



# General PTO Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT**

Title 1 Campus

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September 28, 2021

## **ATTENDED BY**

106 attendees present – unable to generate a list of names from the MS Teams Meeting report.

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Lamar PTO General Meeting was called to order at 6:02pm by Kara Richardson, PTO President, on 9/28/21 virtually on Microsoft TEAMS.

## **MINUTES APPROVAL**

A motion was made to approve the draft Minutes from the previous general PTO meeting held on May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021, by Beth Lane and seconded by Heather Barrow. Anjanette Blewer (PTO Parliamentarian) confirmed there was a quorum of 69 present. There was only one opposition with no abstentions and so the motion passed.

## **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

Principal Graves reported on the following items:

- **GPA Conversion for Fine Arts and Athletics Courses**
    - Helps students make choices in the courses they enjoy.
    - The district created an opportunity for students who wish to continue in Fine Arts and athletics for all four years without a concern that the 4.0 credit class will depress their GPA if they're taking predominantly advanced classes that have the quality point equal to 5.0.
    - After your child receives their first year of credit at Lamar for either their Fine Arts or their PE classes, and they continue in the arts or athletics, they may submit an intent to convert to pass/fail for those subsequent courses, they're allowed up to two credits to convert from a grade to a pass/fail marking.
    - 10th and 11th graders are eligible to submit the form if they completed a Fine Arts credit and or their athletics credit during their freshman year and must submit this intent form before the end of the first grading cycle (Friday Oct 1<sup>st</sup>).
    - Strongly recommended everyone submit the form and will only convert the grade to a pass if it helps the GPA increase.
    - District list of courses that will qualify for the 2021-2022 school year are: athletics; art; band; cheer; choir; color guard; dance; drill team; JROTC; music; physical education and theater classes.
    - Debate classes are no longer on the list but you don't need it if you're taking a 5.0 class.
    - Mr. Gunther, school registrar, has created a 22-minute video that goes over exactly how to calculate the GPA and it'll help you determine in what situations the conversion would help your GPA and in what situations it would hurt the GPA. The video can be found on the main Lamar Website.
  - **Virtual College Fair** will be held on Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup> from 11am-2pm.
  - **House Bill 4545:**
    - For 9th Graders requires 30 hours of accelerated learning if the student did not take or did not pass, either their STAAR from 8th grade or the BOY test that was given in the first few weeks of school.
    - For 10th, 11th, and 12th graders, it's required if they did not pass or did not take the STAAR EOC that they were scheduled to take last spring, and at the beginning of this year.
  - **Homecoming Tailgate** is being planned for October 23rd at the Homecoming game.
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- The Homecoming Dance will be held in the parking garage. If weather is favorable, it will be on the roof and if it's raining it will be on the 4th floor undercover. This allows for kids to be on campus and still have a level of safety with respect to the "ready set go plan".

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

#### **ELECTION OF THE NEW OFFICERS**

At the last General Meeting in May 2021, the officers for most of the board were approved except for the Class of 2025 Representative positions since they were not filled at that time. Kristine Martinez and Leslie Wubbenhorst have been acting as Class of 2025 co-chairs since the beginning of the school year and would like to continue in that role. Beth Lane made a motion to officially elect Kristine Martinez and Leslie Wubbenhorst to the Board, and Jenny Wood seconded the motion. There was one opposition with no abstentions, so the motion passed. Kara Richardson thanked and welcomed them to their new positions on the Board.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Heather Hajdik presented the treasurer report with activity as of Sept 28, 2021. See attached Budget.

- PTO Budget approval is required at the 1st General Meeting of the year per the bylaws.
- Heather Hajdik, PTO Treasurer, reviewed the PTO Budget for the current school year.
- We want to be able to fund all our expenses and the way it generally works is that we have fundraising, and we try to collect as much money in the beginning of the year with our Big and Bright membership campaign and Corporate Sponsorships.
- This year for our budget, we're going to have a balanced budget. Our total income for this year in the budget is \$181,270 which matches exactly what we plan to spend for the year.
- Last year we had a loss of almost \$32,000.
- The Actual Column shows we are doing quite well with our fundraising, already close to \$30,000, but still have a way to go and would love for more people to join and donate to help us get our numbers up even further.
- A motion to approve the budget as presented was requested. Beth lane moved to approve. Sook Miller seconded the approval. 94 attendees were present for the vote and there were no oppositions or abstentions, so the Budget passed.

### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

Kara Richardson reported on behalf of Tonya Anderson, VP Membership, who could not make it to the meeting:

- As of today, we have 381 families who have joined the PTO which is a bit up from this time last year.
- The Big and Bright Campaign is the biggest fundraiser for the year and that goes to fund all the programs that we offer and support such as teacher wish list items; teacher and staff development; teacher training; teacher appreciation items that we pay for like teacher lunches and little treats throughout the year to make our teachers feel appreciated because we know how hard they work.
- To date we have raised about \$30,000 from the campaign and still have quite a long way to go. If you would like to donate, then you can go to our website to find the links. Any amount is appreciated and will be used to directly benefit the school.
- So far we've had 91 families donate to Big and Bright and hopefully we can get more participation. We'll keep you updated on the progress.



