



William B. Ogden PTA

Wednesday, September 7, 2016, 8:45 AM

East Campus Cafeteria~ 24. W Walton, Chicago, IL

MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting called to order by: Melissa Smejkal

Roll call and verification of quorum

Approval of agenda

Welcoming of guests

Email for correspondence: OgdenPTA2016@gmail.com

In Attendance:

Melissa Smejkal, President
Gwen Miglio, Co Vice President
Dinna Trovero, Co Vice President
Angie Verros, Treasurer
Miranda Semb, Secretary
(Plus 19 Parents)

Reports:

- Treasurer Report: Balance of \$7,107.83

The Scales and Tales event brought in \$1,401.02 and Ogden Wear \$1,090. We have approximately 160 members which is GREAT! Last year we had only 102 and the highest in recent memory has been around 160. 136 members have paid, 22 are IOUs. Please remember to turn in your membership fee!!

New Business

- Special Guest Speaker – Miss Annie from Chicago Public Library’s Near North Branch

Anne is the much loved children’s librarian at our local public library, she has been a librarian there since it opened 19 years ago! She has previously been welcomed at our library before and spoken to the kids with Ms. Thakkar (our librarian who is currently on maternity leave – as an aside, Ms. Thakkar is getting her book fix with lots of visits to Near North, as well as volunteering there over the summer).

Lots of Ogden children participated in Near North's Summer Reading Program designed to combat summer learning loss - do the kids want to be only as smart as they were the previous Valentine's Day or do they want to be where they left off at the beginning of summer? They can then move on to learning *new* ideas rather than reviewing the last quarter of the previous year.

There has been a shift in that the program is not just about reading; talking about *what* you learned, taking a visit to a museum to consolidate the learning are encouraged as well. Helpful ideas for parents include having your child calculate change, dictate a shopping list, etc.

Back to School Library Card Campaign is a new initiative to encourage children to have their very own library card. The card comes with one large card and a keyring card so both the adult and child can access the account.

The first card will be free of charge, if you have lost a previous card you can either pay \$1 to reinstate or as of October 17th (and *now* if you go to Near North and mention Annie's name) you can get that fee waived.

Schools can have kids apply as a group, this is convenient as the addresses are already on the school record.

Helpful tip! Remember if you put a book on hold with your library card, you need that specific card to be able to collect it and check it out.

Future possibilities may include school field trips to the library.

Near North has a ***homework helper*** on Mondays between 4-7pm, there is also an online option, though this works better for high school students. For more information, check out <http://www.chipublib.org/news/free-homework-help/>

- Fall Halloween Bash K - 5 (Rebranded!) Friday October 28th - Patty Kopitas (pattykopitas@gmail.com) 3.30 – 4.45pm

Volunteers needed from 2pm for set up

Volunteers needed to work the event (selling food items such as popcorn, hotdogs, concessions, etc.) 3.30pm – 4.45pm

We will be offering facepainting, hair styling and a seasonal photo 'booth'.

To save money, we will be using a playlist – feel free to email us your foot-tapping, upbeat, fall/Halloween themed dance tune ideas! Monster Mash anyone??!
Email your ideas to the PTA address at the top of the page!

Our list so far includes:

Thriller
Godzilla (Blue Oyster Cult)

Harry's Haunted Halloween Circus
Purple People Eater

Monster Mash
I Want Candy
Hungry Like the Wolf
The Devil Went Down to Georgia
Gangnam Style
Shake it Off
Happy

Ghostbusters
Time Warp
Disturbia
Roar
I Like to Move It, Move It
Everything is Awesome

Chaperones needed, we have a ***new requirement for 1 parent volunteer per 10 children***. If you will be attending with your child anyway, please consider volunteering to be a chaperone (extra sets of eyes are always useful!) ***For this reason our initial cap will be 100 tickets sold***, if we get more chaperones we can add the appropriate number of extra entry tickets. First come, first served. Note – this 1-10 ratio does not include volunteers working on concessions. If you are a room parent, please try to secure some volunteers from your classroom!

