



Ronald Thornton Middle School PTO Board

Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2025 at 10:08 AM

Those present were as follows:

- Betsy George - President
- ~~Ashley Luker~~ (not present) - Parliamentarian
- Amanda Walker - Recording Secretary
- Irma Soledad - Treasurer
- Emily Calbert – 1st VP and Interim Parliamentarian
- Laura Rodriguez & Kharla Kendall - 2nd VP
- Olivia Hughes & ~~Lauren Records~~ (not present) – VIPS Coordinator
- Kristin Wernecke & Erica Lee– Staff Appreciation
- Elizabeth Bartee & ~~Cristina Wheeler~~ (not present) - Publicity
- Veronica Miles & Jennifer Gibbons – At-Large
- Kate Kargbo – Principal
- ~~Rubi Reyes-Fuentes~~ (not present) - Membership

Thunder Games Update – Toya Jones

- Biggest need right now is sponsors
- Will have teams of 5 and an individual competition. There will be prizes for teams, but not for individuals
- Houston Race will have official timing for the event.
- The carnival will be bigger to draw more community into the event. There will be a bigger area for Thunder Kittens. We will need to push advertising for the event with the local elementaries (DLE, SOE and AFE)
- Instead of color packets will do foam party.
- All of the Board members will need to help on day of Thunder Games.
- Briarwood will be a vendor.
- \$35 for registration – race, race bag and carnival
- Sibling wristbands will be priced separately.
- Laura suggested having an option for vendors to have customers “pay back” for the event.
- We have 2 sponsors right now – don’t know how much they have committed to.
- We need at least \$9k in sponsorships.
- Betsy noted that we have an invoice to approve for Thunder Games blow up’s.

- Emily Calbert moved to approve the Balloon Walk rentals for ThunderGames in the amount of \$2,579.99 seconded by Laura Rodriguez, motion approved.

President Update – Betsy George

- Career Day was great.
- Very positive feedback.
- Kate has positive feedback on the interviews in particular.
- Possible fall date for next year.

Principal's Update – Kate Kargbo

- Term 3 is really short.
- Second round of MAP testing is done. Students should have brought home their results. Growth and Achievement metrics
- Will take the final MAP after STAAR.
- STAAR is week before, of and after Easter.
- Administration is starting to plan more for next year.
- ThunderCamp will be July 25th.
- Walk Watch Repeat – would like to shift to more of a parents on patrol ("POP") campus based program for next year. Consider having this under PTO for next year.
- Emily Calbert made a motion to have POP under 2nd VIPS role, Olivia Hughes seconded the motion, approved.

Parliamentarian Update – Emily Calbert (Interim Parliamentarian)

- Emily is updating Board descriptions and applications.
- The plan is for the applications to go out before Spring Break.
- Requested that everyone email Betsy to let her know whether we plan to stay on the Board and if so, whether we want to stay in our current role.
- Will need to recruit board members and a nominating committee.
- We will need to send out an email to PTO members to compile the nominating committee. They must be PTO members.

Secretary – Amanda Walker

- January minutes were shared via GroupMe chat.
- Amanda Walker moved to approve the January Meeting Minutes. Kharla Chavez-Kendall seconded. Approved.

1st VP – Emily Calbert

- 7th grade social (Winter Wonderland) is coming up on February 27th from 6pm to 8pm.

- Recommend that volunteers serve for the whole-time next year and for the 8th grade social since the event is only 2 hours rather than in 1 hour shifts.
- Still collecting donations and confirming security for the event.

2nd VP – Laura Rodriguez & Kharla Chavez-Kendall

- 5th Grade night has 2 spirit wear orders.
- La Escondida backed out of a Spirit Night due to staffing issues.
- March 5th is Ramble Creek Spirit Night.
- April 8th Brandani's.
- May 13th CFA.
- Consider adding Torchy's for end of May.
- Kendra Scott tentatively planned for last weekend in April Spirit Event.

Treasurer – Irma Soledad

- Betsy requested that Irma work with Kharla and Connie to confirm that all Career Day expenses have been accounted.
- Amanda requested the bank balance and requested that we include that in the future.
- Irma Soledad made a motion to approve the January financials. Emily Calbert seconded. Approved.

VIPS Coordinators – Olivia Hughes & ~~Lauren Records~~ (not present)

- Collecting hours for February
- Olivia did a great job with volunteers for Career Day.
- Starting Sign Up Genius for volunteers for ThunderGames soon.

Staff Appreciation – Kristin Wernecke & Erica Lee

- Stock the Lounge event was last week, but some teachers didn't know about it.
- Plans for March are TBD. Consider skipping because of Spring Break.
- Betsy recommended that we plan Teacher Appreciation week with the budget and then back into remaining events with the remaining budget.

Publicity update – Elizabeth Bartee & ~~Cristina Wheeler~~ (not present)

- ThunderGames will be sending out a Social Media plan soon.
- No other updates.

Membership Update – ~~Rubi Ryes-Fuentez~~ (not present)

- No updates.

At Large Update – Veronica Miles & Jennifer Gibbons

- 1 Teacher Grant for all of 6th grade science. Items needed for hands on labs. \$486.19 on Amazon wishlist. Some items are consumables and some will be used multiple times.
- Amanda Walker moved to approve, Olivia Hughes seconded, motion passed.
- Jennifer to send Amazon wishlist to Irma.

Additional Motions

- No additional motions made.

Meeting Adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 11:15 am

Next Meeting: Friday, March 21st at 10am.

Summary of Motions

Ronald Thornton Middle School PTO Board Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2025

- Motion made by Emily Calbert and seconded by Laura Rodriguez to approve the Balloon Walk rentals for ThunderGames in the amount of \$2,579.99. Motion passed.
- Motion made by Amanda Walker and seconded by Kharla Chavez-Kendall to approve the January Meeting Minutes. Motion passed.
- Motion made by Irma Soledad and seconded by Emily Calbert to approve the January financials. Motion passed.
- Motion made by Amanda Walker and seconded by Olivia Hughes to approve a Teacher Grant for all of 6th grade science in the amount of \$486.19. Motion passed.

Amanda Walker
Ronald Thornton Middle School
PTO Secretary

Date