



Elm Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization

15W 201 60th Street • Burr Ridge, IL 60527 • <http://www.elmschoolpto.org/>

Date and Time	September 8, 2015, 1:45-2:45
Location	Elm School
Host	Trista Negele – President Elect
Attendees	Kelly Milne, Sarah Nadeem-Khan, Jennifer Loblaco, Alea Gupta, Gopi Ahuja, Alisa Messana, Jen McCarthy, Meeta Patel, Jacquis Parrillo, Hala Alhindi, Dawn Wood, Natalia Nekludoff (Alam), Jen Donnan, Jill Berry, Jeana Considine

1. Call to Order – 1:45 p.m.
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Report of Officers, Principal and Faculty

President/President-Elect	Trista Negele
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- Presidents' meeting
- New math program
- Concern from other PTOs re piloting and transiting for 4th and 5th graders. If parents have questions, reach out to teachers/principals.
- Testing will be done to see how kids are doing. Remember to not compare kids between math programs. 1st chapter is re-learn and there will be some re-learning of materials.
- HMS status: All architecture companies are recommending rebuild vs. making changes to existing building
- School fees: being rolled out in October with new vendor.

VP Ways & Means	Dawn Wood and Erin Doppke
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- Elm Rummage Sale on 9/19
 - Need donations dropped off on 17th and 18th.
 - Looking for volunteers to sign up for 2 hour shifts.
 - Bonus: If you volunteer on Friday you get to pre buy items before the public sees them on Saturday.
- Parents night out at Cine on Thursday 9/24
 - Raffle for a ipad mini and 3 month gold membership at 5 Seasons. Raffle tickets are \$5.
 - 100% of tips and a portion of drink sales go to Elm PTO
- Boosterthon:
 - This year's theme is Big World Recess.
 - Every student will get a spirit wear shirt and an additional \$2000 profit based on funds raised will go to school.

VP Room Parents & Volunteers	Gopi Ahuja
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- Room Parents
- Still need sign ups. Especially in the upper grades!

VP SELAS & Programs	Alisa Messana & Julie Bryant
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- 9/16 free substance abuse theme program for school aged parents to attend at Robert Crown

VP Technology	Erin Doppke
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- Additional front row systems funded for new classrooms
- District has digital learning initiative committee that will meet one Thursday a month. Looking for someone willing to attend one Thursday a month from 3:30-5:30. Erin Doppke will be available to help with tech questions, so volunteer doesn't have to be super tech savvy.



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Treasurer	Jen Donnan
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- Tech increase for front row systems increased by \$500

Secretaries	Meeta Patel and Jen McCarthy
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- If you have school events that need press coverage from local media email Meeta (meeta_jain@hotmail.com) a blurb about your event. Updates will be sent the 1st and 15th of each month. Larger events will be sent out to larger publications. Bridget McGuiggan will also post to D181 digital backpack if it makes sense to do so

Principal	Jeana Considine
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- New wing is looking very good.
- Front row systems to be installed next week. All the classrooms have this. Front row system is lanyard that the teachers have so that it feels like every student is in the front row. Will also re-align and re-purpose existing to use in new classrooms
- 2 pick up areas: same procedure. If you have primary and older kids you can choose which side to pick up on. If bus flashers are on, don't go past the bus
- Parents/Volunteers, make sure to come in thru front door, sign in and wear Elm lanyards
- We're ready for a great year!

MRC Director	Jill Berry
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- Author visit on 10/8
- Non fiction writer who has written more than 100 books. She will be discussing 2 books that focus on SELAS theme that inspire and show how people work together for community. Flyer going home on Friday. Deadline for autographed book is 9/23
- Library volunteer sign up is going well
- New library system.
- Old alexandra system is not current. Last week's Friday folder flyer had passwords and the new library catalog is bit.ly/elmmrc Bookmark to get in to library catalog. Save flyers for each student as there is variation between grades.

4. Committee Reports

Elm Garden	Dave Konsoer
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- All new plants outside school donated by Four Star Greenhouse and Proven Winners. Dave Konsoer volunteered his time to do all the planting. Retail price over \$500. Thanks to Dave!!

Health and Safety	Lena Shahbandar
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- Bike Rodeo on 9/12
- Need volunteers specifically for 3rd grade parents. Parents will help at different stations - obstacle course, checking helmets, etc.

Communication and Web	Catherine Dietrich
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- Messages for all Committee Heads and Officers:
 - Please be sure to pull me into your communications plans for your committees. I would like to get information about your events and programs on to the website - the sooner the better. You can leave Bowser Notes Flyers, mass emails, PTO Facebook blasts as more "just in time" communications, but web content can be available



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anytime. I'll move info about your events or programs to the home page "News and Announcements" area as your big dates approach.

- Please consult the PTO Committee Volunteer SignUp Genius Form to see which parents are interested in helping your committee. The report is attached for your information as well.
- Committee Heads and Officers have PTO email forwarding addresses (e.g. Directory@elmschoolpto.org) that route directly to your personal email address. With this approach, we can publish email addresses without sharing your personal information and then update them next year to the next committee heads. There are no email accounts with inboxes to check. All emails are routed directly to your real email address. Please find your forwarding address on the PTO Officers page or PTO Committees page and test your forwarding email address to make sure they are working. Let me know if they are not.

• Message for all Parents:

- We extended the due date for purchasing Spirit Wear, PTO Membership/Directory, and Special Lunch to Friday, September 11.

PTO Membership/Directory	Catherine Dietrich
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- Please help spread the word that in order to get access to the A to Z Online Directory and get a free printed directory, parents must join the PTO for \$20 by Friday, September 11.

Fundraising/Merchant Events	Kristin Kentra
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- Look for restaurant fundraiser events starting in Oct.
- Flying High day: Elm will host one in first half of year and one more in 2nd half of year

Yearbook	Jen Donnan
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- Please purchase your yearbook thru Tree Ring. 15% discount thru the end of October.
- Picture Day:
 - Is on 9/29.
 - Need volunteers: 2 in morning and 2 in afternoon to be runners to get students from classroom.

5. **Old Business**

6. **New Business**

- Destination Imagination – Meeta Patel

7. **Adjourn**