



November PTA Meeting Notes

Monday, November 5, 2018 9:00AM

East Campus Cafeteria - 24 West Walton Street, Chicago, Illinois

askogdenpta@gmail.com

Introduction:

- Welcome and Roll Call - Present - Michele Berman - President; Cassie Brecunier - Vice President; Ashley Wisniewski - Treasurer; Jacki Wallace - Secretary
 - Guests:
 1. Boosters - Todd Toborg, President, gave an overview of Boosters, which functions as an extension of the athletic department and raises funds to help cover uniforms, gear, and stipends for volunteer coaches. Boosters runs 4-5 sports clinics throughout the year, and one larger fundraising event - a Bears Watch Party, which was held on Nov. 4th and raised several thousand dollars. The money raised from the Bears event will be used to help fund the school sports awards ceremony at the end of the year. The next clinic event will be a soccer clinic that will be held on Friday, November 16th, for a suggested donation of \$20.
 2. Parent Teacher Organization - Dinna Trovero, President, gave a brief overview of the organization, which was designed to help parents and students at Ogden's West and Jenner campuses. Friends provided a small stipend to get started, but the PTO plans to be self-funded and to keep ticket prices low to ensure all are able to attend events. The PTO recently held a very successful dance and haunted house, for which 90% of the props were loaned by a parent. PTO plans to offer a teacher appreciation event and a Family Bingo night in December.
 3. PTA Committees:
 - **Appreciation** - Maureen Brusznicki/Nicole Simonds/Holly Blankstein Crossing guard appreciation will be coming up - we will be collecting notes from students, hand warmers, mittens and gift cards - watch for updates. The program to stock the teachers' lounge with goodies is ongoing. Please reach out to askogdenpta@gmail.com if you would like
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to sign up to stock the teacher's lounge or help support the appreciation committee.

- **Fitness** - Tammy Roust gave an update on the next city running event we hope to participate in as a school, the Grant Park Turkey Trot (November 22nd). There will also be a free kids race. Sign-up here: www.turkeytrotchicago.com
- **Box Tops** - Please send your box-tops into class or drop them in the white drop box in the main office.

New Business:

1. Volunteer Update -

- The rule remains the same - to participate in regular classroom volunteer activities involving students at Ogden, you must be a Level 1 volunteer, which requires a background check and TB test. We are encouraging all PTA members to become Level 1 volunteers if you can! Please visit the following website to start the volunteer registration process (which could take 2-5 weeks to complete for Level 1): <https://chicagopublicschools.civicore.com/index.php?action=userLogin>. Additional information is available here, including contact info for questions: <http://ogden.cps.edu/volunteer-opportunities.html>

2. Halloween Review -

- Costume Donations - Costumes made the kids so happy! Leftovers may be offered to the Kindergarten classrooms. We considered making one more call for donations, but it will depend on our storage possibilities.
- Candy/Treats - Extra candy and treats were donated to neighbors and staff members. Garbage candy bags were recycled. Families are encouraged to drop off extra candy in the office, which will be sent to the troops.
- Volunteer Process - Security was so happy for the pre-approval process and how simple it made checking people in on Halloween.

3. Spirit Week - To be held the week before winter break. More details to be provided soon.

4. Talent Show for grades 2 -4 - To be conducted in coordination with the Dance and Drama teachers. Tryouts will be held the week of January 7th. Input was requested, and the event was scheduled for 3:45 on Friday, January 25th. We discussed that the set-up from last year seemed to work well. The possibility of having students apply via category and then doing a lottery to get a slot was raised. Parent judges will be needed.

5. Honor Society - Ms. Kranz received a mailer advising of an Elementary Honor Society, which requires an annual \$84 sponsor fee to join. Having PTA pay the sponsor fee was

raised, but there was parent concern regarding the bureaucracy, work to implement and arbitrariness of inclusion. Whether to participate was tabled for further discussion.

6. December Movie - Please send ideas to askogdenpta@gmail.com.
7. Member's Hub - Illinois PTA now offers an electronic member's hub. All PTA members have been added to the hub. We will be able to send messages through the hub, and all members will receive a PTA membership card as well as promotional discounts. In the future, we will be able to collect membership fees online, and may even be able to use the system for electronic payment for events.
8. Treasurer's Report - Ashley: The October bank balance is \$5,425.74.
9. Sarah Huey will be organizing a give-back event at the Barnes & Noble on Webster on December 2nd in coordination with Friends.
10. Spelling Bee to be held on November 20th for grades 1-4. A spelling challenge will be held in each classroom on November 13th, the winner of which will advance to the Bee.
11. Calendar of Events (*see* Calendar below)


Questions - Please reach out to askogdenpta@gmail.com.

Thank you for all your support!

Next Meeting: Monday, December 3rd at 9:00 AM in the Cafeteria

Calendar of Events:

Event	Date	Notes:
Spelling Bee (2nd -4th Grade)	Tuesday, November 20, 2018 2:00PM	This will be a free event and held during school hours.
After School Movie	Friday, December 21, 2018 3:30PM	We have not yet chosen the movie, but hope to have a fun "summer in December" type theme. We also hope to incorporate a dress-up element for the students.
Talent Show	Friday, January 25, 2019 3:45PM	Talent show to be conducted in coordination with the Drama and Dance teachers.
Valentine Grams	Thursday, February 14, 2019	There will also be a room party.
Spring Dance	Friday, March 22, 2019	This dance will be for the kids.
Spirit Week	Monday, April 8, 2019 - Friday, April 12, 2019	We are hoping to include an element to support Autism awareness month.



TBD	May	Please let us know if you have any ideas or suggestions.
Lincoln Park Walk	TBD	This will not include a fundraiser component, but will be an outside activity close to the end of school.