

# March General PTA Meeting Minutes

## Mountain PTA



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March 4, 2019 | 12:12pm | Meeting called to order by Mhairi McKay-Smith, Mountain PTA President

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### In Attendance

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Elena Perez, Erin Middleton, Cathy Snelson, Kandice Favorite, Jennifer Montoya, Amanda Padilla, Esther Smidt, Anna Zobay, Sigrid Wurthmann, Lindsay Gibson, Ruth Burns, Lissie Ham, Amanda Padilla, Luis Chacon, Jennifer Kieltyka, Mhairi McKay-Smith, Kristy Ortega, Chris Jordan, Ramey Sallaz

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### Introductions

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Mhairi McKay-Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting. She explained that meetings follow Robert's Rules of Order and that only PTA members can vote.

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### Approval of Minutes

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The minutes were distributed from the February General Meeting. Elena Perez made a motion to approve February minutes which was seconded by Chris Jordan. Approved by show of hands.

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### New Business

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#### Grant Requests

##### *Eagle Scout Project - Carlos Chacon-Cuesta*

Carlos Chacon-Cuesta presented a revised Eagle Scout project proposal for improving the front garden at Mountain and building a snowball target. The grant is not to exceed \$1,200. The project scope was reduced and will use the existing supports for the snowball target, the memorial garden will not be altered, the bench (a previous Eagle Scout's project) will be revarnished and made symmetrical, and there is no longer a food budget for volunteers. Anna Zobay made a motion to approve the grant which was seconded by Sigrid Wurthmann. The grant was approved by a show of hands.

Lissie Ham made a motion to move \$335 from educational grants to general grants. The motion was seconded by Cathy Snelson and approved by a show of hands.

##### *Third Grade - Motivational Charms*

Elena Perez made a motion to approve a grant not to exceed \$175 for motivational charms as rewards for the 30 Book Challenge, Math facts, good behavior, etc. for third grade. The motion was seconded by Lissie Ham and approved by a show of hands.

##### *Third Grade - STAR Binders*

Amanda Padilla made a motion to approve a \$160 for STAR (Students Taking Academic Responsibility) Binders for third grade. The motion was seconded by Elena Perez and approved by a show of hands.

#### Reading Night

Sigrid Wurthmann presented information about Mountain Family Literacy Night. The event will be Thursday, April 18th. The budget is \$400 for materials, \$800 in Scholastic Dollars for books, and \$1,000 for food.

## April Events

- Kindergarten Roundup - Wednesday, April 10
- Family Reading Night - Thursday, April 18
- Book Fair - Thursday, April 18 - April 24

## NMPED Assessment System

Erin Middleton reported that the NMPED is holding a meeting on March 6 in Santa Fe. The new administration is looking for stakeholders to provide input on how best to measure student success within New Mexico's future statewide assessment system.

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## Treasurer's Report

Chris Jordan reported that February was a quiet month. Mountain PTA had income of \$2,430 and spent \$1,347. The effective bank balance is \$51,853. Teachers have been reimbursed for \$4,098.50 in Mad Money for classroom supplies thus far. The grant money balances are \$39 for educational grants and \$7,833 for general grants. The invoice for \$12,000 for the smart boards should come soon.

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## President's Report

Mhairi McKay-Smith thanked parents, staff, and school board members Jenny McCumber and Bill Hargraves for attending the construction and security meeting at Mountain. The meeting had updated information on the Mountain systems award. The 200 wing will have doors. The construction will be done in a continuous phase with an end date of January 1, 2020.

Mhairi also discussed the security grant that LAPS is applying for from the state of New Mexico. The grant will be submitted on March 30, 2019. The security grant will not be at the same level of funding as the systems award and Mountain remains the last school in the district on the list for a rebuild. Mhairi and Ramey Sallaz met with Dr. Steinhaus on February 5, 2019 and were assured that security at Mountain was a priority for LAPS.

A discussion ensued where members raised concerns about security at Mountain. Teachers reiterated the need for keys to both of their classroom doors, explained the inconvenience of not having keys, and expressed that it should be fixed as soon as possible. Another issue raised was having a new gym floor installed when the current floor was installed during the summer of 2017 for around \$30,000. Parents want to know if that money can come back to Mountain when the floor is removed and reinstalled at Pueblo Complex.

Since much is discussed and decided at LAPS School Board meetings, the members present decided it would be useful to have a PTA member check the school board agenda to look for issues relevant to Mountain and encourage the Mountain community to attend. Ruth Burns volunteered to be the school board liaison.

Also discussed was whether Mountain PTA could fund safety measures if they were not funded by the district or the state.

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## Membership Report

Ramey Sallaz reported that Mountain PTA has 93 members.

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## Principal's Report

Principal Jennifer Kieltyka reported that the subjects she planned to report on were covered in the president's report.

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## Committee Reports

### Nominating Committee

Kristy Ortega reported there are nominees so far for three of the four board positions: Kristy Ortega for president, Natalie Morgan for treasurer, and Karen Morris for secretary. The committee is still looking for a vice presidential candidate.

### Yearbook

Ramey Sallaz reported that yearbooks are \$20 and can be purchased online through March 29. Cash and check orders can be submitted through April 30. Photos are still greatly needed for the yearbook. Please submit photos to the yearbook email (mtnlionyb@gmail.com).

### Box Tops

Lissie Ham reported that more than \$500 has been raised from Box Tops this year. The number of items with Box Tops has decreased and it has been a harder year for collecting.

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### Announcements

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Teacher lunches are provided by parent volunteers during conferences.

Volunteers are needed to provide dishes on March 13 & 14. Please use SignUp Genius.

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### Next Meeting

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*Monday, April 8th, 2019 | 12:10pm Mountain School Library*

- *PTA Officer elections will be held*

Meeting was adjourned at 1:17pm