

# **Energy Institute High School PTO**

## **November 8, 2018 – General Meeting Minutes**

**Date, Time & Location:** EIHS Ted Talk Room, 6 PM

**Meeting called to order by** Bendi Saindon at 6:05 PM

**Attendance:** Bendi Saindon, Kathy Kehn, Kathy Kahanek, Anne Geyer, Virginia Lozano, Linda Franco, Amy White, Lori Lambrouopoulos, Briana Rodriguez, Mel Davis, Virginia Smith, Gigi Lewis, Charie Procter, Ross McMicken, Diane Pittman, Marna Marsh, Arva Dearborne, Margarita Ramos, Rogelio Ramos, Thelma Arzu.

**I. Welcome:** Bendi Saindon welcomed attendees. Handouts: Letter about “Party with a Purpose,” with attached donor form; EIHS PTO *P&L Budget vs. Actual* and *Balance Sheet* through 10-31-18; EIHS School-Parent-Student Compact. Important for attendees to sign the meeting attendance sheet as the PTO general meetings double as EIHS’s Title 1 Committee Meetings.

**II. Minutes of 9-5-18 General Meeting:** K. Kahanek motioned; Bendi seconded. Minutes approved.

### **III. Principal’s report:**

- Three exhibitions this week. New campus allows us to hold more than one exhibition a night.
- Magnet open house, Nov. 13
- Discussed ongoing safety measures. Teachers to meet with HISD Police Safety Team tomorrow to tour building & talk with police about their concerns and hear their ideas. Cohort teachers are practicing all week on having students go to safe storage areas in event of danger, so that students have a protocol to follow in event of intruder alert. Will also practice getting students out of the building. Lauren Garcia is our safety chief.
- Transportation: Leadership in HISD Transportation office has completely changed. HISD has received extensive feedback about transportation problems. Transportation systems are currently undergoing a dramatic review. All transportation issues related to EIHS have been solved. New ID system is just beginning with buses.
- Our student population increased by 60 students. This will increase our funds from HISD.

**IV. Feature Teacher Amy White:** Amy teaches Geometry & Algebra I. This is her second year at EIHS. She said she is “super excited” about being at EIHS. She is also the rep to PTO and liaison between faculty & PTO. Helps PTO know what teachers need.

**V. Treasurer’s Report:** Kathy Kahanek discussed P&L.

- School lunch sales a big part of our fund raising. Going well this year. Students from EIHS-sponsored clubs volunteer for Friday lunch sales. Each Friday a different club sends volunteers; the club gets \$100 of proceeds from their volunteer day.
- PTO gave 42 teachers \$100 gift cards.
- This week, more of the cohort funds (\$2,000 per cohort) are being distributed. Funds are used for field trips & other activities.

### **VI. Committee Reports**

**A. Volunteering:** Virginia Lozano told parents how to sign up to volunteer on the PTO website (Signup Genius). Volunteer activities include: lunch sales; chaperone field trips; school and community service activities, such as the recent, wildlife project. Cohort parents will meet with teachers tomorrow.

**C. Marketing:** Sarah Levit is chair. Bendi discussed the PTO website, monthly newsletter, weekly PTO updates in School's e-news, emails & reminders, Sarah Levit is working on a FB page. We still need help on website, etc.

**D. Teacher Appreciation:** Linda Franco discussed monthly teacher appreciation activities throughout the school year, such as: October Halloween goodie bags: pies & other baked goods for November, etc. Parents can sign up to help or donate needed teacher treats on Signup Genius (in PTO, EIHS newsletters & PTO website).

**E. Membership:** Bendi Saindon noted that becoming a voting member of PTO requires a minimum donation of \$15 per school year (Solar level). Members who donate \$250+ (Electric level) may attend the annual "Breakfast with the Principal," which will be held on Jan. 16, 2019 at 8 AM.

**F. Spirit Store:** Amber Hoffman is chair. Bendi announced that new polo shirts have been received and delivered as well as yard signs & magnets. Some hoodies are still available. Our goal is to fulfill orders within a week. Logo items will be available for pre-sale during lunchtime.

**G. Hospitality:** Becky McGlothlin is chair. Bendi announced upcoming activities: Magnet Meet Up events; Family social @ Axelrad, Nov. 11 4-6 pm; Karaoke @ Maple Leaf Pub, Dec. 14 (parents only)

**H. Fundraising:** Charisse Mayer is chair. Bendi discussed Chick-Fil-A Wednesdays & Firehouse Sub Fridays (volunteers needed); Upcoming sale of various logo items, including fleece jackets, water bottles, phone charger, memory stick, fanny packs, etc. PTO is also trying to raise funds through Amazon Smile & Flip Give, business donations, matching funds, general donations and our Party with a Purpose (auction) at the Firehouse Saloon on Feb. 8, 2019. There will be an Auction Committee next week. Auction items needed. Contact Charisse: [fundraising@energyinstitutepto.org](mailto:fundraising@energyinstitutepto.org).

## **VII. New Business**

A. Joy Sewing of the Riverside Civic Association spoke to the meeting about problems such as homelessness, neighborhood bars (noise, cars parked, some hold ups of people). The association meets the second Tuesday of each month in EIHS Cafeteria at 6 PM.

**VIII. Notable Dates:** Bendi announced:

A. Nov. 9 is an Early Dismissal Day

B. Nov. 11 4-6PM, Family Social at Axelrad

C. Magnet Open House, Nov. 13

D. Thanksgiving break, Nov. 19-23

E. Karaoke at Maple Leaf Pub, Dec. 14

F. Next PTO General Meeting: Wednesday, January 8 at 8 AM

**IX. Meeting adjourned:** 7 pm

**Speaker:** Following the meeting, Heather Timmis (MA, LMFT) of Finnegan Counseling Center spoke to the group about how to talk to teens about "METOO," sexual assault & consent.