

Lamar Elementary PTO Meeting Minutes 8/17/23

Lamar Elementary PTO

Date, Time, Location: Thursday, August 17, 2023, 6pm, Lamar Library

Meeting called to order by: President Kim Cameron at 6:02pm

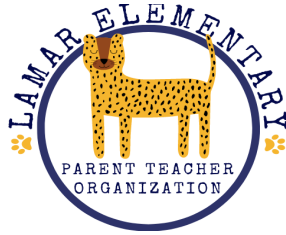
Attendance: Kim Cameron, Michelle Shosa, Briana Gray, April Prim, Janna Smeltzer, and other members of the Lamar Elementary PTO.

Meeting opening with welcome to new members from Kim.

- Welcome, Introductions: Kim Cameron
 1. Visit [PTO website](#)
 2. [Sign up](#) through CISD to be a volunteer on campus
 3. Updates posted on social media regularly
 4. Lots of different ways and opportunities to be involved.
- What does the PTO do?
 1. Field trips for all grades; Yearbooks; Technology Subscriptions; Teacher Reimbursements; Decorations; Leopard Den supplies; Spirit Nights; Spirit Wear. All funds raised by the PTO go directly back to the school.
- Open Positions
 1. Open Positions:
 - Spirit night coordinator
 - Assistant treasurer
 - Sponsorships
 - Yearbook
 - 4th grade liaison
 2. Contact Kim Cameron if interested: president@lamarpto.com
- Proposed budget review and vote: Briana Gray
 - Last year, large purchase was the outdoor classroom, which is now ready.
 - This year hoping for a net of \$14,000.
 - Majority of increase in pricing due to inflation/rising costs.

Motion to approve budget: 1st motion – Briana Gray, 2nd motion – Michelle Shosa; all in favor, none opposed. Motion passes.

- President's Report: Kim Cameron
 1. Successful first two weeks of school: Teacher welcome back breakfast and snacks, Meet the Teacher, Tears and Cheers, bulletin boards & décor, [auction open for car rider and parking spots](#) (fundraiser for PTO), [spirit wear store open](#), school supplies packs were delivered and distributed, yearbooks are now available for purchase through [Tree Ring](#)



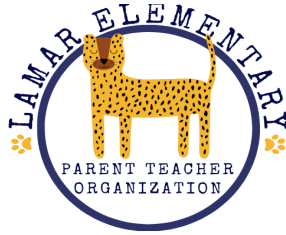
- Treasurer's Report: Briana Gray
 1. Savings: \$19,998; in checking -\$19,312,
 2. Receiving teacher reimbursements already
 3. Mrs. Belcher helps identify needs for school that PTO helps support.

- VP & Committee Reports:
 1. Fundraising: April Prim
 - 2 main fundraisers: Readathon (leads up to Read for a Better Life which is a CISD district-wide event). There will be challenges for classes, students and teachers can log minutes, encourages reading, students can ask for sponsors for flat donations, there is a prize store, we'll be encouraging minutes read for everyone. Starts Sept. 8th. Overlaps with Book Fair. Other big one is Boosterthon, where students can get sponsored per lap or receive flat donations.
 - Sponsorships for PTO available, looking for business sponsorships, families can sponsor as well. Info about incentives all on the [website](#). We'll also consider smaller or in-kind donations. We want to give anyone who wants to help the opportunity to do so. Info will be sent home in Tuesday folders, Limelight and website.
 - Corporate Matching: many companies will offer corporate matching (ex. Exxon, 3M) – form will be available on PTO website
 - Spirit Night: Oct 5 @ Spring Creek.

 2. Membership
 - 59 members currently: 44 parents/grandparents/guardians; 10 teachers/admin staff; 5 both
 - No required membership fee to join, but donations are accepted
 - Raised \$500+ as of 8/17/23
 - If you join, you'll receive more info and updates on volunteer options and school events.

 3. Programs: Michelle Shosa
 - Sept. 15-Oct. 15 Hispanic heritage month
 - Mascot naming contest
 - Ways to get involved: Book fair, fall picture day, will send Sign Up Genius to sign up for time slots for both (typically 60 minute increments), help with decorations. Yearbook, purchase by Sept. 30 for 10% discount, you can help supply pictures for the yearbook and they can be uploaded right to [TreeRing](#). Can customize your own pages.

- Principal's Report: Kristen Belcher
 1. Ways to stay involved and updated: Continue coming to meetings, check Tuesday folders, volunteer any way that you can, lots of different ways and



opportunities. View the weekly Limelight and Lamar Facebook page, new pictures added regularly.

2. Watch Dogs program starting this year, kickoff in September. Kids welcome at kickoff event, pizza provided. Goal of program is to have positive male presence in the building. Watch Dogs will help in the school throughout the day: car line, announcements, PE, recess, some class/lunch time with your student, Wall of Fame for Watch Dogs. Any male figures welcome.
 3. Spring Creek first Spirit Night, Oct. 5. Biggest spirit night of the year, many teachers will be there, good way to see each other in the community.
 4. College Park homecoming Sept. 15. Wed prior, Red Wagon Parade at Market Street, Lamar will have a float – Paris theme. Need volunteers to prepare float. More info to come. Will need to RSVP if your child attends.
 5. Picture Day, fall picture day on Sept. 22. This is the photo that will be used for Yearbook. Class picture day about a month later. Volunteers needed to help line up students and prepare them for pics.
 6. Read-a-thon coming, goal is to encourage love of reading.
 7. If you are not receiving the Limelight, let admin know. At the bottom of the newsletter you can change it to a different language if needed.
 8. Pride lunch once per month, celebrates different character traits each month. One child from each class selected and their parents are invited. Kids get Chick-fil-A for lunch. Looking for Pride Lunch sponsors.
- Questions
 - Meetings will alternate evenings/afternoons, address the upcoming month

Next meeting is Thursday, September 21, 2:15 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 7 p.m.

Minutes compiled by Janna Smeltzer, Secretary