jeannie Gentile
2. Jillian Langer
3. Principal Ordaz
4. Amy Irvin
5. Blythe Munoz
6. Brian Munoz
7. Colleen O'Donnell
8. Diane Macrowski
9. Elizabeth Evers
10. Ellen Hanson
11. Emily Tonon
12. Greg Mulvey
13. Jamie Calandriello
14. Jena Mckinnon
15. Mallory Mcdermott
16. Nadia Sheehan
17. Jess Harnish
18. Denisse M.

Welcome

The meeting was called to order and began at 7:03 P.M. Central Time.

Principal's Report (Principal Ordaz)

Principal Ordaz discussed the various activities and events happening at Maplebrook, including the 50th Anniversary, Turkey Trot, Veterans Day, and the Poppy Sale. She also highlighted the importance of parent engagement, thanking volunteers for their contributions. Principal Ordaz mentioned the introduction of a weekly building-wide prompt to foster student belonging and community

Minute Approvals

The August 2024 minutes were approved by an initial motion by Ms. Calandriello, seconded by Ms. Mckinnon. Next, Ms. Calandriello made a motion to approve the September 2024 minutes, seconded by Ms. Sheehan.

President's Report (Jillian Langer)

Ms. Langer expressed gratitude to various volunteers and chairs for their contributions to the school's activities, including Ms. O'Donnell, Ms. Morton for Walk to School Day, Mr. Griffiths for

being Wily Wildcat, Ms Morton and Ms. O'Donnell for the vision and hearing screening. Ms. Langer also acknowledged Jen Dotson's role in hospitality, Megan Mazar's landscaping efforts, Ms. Calandriello's work with sign-up genius, Ms. Evers and Ms. Sheehan's efforts with teacher wish lists, and the Book Fair organizers. Ms. Langer also recognized the efforts of Stephanie Manfredo in social media, Dan Calendriello and Courtney Dieterich for Watch Dogs and Mogs, and Mr. Mulvey for the 5th grade Outdoor Ed. Ms. Langer introduced Ms. Harnish, the new Family Connections coordinator, who discussed plans for a coin drive, welcome baskets for new families, and a mentor program. The coin drive was proposed for either the end of November or the first week of December, with feedback sought on the best timing.

Ms. Langer expressed concerns about the need to fill open positions to avoid event cancellations and the strain on the Executive Board. She highlighted the need for a co-treasurer to assist Ms. Xiong, who has new job responsibilities and personal commitments. Ms. Langer also expressed concern about the lack of volunteers for the Fun Fest event, which could lead to its cancellation. Ms. Munoz proposed the idea of creating a flyer to distribute to kids' folders to advertise open positions, but this would need to be approved by Mrs. Ordaz. The team discussed strategies for recruiting volunteers for various positions at the school, considering using flyers, backpacks, teacher newsletters, and social media. They agreed to target kindergarten parents, who might be new to the school and not yet involved. The team also discussed the possibility of creating flyers or s'mores for these parents. The conversation ended with the team agreeing to collaborate on these strategies.

Ms. Langer emphasized the importance of parents discussing the consequences of posting sensitive content on social media with their children, following a serious incident involving the FBI and a student's TikTok post.

Vice-President's Report (Jeannie Gentile)

None.

Treasurer's Report (absent)

Ms. Xiong was not present at this meeting, Ms. Langer delivered the treasurer's report. The treasurer's report revealed a beginning balance of \$37,479.78 and an ending balance of \$41,646.71 for September. The team also discussed the success of the dine-outs, upcoming events, and the yearbook. Lastly, the need for a paperless system for check signing and the vacant treasurer position were highlighted.

Committee Updates

Ms. Gentile noted that the next home and school meeting was announced for November 14, 2024. Next, Mr. Munoz and Ms. Langer discussed an upcoming adult social event, with Ms. Langer expressing a need for additional help. They agreed to expand the event's budget slightly due to inflation and Mr. Munoz requested more information about venue and band costs. Ms. Langer also mentioned that Ms. Gentile, who had organized the event the previous year, would be a valuable resource for Mr. Munoz. Additionally, Ms. Langer discussed the upcoming NEF

run, where two participants from Maplebrook would be participating, and encouraged others to donate to the Maplebrook team or to Ms. Tonon and herself. The funds raised would be used to purchase more recess equipment.

Upcoming Events

- ★ October 18th - Vision and Hearing Screening
- ★ October 22nd - Picture Retake Day
- ★ October 31st - Fall Party

Next Steps

- None.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. O'Donnell and seconded by Ms. Sheehan. The motion was passed and the meeting ended at 7:47P.M. Central Time.