

## **Maplebrook Home & School**

### **General Meeting Minutes of Thursday, August 22, 2024, 7:00 PM C.T. Via Zoom.**

#### **Present**

1. Principal Ordaz
2. Lin Xiong
3. Jennifer Oles
4. Megan Masar
5. Cristina Guzman
6. Jena McKinnon
7. Patricia Spatz
8. Mallory McDermott
9. Elizabeth Hall
10. Ellen Hanson
11. Sara Salazar
12. Emily Tonon
13. Amy Irvin
14. Carolyn Mertz
15. Rasa Kedainis
16. Erin Morton
17. Corey Diederich
18. Erin OConnell
19. Chintan Desai
20. Alvaro Salazar
21. Chrissy Mulvey
22. Mehtap Balci
23. Anne Marie Fetter
24. Cristie Kidston
25. Kyle Skelly
26. Sachi Mahajan
27. Sarah Baker
28. Colleen O'Donnell
29. Katie Kiss-Zurad
30. Jamie Calandriello
31. Sarah Riffice
32. Jen Dotson
33. Dan Calandriello
34. Jeannie Gentile
35. Lin Xiong
36. Doug Diederich

#### **Welcome**

The meeting was called to order and the meeting began at 7:05 P.M. Central Time.

### **President's Report (Jillian Langer)**

Ms. Langer initiated the first home and school meeting of 2024-2025 school year with 11 attendees, including Dan Calendrello who was set to lead the watchdog program. Technical difficulties with Zoom caused some connection issues, particularly for Sarah Baker who was supposed to discuss an upcoming ice cream social. Despite the challenges, Sarah announced the event on Friday, September 6th, featuring School of Rock, and detailed the ticket purchasing process. She also mentioned a raffle for a fun activity with a child's teacher and the need for parent volunteers. Principal Ordaz requested Sarah to send a sign-up genius to Kathy Raimundo for distribution to teachers, which Sarah agreed to do.

Ms. Langer discussed the role of the Home and School organization, which is run by the district and provides various services for schools, including organizing book fairs, social events, and teacher appreciation events. Ms. Langer also mentioned that they cover equipment costs and teacher wish lists. The organization communicates through a weekly newsletter and monthly Zoom meetings, with the first meeting of the year serving as a platform for new parents to learn about volunteering opportunities. Ms. Langer emphasized the importance of parental involvement in the school community and expressed gratitude towards all the volunteers.

Ms. Langer introduced the board members, highlighting their respective roles and responsibilities. Ms. Langer, in her second year as president, emphasized her accessibility for queries regarding home and school events. She also noted the vacant vice president position, inviting interested individuals to reach out. The team also includes Treasurer Lin Xiong, who manages the organization's finances, and Secretary Jeannie Gentile, who handles the agenda and meeting notes. Ms. Langer also mentioned the hospitality chair, Jennifer Dodson, and the IT person, Mrs. Buell. The team is working on increasing the hospitality budget and encourages community involvement.

Ms. Langer discussed several upcoming events and fundraisers. The ice cream social is set for September 6, and a golf outing is planned for September 22. The school is also seeking volunteers for various roles, including health and safety chair, watch dogs, and recess dogs. Additionally, the school has partnered with local businesses for the Co-Ventures program, and a Naperville Education Foundation run is being organized. Ms. Langer also mentioned the need for a classroom party chair and expressed openness to sharing more details about the role.

Ms. Langer and Principal Ordaz expressed their gratitude to the community for their involvement and support, emphasizing the unique qualities of their school. They highlighted the efforts of various volunteers, including Jamie, Maggie, Mrs. Mckinnon, and Jen, who contributed to events such as the Teddy Bear picnic, school supply distribution, and the Ice Cream Social. The importance of collaboration and the positive impact on student success were also underscored. The conversation ended with Principal Ordaz showcasing a professional photograph taken by Mr. Mulvey, capturing the community's spirit and camaraderie.

### **Principal's Report (Principal Ordaz)**

Principal Ordaz emphasized the importance of the parent-teacher partnership for family engagement and student success. She expressed appreciation for all parent contributions, whether it be volunteering on a committee or ensuring their children are ready for school. Principal Ordaz also highlighted the need for parent involvement in the classroom and encouraged parents to reach out to their teachers for volunteer opportunities. She discussed the school's fundraising efforts for the NEF run and encouraged parents to get involved in home and school activities. Lastly, she introduced the concept of parent mentors, seeking one parent from each grade to help new families navigate the school and its routines.

Principal Ordaz discussed the school's efforts to improve student behavior and create a sense of community in classrooms. She highlighted the introduction of PROWL recognition, where students demonstrating positive behaviors are acknowledged. The school is also planning an all-school and all-community celebration, with Mr. Mulvey as the contact for community involvement. Ms. Langer then outlined open chair positions for various events and emphasized the need for community support. She also mentioned the yearbook and spirit wear, encouraging parents to submit photos and purchase items.

Ms. Langer discussed the financial status of the school, highlighting a 10% discount for purchasing the yearbook in advance. Principal Ordaz shared plans for future discussions about school goals and student safety. Ms. Langer emphasized the importance of parental involvement and participation in school activities. The next meeting was scheduled for September 12th, with a plan to continue using Zoom for the time being.

#### **Vice-President's Report (None)**

None.

#### **Treasurer's Report (Lin Xiong)**

Ms. Xiong presented the May financial report, detailing the school's income and expenses. The May financial report was approved with a motion by Ms. O'Donnell seconded by Ms. McKinnon.

#### **Committee Updates**

None.

#### **Next steps**

- Sarah Baker to send ice cream social sign-up genius to Kathy Raimundo for distribution to teachers.
- Jamie to create ice cream social sign-up genius and send to Sarah Baker.
- Emily Tonon to set-up new spirit wear online shopping link for Friday.
- Home and School Board to post open chair positions in the Wiley Wag.
- Principal Ordaz to seek parent mentors for each grade to help new families.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made and the meeting ended at 7:45 P.M. Central Time.