

Kent Gardens PTA Meeting – March 31, 2017
21 attendees

Meeting called to order at 8:50 am

- First update from Elise Moss regarding spring academy numbers were good, however Summer camp numbers are very low and the program will be cut if more people don't sign up.
 - With the new vendor we cannot wait until summer to decide whether to hold the program
 - Some parent discussion including the timing of registration openings, parents need to commit to camps in January/February and the suggestion that the PTA put a flyer in the Friday folders.
- Amber Syed spoke to the group regarding the Safe Community Coalition
 - They have speakers come in on topics like over-parenting and digitization of teenagers. The next speaker coming up will discuss "The Big Disconnect". Tickets are on sale for the program, it will be held on May 17th at Temple Rodef Shalom.
 - Kent Gardens needs a community liaison & and that person could also be involved in the SCC. Info will be in this week's newsletter.
- PTA President Update – Jenny Wormser
 - March Madness! We sold out for the event and this was the most money we have ever made. Big Thank you to Kirsten Apple and everyone's hard work. We are looking for a new chair for next year as Kirsten is retiring from the committee chair position.
 - The nominating committee this year is Marie Lee, Stacy Zellers, Yamina Boukarabila & Kara Horgan. Jalyn Tiffany will be the volunteer coordinator as well. Please reach out if interested in volunteering!
- Jalyn Tiffany discussed Teacher Appreciation Week which will be the first week in May.
 - Every grade is responsible for 1 day.
 - Info will go out to room parents next week as well as a link to the sign up genius.
 - Teachers really liked giving options for parents to provide classroom supplies so we will encourage the same.
 - We will do the "chalk-in" again
 - We will do the "flower walk" again as well.
- Science Olympiad
 - Similar to Odyssey of the Mind, there are different levels of competition (state, national) and even a high school level team.
 - 5th and 6th graders can participate and they are trying to assemble a team for next year.
 - Info going out for an event after spring break.
- Treasurer's Report

- Financials distributed
- Camp has always created a “mismatch” of revenue in the past where we paid out our bills after the new year had started. By using FLEX we eliminate the mismatch.
- This was an issue last year where a vendor invoiced the PTA late causing an unexpected debt early in the year. That was adjusted accordingly and we will not be able to make up the difference.
- We have money in the reserve funds which can support unexpected items such as the invoice.
- Discussion among the group re-iterated that by switching to the FLEX program we no longer find ourselves in the position of paying summer camp invoices after the fact. FLEX collects the entire camp fee and then gives KG PTA the profit after settling their contracted costs.
- Motion made to transfer \$20,000 from the Reserve fund to the General fund to balance our accounts. Motion seconded & Motion passed.
- Legislative/Community Update
 - There is a County Board of Supervisors meeting coming up on Tuesday.
 - The state Supreme Court in Kansas ruled that public school funding from the state was unconstitutionally low and ordered the state to fund schools appropriately. This is causing FCPS to take notice and watch the ultimate outcome of the ruling.
- Principal’s update
 - Adaptive SOLs are in the works and coming up.
 - We are doing workshops on projects based learning to keep our methods fresh. Also, a small group of teachers attended the Lucy Calkins Institute.
 - We are discussing applying for a playground grant to switch out the playground equipment.
 - 3rd grade just received additional books in the classrooms.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 am.