Volunteers for clean-up 4.45 – approximately 5.05pm depending on how messy!

*****No costumes (save it for the Halloween Parade)*****

Cost: \$5 per person

- Halloween Costume Parade

In order to have enough candy for everyone, we ask each child donate 2 bags of candy/items such as pencils, erasers or stickers or \$5.

If your child has an allergy, we suggest you send them with a pre-filled bag. Although people do donate non-food items, they are not as plentiful.

Volunteers needed from 8.30am to fill buckets with candy and distribute along parade route (Newberry Park)

Each grade will come out at a separate time for 30 minutes. They will exit on Oak St. and head to Newberry Park, they will visit the treat stations and then make their way back, stopping briefly in the park for a class picture (taken by the Year Book Committee).

Parents are welcome to attend! If you do, consider crewing a treat station, we'll be able to have more that way which is a bit more fun for the kids!

1.15pm end and clean up

Come in costume! No weapons (even if they are from another galaxy!) and any costume mask can only be worn during the parade, not during school time.

A member noted that kids often tend to wash off face paint during the day as it can become itchy over time.

In the event of inclement weather, we will hold the parade inside the building.

There will be no giant slide this year, CPS now requires a permit and attendants which makes it less affordable, we can still look forward to sensational sliding at the end of year carnival!

- Halloween Class Parties

If your teacher is interested, they may hold an informal class party. The party can have a few seasonal activities, but hold off on the sugar! Room parents can ask teachers how best they can support the teacher's ideas.

- Membership

Our membership drive contest is in full swing, results will be announced on October 28th! If you are a room parent, remind your class that there are 3 top prizes (\$100, \$75 and \$50 gift cards for the teacher to spend on their class) that will be awarded for most number of PTA members – remember it's an individual membership (\$20 per person).

Thank you for becoming members and please keep updated (and encourage others to keep up to date) by:

Referring to the Ogden website: [ogden.cps.edu / organizations / PTA](http://ogden.cps.edu/organizations/PTA)

Referring to the PTA Facebook page (button located on PTA link above)

Upcoming Events (full list on Ogden website):

<u>Event</u>	<u>Event Date</u>
School Spirit Week	October 11 th – 14 th
Empower Me Speaker series	Rescheduled
Fall Halloween Bash	Friday, October 28th
Safe Halloween Costume Parade	Monday, October 31 st
After-School Movie	Friday, November 18th

Old Business

- We are always looking for volunteers to assist in a variety of capacities, no matter how much/little time you can spare
- “Empower Me” Speaker Series – Dinna (dtrovero@icloud.com)

This will comprise of a series of speaker events that will provide adults with insight to better understand a variety of topics.

1st Event – ~~October 26th~~ Please Note New Date TBD due to potential strike

- ✓ What is IB? What are the benefits, how does it work in practice, how does it support learning? We will have a graduate from an IB background who can

Speak to how it influenced his approach to the world. More information will be available soon and a way to RSVP.

Future *Tentative* Dates:

December 14, 2016

February 14, 2017

April 27, 2017

June 13, 2017

Ideas and Volunteers are welcome so please contact Dinna for more information!

Bonus Speaker Event on January 11th 6-7pm in time for the New Year

The three speakers will include a dietician from East Bank Club, our very own gym teacher, Rachel McMillin, will speak on making healthy food choices, and Ogden parent Leah Smethhurst Crowling, a licensed marriage and family therapist will talk about stress: the effects on us all and how to mitigate them.

- Committee for creating PTA fundraiser events specific to 4th and 5th grade (Betsy Tomas betsyotomas@me.com)
- Ogden Wear: Patty Kopitas

Patty is researching vendors for Ogden Wear so parents can purchase directly from the company. Someone pointed out that Kindergarten kids haven't had an opportunity to purchase any and were wondering about the Ogden Wear Day for Spirit Week. There are a few remaining shirts, etc. located behind security and they can be purchased from security if no PTA member is present. Also, if the majority of the class don't have anything to wear on that day – perhaps approach the teacher to see if they can implement a different idea?

