



## Educare Family Association Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: January 10, 2018

### Attendees

Alisa Bell, Alyssa Theodore, Janice Czeh, Kim Rokos, Mary Janson, Sue Mogard, Tara Steiner and Wendy Jue

### Budget Updates

- Wreath Making Event income (6 families participated). A total of \$110 received in EFA donations. PNO earned \$210. Discovery Trail received \$25 in donations. Holiday lunch for staff cost \$149.59. We also received donations from families for the holiday meal.
- Plan for general budget of \$2,500 for the year based on historical information.

### Reviewed Meeting Minutes

- Minutes reviewed from November 2017 EFA meeting. No questions or comments.

### EFA Bulletin Board

- Alyssa did a great job updating the foyer display to make it a winter wonderland with icicles, snow and falling snowflakes.
- We are still looking for a way to display and store the discovery trail books for families to borrow. We would like to develop a simple sign-out sheet to encourage families to help themselves and use the available books.
- It would be nice to display monthly activities to encourage usage of the trail.
- Journey sticks could be used to display items collected along the trail.
- It would be neat to develop an Educare Families Appreciating Nature (FAN) Club that meets regularly for nature-centered activities and/or discovery trail walks.

### Welcoming Committee

- Welcoming Committee activities are ongoing. Welcome packets were provided to new incoming families. Directory pages were updated and have also been distributed.
- Alyssa put together the original list of family fun activities. Others are welcome to add to this list of resources.

### Property Improvement and Maintenance Committee

- Interested in getting a Guest Book for visitors using the trail.
- Janice has filled the nature boxes with items.
- We are continuing to receive donations. It was suggested that the Amazon Wish List be updated to include new items since the majority have already been fulfilled. Could potentially include more outdoor items to encourage outdoor play and nature-oriented activities.

## Fundraising Committee

- Cookbook Fundraiser (Alisa)
  - We have 17 recipes from last year. 10 have been added this year so far.
  - Our goal is to have 100 recipes in the completed book since we have about 100 families at ELC.
  - It might be helpful to send a blank generic (no theme) recipe page home in kids' backpacks with a flyer that outlines our goal of receiving at least one recipe per family to encourage any type recipe. The flyer should also mention the Scholastic Book drawing each month for families that provide recipes. The first drawing will take place at the end of January.
  - The cookbook could include self-portraits from kids that contributed recipes.
  - It would be fun to add humorous recipes where kids are asked how to make XYZ and get their honest and funny responses.
  - We could encourage discussion in the classrooms cooking with friends and sharing recipes. Teachers and staff are also welcome to share recipes.
  - We could add a section for kid-friendly non-edible art recipes (i.e. play dough, gak, tempura paint, kinetic sand, salt dough). Janice has lots of recipes and ideas to contribute to this section.
  - We should decide on a target end date for collecting recipes in May or June to have printed recipe books ready to sell by the year-end picnic. Any later and families may not have the opportunity to purchase the recipe book before moving on.
- Vendor Event (Erin)
  - Discuss at a later meeting.
- Food Truck Event
  - Brett Novick has a food truck business. Janice will inquire to see if he is available and possibly interested in participating in future events.

## Community Outreach

- Souper Bowl Food Drive
  - Alyssa drafted an adorable Souper Bowl flyer. Maybe include some crackers to go along with it. Donation box located in the foyer.
- Coat Drive
  - County asked teachers to provide names of those in need, to avoid duplicates and others being left out. No longer open.

## Event Committee

- Wreath: 6 families in attendance, \$20 donations for wreaths
- Family Potluck & Movie Night 3/10/18
  - Need flyer
  - Prompt families to bring favorite dish and recipe for cookbook
  - We can re-use last year's flyer
  - Set up movie in the room
  - Have games available in a room
  - Kim will update flyer and send it out for review.

- Erin offered at last meeting, so Janice will touch base to determine if Kim should take this one.
- End of Year Picnic/ Ice Cream Social Event 5/19/18
  - Maybe have food truck, or pig roast from hemp with potluck
  - Ice Cream or Italian Ice place to serve on site
  - Boxcar, Just Smokin Around, etc. other local food truck type options

#### **Staff Appreciation Committee**

- We will discuss this more during the March meeting.
- Like the idea of having food truck or ordering food from a local restaurant.
- Suggest providing a meal for staff and either a gift card or gift item.

#### **MSCCA Conference**

- This 3-day conference takes place in Ocean City. In past years, EFA provided funds for staff lodging. One staff member has shown interest so far, but registration has just opened up so there may be more interest in the coming weeks.

**Next PNO:** February 10, 2018

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018, 6:30-8:00 pm

Minutes completed by Wendy Jue