

**LITTLE ROCK CENTRAL HIGH PTSA 2020-21
MAY 18, 2021 ZOOM MEETING**

(Minutes taken by Danyelle Walker, Recording Secretary)

Jennifer Ronnel called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

Danyelle Walker read the minutes and asked for any corrections. No corrections were made and the minutes were approved.

Budget Review/Treasurer's Report - Megan Eves

- There was Limited committee activity.
- The main focus has been on the teachers.
- The biggest expense will be the Eat My Catfish lunch for teachers next week.
- Thanks to Mandy Jenkins who made sure the teachers had snacks.
- Current finances – operating expenses were well below budget. (Spent \$13,902.89 compared to a budget of \$26,200)
- Income from Kroger and Amazon was more than budgeted. (Brought in \$22,072 compared to a budget of \$20,350). One silver lining of the pandemic. ☺
- Reminder – Kroger plus and amazon smile accounts would be super helpful and should bring in over \$4000.00 to the school's income.
- Summary of account balances - 2021 LRCH income & expense budget – if anyone wants to discuss or review, please contact Megan Eves for details.

Jennifer Ronnel thanked Megan for her services and remarked at how very giving Megan is of her time even though she's employed full time and has children at home.

Corresponding Secretary – Sheryl McKelvey

- Jennifer Ronnel stressed how important eblast has been this year, especially with the pandemic, and how it is a lifeline between the PTSA and the school.
- Sheryl McKelvey stated that there were 3000 prescribers to the eblast and that she could see how many clicks were made on the site and that activity had been very good.
- Sheryl stated that she has enjoyed working on the eblast and knows that EW Swann will do a great job taking it over because he did the same for Forest Park Elementary and Pulaski Heights Middle School.

Jenner Ronnel thanked Sheryl and Ms. Bankston for their service and mentioned that the PTSA was purchasing a gift for Principal Rousseau and Ms. Bankston.

Principal's Report - Nancy Rousseau

- Principal Rousseau thanked Sheryl for her hard work and commented that not only did EW have a hard act to follow, but that corresponding secretary is almost like an assistant principal position
- She expressed to Jennifer Ronnel how much she enjoyed working with her.
- The was the Last PTSA meeting of the year and that we all needed a break.
- Most things were virtual this past year.
(Unfortunately, I missed some of her shout outs)!
- Shout out to Karen Ryles for tours and Ms. Burroughs for her passion for the school.
- VIPs hours - Jennifer Ronnel said that the school reported over 27 hours per student for over 158,000 hours.
- Principal Rousseau talked about the Booster club support for band, football, baseball and other sports
- There were so many people to give shout outs to: Marion Sybert for teacher grants; Kelly Holbert for her and her Mom's work on the school's landscaping; Allison Hatfield, April Hout, Mandy Jenkins and others.
- If children have chrome books and plan on coming back to Central the coming year, they would be able keep them over the summer.
- Testing starts tomorrow – a lot of teachers are using grade averages.
- AP testing going on now through June
- Any questions – None
- Vaccines are a personal choice, But Principal Rousseau's opinion is that the more people vaccinated, the better for our school and society so please consider vaccinating your children.

Jennifer Ronnel thanked Principal Rousseau for keeping the PTSA in the loop with so much information.

Special Guest Speaker – Elizabeth Eckford

- We are so grateful for what Ms. Eckford did for our students in 1957 and for what she has done through the decades to make Central High what it is today.
- Most recently appreciate Ms. Eckford's work with the mentoring projections.
- In 2015, Ms. Eckford released her book The Worst First Day.
- Ms. Eckford has received the many awards as well as the Congressional Gold Medal presented to her by President Bill Clinton.
- We are so happy to award Ms. Eckford lifetime membership in the National PTSA.
- Ms. Eckford stated that her Mother joined PTA at Gibbs Elementary and that she could remember a time when window air conditioning units were provided by the PTA and when classes in ballet and violin were provided by the PTA as well.
- Ms. Eckford was very thankful for the award from the PTSA.
- Jennifer Ronnel thanked Ms. Eckford again for supporting the memory project and Stella Cameron showed a copy of Ms. Eckford's book.