- Box Tops: Betsy Olesker Tomas (betsyotomas@me.com)

Every classroom has now decorated red collection box for Box Tops. Betsy has talked with each teacher and asked them to incorporate math lesson and the idea of helping the community. E.g. at the 5th grade level, Mr Tavill incorporated the "place value" lesson into Box Top for Education promotion.

In the next 13 days we need to:

1. Submit Box Tops from the classroom
2. Complete collection at school
3. Bundle and identify how many box tops are in each bag

Anyone who can help Betsy with the box tops, please contact her (betsyotomas@me.com). This is something that could be done at home, so a great project if you are limited on time during the day!

- Woo-Hoo Trolley

This was a GREAT success, the teachers really appreciated it. PTA is going to try and do this on a monthly basis. For the next Woo-hoo we are looking to deliver on a breakfast theme. If you can help solicit donations, please let us know!

- International Week Update (Candice Warltier cwarltier@communication-strategies.com)

The weeklong event would take place at the end of January. It would serve as an opportunity for k-12 grade Ogden students to immerse themselves in the rich culture at Ogden. Students would participate in grade appropriate related activities in the classroom throughout the week, all culminating in an International festival on a Friday evening. A fee for the event and food would raise money for the PTA. Initial ideas for a name are Celebrating Our World, We are the World... open to others.

The event will need many volunteers in order for it to be a success. We have created sub-committees for sponsorship, curriculum (working with teachers), entertainment, and Friday evening festival, contact Candice for more information.

Initial ideas include:

- The countries would be divided into continents - Africa, Antarctica, Asia, Australia/Oceania, Europe, North America, and South America.
- A one page sheet listing continents and countries within would be given to the teachers of the k-12 grade classes. Students would be asked to “sign” up for one continent. At a later time, they can select a specific country.
 - ✓ Art projects may include:
 1. a school wide art project where students decorate a paper doll of sorts with appropriate clothing from selected country
 2. creating salt dough maps of specific countries
<http://kidworldcitizen.org/2012/01/29/3d-salt-dough-maps/>
 - ✓ In gym class during the week, students would participate in the Ogden Olympics
 - ✓ Field trips to local international points of interest? Scavenger hunts for same?
- Friday evening event would host entertainment (one Ogden mom has already agreed to conduct a Bollywood class for parents/students. Another mom has offered to do a yoga class one evening that week. And yet other parents have offered to bring in their kids Greek dance troops).

- Food for the event would be donated by sponsoring restaurants and sold for tickets in the cafeteria.
- Tickets would be on sale for the food, with an entrance fee in discussion. Proceeds would go to the PTA.
- A t-shirt with sponsors names and a phrase in many languages would be sold at the event.
- One mom has offered to connect us with her husband who is a Chicago Chef.

Next Steps in October:

- Create a one page vision for the event with details, send to administration for review
- Send sign-up sheet for committees by email to attendees
- Develop a continent/country sign-up sheet to distribute to teachers
- Set next meeting date – 5:30 Nov 1 before PTA meeting
- Miss Annie, who was kind enough to stay for our entire meeting, suggesting that we could use culturgrams as a resource (field trip idea?), these are reference collections with leaflets, etc. from different countries. If anyone’s going to the library in the near future, perhaps you could check them out and let us know! Email above.

Next meeting is: November 7th 2016 6pm in the cafeteria (see below for full schedule)

Meeting times are being rotated so as to hopefully make it more convenient for parents and teachers to be able to attend. Please make sure to check the time of the next meeting as well as the date!

Meeting adjourned at: 4.20pm

Minutes compiled by: Miranda Semb, Secretary (International Day information drawn from Candice’s work).

Upcoming Meeting Dates	Meeting Time
November 7 th 2016	6pm (cafeteria)
December 5 th 2016	8.30am
January 9 th , 2017	3.30pm
February 6 th , 2017	6pm
March 6 th , 2017	8.30am
April 3 rd , 2017	3.30pm
May 1 st , 2017	6pm
June 5 th , 2017	8.30am