

**Koontz PTO Meeting Minutes**  
**April 25, 2017**  
**Koontz Media Center**  
**8:00am**

**Present:** Kim Murphy, Erika Eill, Cate Rheney, Shannon Reese, Patricia Palma, Laura Douglas, Robyn Thomason, Robin Board, Emily Terry (Guest), and Lauren Groves (Guest)

- I. Welcome/ Call to Order** – Erika Eill, 8:08AM.
  - a. Mrs. Hilliard came by to thank the PTO for the pipe and drape purchase. It looks fabulous!
- II. Guest** – Emily Terry from Xplore – Emily and Lauren from Xplore came and spoke to us about their student exchange program and camp that has been in Asheville for 7 years. They are in need of host families this year. The exchange student and kids of the host family (if desired) attend a 9am-5pm camp every weekday during their visit. Each child learns about the other's culture and language during this time. It's a win/win for both sides. Emily passed out flyers with additional information.
- III. Teacher Representative Reports and Title One**
  - a. Title One – Mallory Morrill (emailed report)

Title I would just like to say thank you for your continued involvement. As we head toward the end of the school year, we're working on compiling EOY benchmark data and preparing for our Title I summer parent event. Also, we are planning a community resource fair during the 4th to 5th grade transition night. We have invited multiple community partners to present what they have to offer our families including YMCA, Painting With a Twist Kids Summer Camps, Goodwill, Big Brother Big Sister, Bookmobile, and more.
  - b. 5<sup>th</sup> Grade – Kayleigh Smith (emailed report)

All except for 2 classes have gone on their field trip to the Biltmore house. It was a very good trip, with a program about sustainability, a visit to the farm, the blacksmith and then a personalized tour around the house with a live guide. 5th science would like to thank PTO for money for owl pellets. The students really enjoyed investigating what was inside each pellet.
  - c. UA - Christy Woppman - all going well with the Wizard of Oz!
- IV. President statement** – Kim Murphy
  - a. End of Year dinner is scheduled for Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5-6pm Location: Cate Rheney's house – we will get food from our partner restaurants.
  - b. House Bill 13 and House Bill 800 updates (Shannon Reese)
    - i. HB 13 – The Senate Education committee voted last night to delay enforcing class size requirements until next year. Senator Barefoot, chair of the Education Committee, said school districts are unwilling to provide requested information. We, as

parents, need to continue contacting our representatives about this issue as this has not been resolved.

- ii. HB 800 – This one is about making changes to laws that affect charter schools. This bill include allowing charter schools to increase enrollment by 30% with a continuance of very little oversight, allowing corporations to purchase slots for employees’ children and they can make up to 50% of enrollment, and that a portion of money raised for public schools by organizations will be given to charter schools. All this is very bad news for public schools.

**V. Principals’ Reports** – Ms. Robin Board thanked the PTO for supporting Koontz.

- a. Ms. Board is retiring at the end of this year after 33 years of service. On May 1<sup>st</sup> at 3:15 in the media center, Mr. Baldwin and Ms. Swanger will be at Koontz to discuss with stakeholders the qualities desired in the next principal. The advisory board and PTO have been invited.
- b. Proctors needed for EOG’s in May – please see Mr. Cowan if you can volunteer.
- c. A poll was conducted among the teachers to determine if we need to keep the 3 teachers teams for next year. Only Language Arts did not want to keep them because they feel they need more time to work on writing skills.
- d. Our teachers completed the first year of Global Learning and this training will be complete next year. Once that happens, Koontz will be the first school in Buncombe County with that designation.
- e. Ms. Board will go before the school board in June to present information about uniforms. The uniform policy may be simplified into colors for next year.
- f. Next year will mark our 3<sup>rd</sup> as a LIM school.
- g. An open house for the parents of rising 5<sup>th</sup> graders will be held May 11 from 5:45pm – 7:15pm. Club information will be updated and available and the PTO will have a table with information.

**VI. Vice President’s Report** – President-Elect: Erika Eill

- a. Global Themed Friday update – April 21 (World Character Day) – we only raised \$70 this last one. Hopefully the next one will be more popular and will be free to the kids to participate.
- b. Garden: Herb and Tomato Sale – Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup> - all the plants have been transferred into cups and signs are being made to advertise the sale.

- VII. Treasurer's Report** – Mandy Klepper (emailed report)
- a. I had to register the QB's program (not an accountant obviously) and am not able to provide a budget today. A budget will be sent to the board before noon today once QB's is registered.
  - b. EXPENSES
    - i. 5/6th grade Science teachers ordered their owl pellets; \$90
    - ii. PTO replaced the front office KEURIG (was purchased by PTO previously); \$139
    - iii. Pipe & Drape was purchased for the stage, previously approved by board; \$3281
  - c. INCOME
    - i. \$247 collected for "MUSIC" Global Themed Friday;
    - ii. \$100 collected for Barbaritoes Fun Food Night
    - iii. Currently collecting for Wizard of Oz Sponsorships
    - iv. Teacher's are spending their \$150

**VIII. VP Report – Programming Update:** Amy Haldeman and Kim Stevens  
 April 21<sup>st</sup> (Time: 8:15am and 9:15am)– We have the Children's Theater of Charlotte perform "New Kid"

**IX. Committee Reports**

- a. Hospitality: Shellie Whitmire: Teacher Appreciation Week May 1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup>
- b. Banners: Over spring break, there was an article in the ACT by John Boyle where someone questioned having sponsors' banners up on the fence of the school where passing cars can see them. Then, an anonymous phone call was made to Asheville's zoning people who then visited the school and said they must come down. We are allowed to hang a sign (up to 32 feet) for 60 days once per year. Or we can hang small signs each for 10 days. We have decided to hang our signs on the car rider line fence so those picking up and dropping off for school during the week and events during the weekends can see them.

- **Adjournment:** 9:16am
- **Recorded by:** Cate Rheney, Secretary

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR:**

2-hr. Early Release – April 28<sup>th</sup>

Teacher's Appreciation Week – May 1<sup>st</sup> thru. May 5<sup>th</sup>

Spring Musical – Show times: Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm and Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 2pm

Global Friday: Mother Earth Day - May 19<sup>th</sup> (Tie-dye and flowers)

**PTO Board Meeting Schedule**

Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> @ Time: 5pm-6pm Change over gathering and last meeting of the year!