

Linwood Howe PTA MEETING

March 13, 2025

Present: Anna Dembs, Emma Smizik, Kim Sadler, Lucy Berlin, Lauren Wood, Mayra Marentes, Sara Jones, Liz Vila, Fei Krelle, Katie McNayr, Mike Muson, Elaine Delacruz, Tara Prescott-Johnson, A. Rippon, Rachel Rogers, Marion Cueva, Kristen Cruise, Amy Lines, Rachel Martin, Jen Chyi, Chris Pearson, Gabrielle Zadra, Dedic Neflas, Anel Hernandez, Alicia McCullough, Charlotte Rosen, Kevin Cabral, Hedi Hunter, Naoko Watanabe, Josh Cohen, Jen Chyi, Karen Ho, Larissa Temple, Mr. Chabola, Ms. Natoli

Excused absences:

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:04pm. President Anna Dembs presiding.

2. Approval of Minutes: The minutes from February 6, 2025 were approved.

3. Principal's Report (Mr. Chabola)

- Thank you to everyone who has filled out the family survey.
- The Science fair is April 23-25th. It is mandatory for 3rd - 5th grade students. It would be helpful to have a PTA science fair chair to help set up the cafeteria and direct students to where to put projects. Please email linhoweptapresident@gmail.com if you're interested in science fair chair position or helping out at the science fair.
- Open House is Friday, April 25th.
- There are still tours available for new families. Please let Mr. Chabola know if you or someone you know needs a tour.
- Mr. Chabola shared a presentation on the budget challenges for the district. CCUSD has a \$4.4 million budget deficit, and there will be cuts across the district. Lin Howe teachers provided input about priorities for fundraising for positions. Informational slides will go out in Dragon Diary, as well as what was discussed during Room Parent Meeting. Mr Chabola has been in touch with CCEF about fundraising for positions through CCEF. CCEF has been very supportive and will allow each school to use their fundraising platform to collect money with no fee. Mr Chabola suggests forming a committee at Lin Howe to decide how any funds raised would be used. Mr. Chabola recommends that we do a similar ask to what El Marino does - asking an amount per student per year to fund positions. The goal would be around \$175,000 - at least one aide for every grade level, as well as a lead teacher for intervention. The CCUSD Administration is now fine with us fundraising for positions - previous administrations were not. Mr. Chabola would like to kick off this fundraising right after Spring Break. Meeting participants discussed looking into Friends of the PTA or a Booster Club, which we can look at over the summer. Please email Mr. Chabola if you would like to be involved with fundraising.

4. Teacher's Report (Ms.Natoli) - Everything is going well. We're looking forward to Spring Break!

5. President's Report (Anna)

- Liz Vila gave an update on inclusion district events across the district. April is Autism Acceptance Month. Bringing in Jazz Hands for Autism for a district wide concert at Robert Frost Auditorium. Wednesday, April 16th at 7pm. Food available for sale at 5:30pm in front of the auditorium. Will also be in Dragon Diaries.
- Thank you to everyone who joined the screen event. A recording of the event will be posted. Culver City For Slow Tech Facebook Group.
- Thank you to the equity committee for the beautiful display cases. Please reach out to Fei or Mayra with questions or to help!

6. Financial Report (Kim)

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report was run from 02/06/2025 to 03/13/2025, the opening balance of account ending #6970 was \$138,355.77. There were deposits primarily for 5th Grade Committee and Farm Fresh \$8,831. There were disbursements for \$16,483 consisting primarily of 5th Grade Committee Sacramento Airfare deposit, Class Creator and Follett Books, Teacher Appreciation and Teacher Reimbursement. With total deposits and disbursements, the closing balance as of 03/13/2025 is \$130,804.84. The February 2025 bank reconciliation for account ending #6970 has been reconciled.

The opening balance of account ending #1494 was \$123,656.92. There was no activity in this account. The ending balance as of 03/13/2025 is \$123,656.92 and the February 2025 bank reconciliation for account ending #1494 has been reconciled.

BUDGET TO ACTUAL

The Budget to Actuals report was run from 07/01/2024 to 06/30/2025 today. Year to date, there was \$192,839 in income (55% coming from Raise Craze, 31% coming from 5th Grade Committee) and \$92,093 of expenses for this year. 70% were expenses for the Fall Book Fair, Teacher Reimbursements, Raise Craze, Classroom Enrichment, Field Trips, Staff Appreciation and Program and assemblies.

