

February 2016 PTA Minutes

- I. Call to Order – 6:50 PM
- II. Approval of Minutes
 - a. 1st motion – Karen Nishimura
 - b. 2nd motion –
 - c. All in favor
- III. Treasurer’s Report – Kirsten Bell
 - a. D96 pays for buses for only one of the two field trips Ames PTA offers
 - i. Ames PTA provides
 - 1. \$10/student for a cultural arts field trip
 - 2. \$5/student for a non-cultural arts field trip
 - 3. Parents cover any remaining cost
 - ii. Ames PTA did not budget for buses for the second field trip
 - 1. Motion to approve \$1500 for buses for field trips this year – Karen Nishimura
 - 2. 2nd motion – Michelle Galindo
 - 3. All in favor
 - b. More Fun at Ames Budget
 - i. Ames PTA would like to support Mr. Gierman in adding more fun events to the school calendar.
 - 1. Examples
 - a. Sports Spirit Day – winning class received popcorn
 - b. February 29th – Celebrate Leap Year
 - c. Please suggest other ideas to Kim Marrero
 - 2. Motion to approve \$600 budget for Fun at Ames for remainder of year – Karen Nishimura
 - 3. 2nd motion – Michelle Galindo
 - 4. All in favor
- IV. Nominating Committee
 - a. Lisa Swicionis has been chosen for the nominating committee by the current PTA Board
 - b. Motion to select Deanna Hall to the nominating committee – Sarah Gibbs
 - i. 2nd motion – Leilani Navarro
 - ii. All in favor
 - c. Motion to select Lisa Hennelly to the nominating committee – Karen Nishimura
 - i. 2nd motion – Leilani Navarro
 - ii. All in favor
- V. New Business
 - a. \$2000 approved at the beginning of the year for school gifts – Please give ideas for gifts to Kim Marrero
 - b. Playground
 - i. District Playground Committee has determined that Ames has the smallest playground area per child in the district

- ii. Ames PTA would like to maximize space by painting games on the blacktop
 - 1. Ames PTA would like to paint this summer
 - a. Please contact Katie Vahey if you can volunteer
 - 2. The blacktop is scheduled to be resurfaced
 - a. The painting this summer will serve as a template for the district after the resurfacing is complete
- c. Fundraising
 - i. Cleaner Options is no longer offering a fundraising option
 - 1. Cleaner Options has new owners
 - 2. Discussed voicing disappointment individually and/or collectively
 - 3. Discussed asking local cleaners to offer a fundraising option
 - ii. Target will stop their fundraising for schools through the Target Red Card program as of May 2016
 - iii. Reminders
 - 1. Support Nascar Car Wash fundraiser
 - 2. Send in Box Tops with your child
 - iv. New ideas for fundraising
 - 1. Melaleuca or other such company to donate % of sales
 - 2. Amazon Smile
 - 3. Please offer other suggestions to Katie Vahey
- d. Second Language Program
 - i. D96 Board of Education did not pass the recommendations of the World Languages Committee a couple of years ago
 - ii. Ames PTA would like to find a way to offer a second language at an affordable way after-school
 - 1. Volunteer teachers
 - 2. Contract teachers from language/cultural schools in the Chicago area
 - 3. Parents that are native speakers work in conjunction with parents that have teaching experience
 - 4. Speak to our ELL and Bilingual teachers
 - iii. Discussed choosing languages – focus on long-term investment and future demand
 - iv. Discussed after-school program as a short-term solution and a movement to pass a second language program by the BOE as a long-term solution
- e. PTA table at future events
 - i. Add new members
 - ii. Reminders about how to stay informed
 - iii. Survey for ideas regarding
 - 1. Fundraising (Cleaner Options and Target)
 - 2. Second language program
 - 3. Ideas for PTA gift/s to Ames

VI. Meeting Closed - 7:35 PM

VII. In attendance – Kim Marrero, Kirsten Bell, Karen Nishimura, Leilani Navarro, Michelle Galindo, Laura Zaremba, Hyunsoo Lee, Sarah Ostrowski, Sarah Gibbs, Emilia Kowalski, Dana Frank,