- Principal Rousseau thanked Ms. Eckford for joining us today and stated that copies of Ms. Eckford's book are in the Visitor's Center.
- Ms. Eckford hopes her legacy is that anyone can help others that are being harassed!
- Principal Rousseau hopes that every child knows about the history of Little Rock Central and stated that freshman civics class always go across the street to watch films about the events of 1957. She further recounted that a Brown University student told her that she never knew how much she learned about diversity until she went to college after attending Little Rock Central.

Committee Reports

- **Student Council** – Jennifer Ronnel recognized both Anna Yates and Cecelia Schneider for their hard work this year in their absence.
- **LRPTA Council - Kim O'Guinn reported:**
 - Jennifer Ronnel won a PTSA award;
 - Michael Poore received the Arkansas Superintendent of the Year Award;
 - Central High Teachers of the Year 2021: Colton Gilbert, Helen Gaddy and Patrick Foley.
 - Federal money received for COVID-19.
 - Enrollment in the school district is up.
 - Bright Futures partnership with LRPTA.
 - Sunday will be National Academic Day and featured in Sunday's paper.
 - Jennifer Ronnel thanked Ms. O'Guinn for attending both meetings and providing reports.
- **Staff Appreciation – Mandy Jenkins**
 - have not been able to do snacks as often for the teachers. Meeting the 25th recognizing retiring teachers from last year and this year and they will get a nice gift
 - Jennifer Ronnel thanked Mandy for working on the money raised and that it will be used for a big blow out with the teachers and she thanked all for their generosity.
- **PTSA Awards – Allison Hatfield**
 - Close to 50 schools in the LRSD, but Central won 5 out of 6 of the awards!
 - Ms. Cameron, our librarian, certainly deserves recognition and maybe received the Community Resource Award. (?)
 - Stellar Volunteer Service Award – Assistant Principal Earnest Mcgee.
 - Virtual School Volunteer Awards went to Anna yates and Cecellia Schenider.
 - Leadership Award went to Wendy Glover.
 - Jennifer Ronnel won the Most Outstanding PTSA Award and the Jane Mendal Award

New Business

Recognition of Outgoing Officers/Committee Chairs “Aging Out” – Jennifer Ronnel

- Aging Out – last kids or graduating kids and Jennifer mentioned a list of names that all will be missed.
- Jennifer Ronnel thanked each and every one on the zoom for all of the work that they have done Huge number of hours!

Jenny Bradford thanked Jennifer Ronnel for the fabulous job she has done going above and beyond!! Jennifer will be a very hard act to follow! Much deserving on the award as well!

2021-22 Committee Chair Positions – Jenny Bradford

- Most are filled but a few are still open: Building and grounds, Junior Takeover Day Chair; Social Media Chair; VIPS Chair; Freshman Orientation Chair. Any help with filling those chairs would be greatly appreciated.

Installation of 2021-22 Officers – Jennifer Ronnel

- The installation ceremony had a rainbow theme
 - Treasurer – Megen Eves – represents the color green and she accepted the responsibilities.
 - Recording Secretary – Danyelle Walker – represents the color yellow and I accepted the responsibilities.
 - Corresponding Secretary - EW Swan – represents the color orange and he accepted the responsibilities.
 - President Elect – Latriana Robinson – represents the color blue (for calm) and she accepted the responsibilities.
 - President - Jenny Bradford – represents the color purple (a regal color) and she accepted her list of responsibilities.
 - Members of the PTSA represent the color red which brings energy and compassion.
 - Each color is needed to make a beautiful rainbow!

Jennifer Ronnel did a passing of the gavel to Jenny Bradford by zoom. She loved her term as President and will be around for another year as a worker bee! She thanked everyone who has been willing to serve and hopes that next year will be a great year!

Jennifer Bradford closed the meeting at 12:53