MOTION

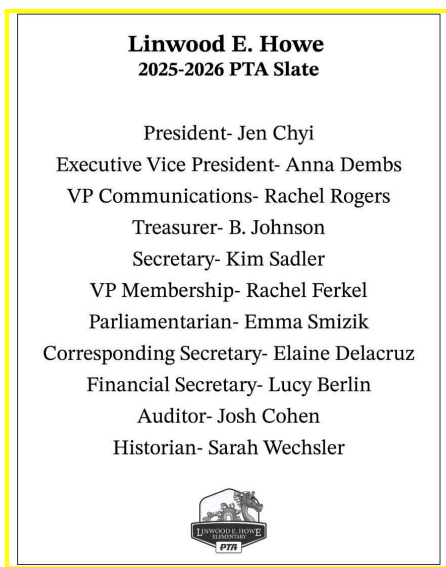
Kim moved to approve checks#2548 through #2561 for a total of \$16,382.99.. Motion approved.

Kim moved to allow herself to write checks until the next PTA meeting. Motion approved.

Kim moved to increase the 5th Grade Committee income and expense budget lines to \$61,000. Motion approved.

7. Committee Reports

- Parliamentarian, Proposal of PTA Slate for 2025-2026 - Lucy - Lucy shared the slate for the 2025-2026 school year. The slate was sent out yesterday and will be voted on at our next meeting.



- Equity Committee - Fei/Mayra - Our next meeting will be on Monday, March 17th at 6:30pm. Committee is continuing to update display cases. The committee closed the black history month event with 4 winners. The Holi event will be next Thursday (3/20) - information will be shared in Dragon Diaries.
- Green Team - Jen - Green ambassadors met last week and prepared for a plastic film drive through Ridwell. More information will be in the Dragon Diaries. The green team also had salad parties two weeks ago. Earthfest is at El Rincon on Saturday, April 19th. Lin Howe has a booth every year - looking for parent and student volunteers.
- Special Education - Gabrielle - Having a meeting next Tuesday evening at 8pm on Zoom. Budget cuts are impacting special education. In addition, the current Director of Special Education for the district has resigned. The committee is working on a display case for Autism Awareness Month. There will be a SPED meeting Tuesday 3/18 at 8pm. Please email linhowespedcommittee@gmail.com if you can join and aren't already on the distribution list.

- 5th Grade Committee - Mariena/Jen - The 5th grade class is going to Sacramento in May, and flights have been purchased. T-shirts have been designed and purchased. The promotion committee is starting to plan. The legacy project is also underway - totem poles to go outside of the school on the mulch near the bulletin board. Students are designing squares for the legacy project next week. Pali camp is coming up as well.
- Family Fun Night - Dance Party - Marni - Friday, April 11th. The theme is Red Carpet.
- Talent Show - Jen - Saturday, March 15th from 5-8pm. Rising 5th graders will be selling snacks - for cash only.

8. Announcements/New Business - *Please see upcoming events and PTA Meeting dates below.*

- Open positions for the 2025-2026 school year.
 - Fundraising Committee Lead(s) & Members: Leads school-wide fundraising efforts to fund field trips, assemblies, classroom supplies, enrichment programs (e.g. Scholastic & Brain Pop) & school needs
 - Spirit Wear Committee: Orders and sells school Spirit Wear at community events
 - Yearbook Committee: Creates the annual yearbook and manages orders/distribution of Yearbook
 - Special Education Committee Co-Chair: Parent-led group that works closely with school faculty and staff to ensure that children of all abilities are visible and supported in our school and community
- HSA due by March 17th. Please nominate!
- Book Fair coming up in April. Katie will be reaching out for volunteers as we get closer to the book fair.

9. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 7:11pm.

Emma Smizik
Secretary

_____date adopted as printed _____date adopted as corrected

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Saturday, March 15th - Talent Show
- Thursday, March 20th - Coffee at the Steps (after morning drop off)
- March 24th - April 4th - NO SCHOOL (Spring Break)

- Friday, April 11th - Family Fun Night Dance Party (rescheduled from 2/21/25)
- Saturday, May 10th - Family Fun Night Movie

PTA MEETINGS 2024-2025 School Year

- Thursday, April 10th - PTA Meeting 6pm
- Thursday, May 1st- PTA Meeting and Honorary Service Award Celebration - 6pm
- Thursday, June 5th - PTA Meeting 6pm