

**OCE PTA Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2022
Olive Chapel Media Center**

Attendance: Mandy MacNaughton, Erin May, Julie Chase, Carolyn Bentley, Amy Skorich, Jen Curtis-Maury, Bridget Robertson, Tiffany Rainey, Kelli Joyner

Welcome/Introduction - Mandy MacNaughton

- Wake Up and Read Book Drive – Thanks to Jaime Shanklin, Catherine Pierce and Kari Samborski for helping to head / run it.
 - We've collected over 432 books so far! This program is run by Wake County to collect books for children that may not have any at home. We will continue collecting books for 2 more weeks.
- Bus driver appreciation month; OCE did a bus driver appreciation event in the fall, but Mandy will discuss with Laurie to see what we can do; we will at least advertise in the Beacon to remind families to show some appreciation for the bus drivers.

Principal Report – Ms. May

- MLK week was the peak COVID week here at OCE, but numbers have come back down since. Lunch volunteers have helped immensely with keeping the school on track.
- Teachers are currently doing mid-year data reviews to help plan for the second semester.
- North Carolina has a new professional learning program called LETRS; it is a 2-year program for all K-5 teachers (as well as some specialists and assistants). This program is a response to failing reading proficiency levels at schools, and it aims to help teachers learn and apply recent research on reading (The Science of Reading). The OCE Admin team is providing time and treats such as cupcakes to help support the teachers.
- Clubs are up and running (art, lego, drama, chorus, etc.). Ms F has gotten help to keep her clubs going.
- OCE hired a new K teacher from within WCPSS.
- Ann Sheehan (AIG teacher) is leaving OCE; her last day is Feb 25. The team has a plan to provide services for students through the year; her position will be replaced.
- Same vacancies: CCR, ECS 2 teacher on leave, 2 track 1 IA positions open (K and 1), Covid support (care system)
- 5th grade sail-up ceremony is planned for in-person and inside with an unknown attendance limit at this time.
- Planning for an in-person arts showcase for drama, art, and chorus; this can pivot to virtual if necessary.
- Volunteer guidelines were updated to allow school-directed discretion; the OCE leadership team met to discuss the use of volunteers.

- K and 1st can move more quickly to get volunteers in to support instruction; K has started engaging volunteers, and 1st is getting their plan together.
- New smart boards are coming; ETA unknown. After these boards are installed, we will figure out the cost for removing the old ones.
- Still working on getting and installing water filling stations near the cottages.
- Thank you to everyone supporting OCE!

Treasurer Report – Julie Chase

- Return check policy: The PTA hasn't had one previously but is supposed to based on guidance from the state organization. Julie doesn't feel comfortable using the state PTA template; she would like to add a short statement to the membership form and on the website (and elsewhere as needed).

Olive Chapel Elementary School PTA

Returned Check Policy

A \$40.00 service charge will be levied on all checks returned due to insufficient funds. Once notified, the check writer will need to respond within five days to make arrangements for payment of the check plus the service fee (equal to the charge incurred by the PTA for the NSF check). Payment will only be accepted in the form of cash, money order, or certified check.

Committee Reports

Jump Rope for Heart – Amy Skorich

- Total collected to date for this American Heart Association fundraiser: \$8200 (this surpasses our previous record of \$6620)
- We have run out of prizes - children who earned a prize received a note letting them know that more prizes are coming soon. Amy plans to distribute more prizes this Friday.
- The task is to count the number of single jumps in a minute; the current record this year is 130 jumps. There are both student and parent categories.
- This fundraiser involves a collaboration with the AHA and WCPSS and includes a whole integrated curriculum focused on heart health.
- If enough money is raised, Coach Roberts will receive a credit for PE equipment.

Staff Appreciation – Laurie Jendrasiak

- Working on some Valentine's Day treats for the lounge to kick off the day! Laurie will be there to set up and will send a note to staff. A link to sign up to provide treats will go out soon. Chicken minis from Chick-fil-A will also be delivered to the teachers and staff.
- Tuesday treat sign-ups will be sent out for the last half of the year.
- Sunset Slush, which opened a new location in Apex, will provide individual cups to the staff at a discount in May on the staff workday.
- Laurie will create more Sub bags when she gets back from track out.

- Staff Appreciation weeks are set (themes, etc., will be sent out soon):
3/21-3/25 Tracks 3/4 3/28-4/1 Tracks 1/2

Spirit Night

- Panera raised \$259.38.
- Looking for someone to help take over spirit nights for a few months.
 - March and April needed.
- Next spirit night: February 24th at City BBQ in Cary. They give 20% back on any orders with the flyer (we have to hit \$500 in sales in order to earn money).

Spring Carnival

- Rachael Nichols (event lead) and Mandy will meet soon to start planning; then, other volunteers will be included to finish planning.
- Proposed dates: Spring Carnival, May 6; Grandparents breakfast, May 5 and 12; Book fair, May 2-13
 - The proposed date for the Spring Carnival conflicts with the 4th grade field trip to the coast; Ms May and Mandy will discuss alternate dates (weekend or Thursday), but the likely plan is to keep the May 6 date.

Additional Information:

- Carpool line out on Kelly Rd: the Apex police officer is no longer there every day telling people to go down to Kelly Road Park to turn around. Cars backing up on Kelly Rd is an issue in both the morning and afternoon. Mrs May will contact APD to discuss having an officer present more often.
- Under the Lights flag football camp is giving OCE recess equipment.
- Soccer nets have been ordered and will hopefully be delivered this Friday. Bethany worked with Dicks Sporting Goods to get a discount on big nets for the large playground and small ones for the K-1 playground.
- Shade structures are installed!
 - Next step: perhaps add benches underneath as a resting area
- Jen C-M would like someone to take over the website as soon as possible.
- Can PTA cover half-days to support PD for LETRS? Yes!
- Please let Mandy know if you do wish to continue your position next year or if you are moving to the new school ☺
 - Amy Skorich, Whitney Brown, and Lindsay Newman are moving to AFES.