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## **Class Representatives Reports**

### **CLASS OF 2022**

Alyson Rooney and Beth Lane, Class of 2022 Co-chairs, presented the following:

- We started off the year with our “Sweet Treat” event on Friday September 3<sup>rd</sup>. Every senior received their senior shirt. The kids had a lot of fun. If your child has not received their senior shirt they should contact Ms. Van Ravensway in the main office or the neighborhood clerk to obtain their shirt.
- We have the homecoming tailgate on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- We're really hoping to have great participation by both our students and our parents at the Woodhead (student band) and Chocolate Orb concert that's happening October 30th at Rockefellers on Washington Avenue.
- The culmination of our Senior events is going to be the “LHS Fest” which is slated for some time in February.
- We plan to have a kickoff parent social on Tuesday October the 12th from 5:00pm to 7:00pm at Kirby Ice House. If you're interested in helping us plan and execute these activities, we'd love to have you there.

### **CLASS OF 2023**

Jill Calderone and Sarah Thweatt, the Class of 2023 Co-Chairs, presented the following:

- We have our first class social on October 18th at Roma, the Italian restaurant in Rice village, from 5:30pm-7pm. It's \$50 per person which includes food and two glasses of wine. We should have a link up to purchase tickets, hopefully by the end of the week.
- The Junior class is working with Mr. Burroughs in College Corner and starting in the Fall will have four virtual events during the Fall months and four during the Spring months.
- These College Workshop Wednesdays are free for Lamar parents & students and various Counsellors from different companies will present the workshops. When the dates are confirmed they will be posted in the newsletter, on our Facebook page and Mr. Burroughs will post them on the hub.

### **CLASS OF 2024**

Lori Black and Jenny Wood, Co-Chairs, presented the following:

- We are focusing on Corporate Sponsorships known as “Fill the Gap”. Some companies have been very generous and we are still continuing to look for more donations. This is a great opportunity for your business to support our school and to increase your profile at the same time. If anybody is interested, the information is on the PTO website.
- On the social side, we are working on trying to get all the parents together in early November - location still to be decided.

### **CLASS OF 2025**

Leslie Wubbenhorst and Kristine Martinez, Co-Chairs, presented the following:

- To order the class of 2025 shirt you can go to the PTO website on the right side of the front page.
  - Kids can pick up shirts at school from their neighborhood clerks.
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- We're planning a freshman parent social tentatively October 21st at Kirby Ice House from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. It will be announced on the PTO social media as soon as we get it confirmed.

### **TEACHER WISH LIST REPORT**

Moya Varner, VP Teacher Wish List reported on the following:

- PTO teacher wish list program is funded by the Big and Bright campaign.
- If you haven't donated yet I would encourage you to do so. This is a real tangible way you can help your students. In the fall and in the spring, teachers are encouraged to apply for a grant. Maximum amount is \$1500 per teacher for the purpose of purchasing items needed to enhance the learning for our Lamar students. The Fall Submission closed on Friday Oct 1<sup>st</sup>. We have \$40,000 budgeted for that and we received many submissions. Some of the things that we have purchased in the past are: chemistry and physics lab equipment; dissection materials for biology; work graphing calculators, musical equipment; audio visual equipment like technical theater lighting and athletic equipment.
- If you can, please donate to the Big and Bright campaign because the money just goes back to our kids.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

President Kara Richardson reported on the following:

- College Prep Seminars are offered through the Fall and Spring- more details about the dates for those seminars and the topics will be announced soon.
- We sponsor community events and I know that some of the class reps have planned a community movie night for December 4<sup>th</sup>. Hopefully we'll have good weather, and we can have hot chocolate and the community can get together to enjoy that.
- Loving Lamar Initiative. Saint John the Divine is the Episcopal Church that's across the street from Lamar, and they have reached out to offer a series of parent talks. This is completely independent from Lamar, but they are doing this to support the school. For any parent that wants to attend these talks, they're free. The topics are relevant to parents of high school students. The first talk has already happened -you can find a link to the presentation on the PTO website so you can go back and reference all this information.
- Alamo Wrap Around services is another initiative that the PTO supports. This is a room upstairs on the 2nd floor that is organized by Mrs. Paris at the school and they accept donations for slightly used uniforms or new uniforms. Some students can't afford or are afraid to ask for uniforms and personal hygiene items so they can go to the Alamo and get these kinds of things. If you're interested in donating to the Alamo/Wraparound Services, we have an Amazon link on the website that will take you directly to these items that they're needing, and which we update throughout the year. There are diapers for some students who have children and just a variety of things that are in need. You can also purchase uniforms directly through the Uniform store that will be directly donated to the Alamo.
- Fill the Gap campaign (Corporate Sponsorship) has different sponsorship levels. We have a lot more information about the different perks you get for each level on our PTO website. Sponsors are promoted on Teams and in our newsletter that we send out every two weeks. We will gladly add your name for the right price, so visit our website or reach out to Jenny Wood or Lori Black for any questions on the Fill the Gap corporate sponsorship campaign.
- The Chocolate Orb Halloween bash is coming up October 30th at Rockefellers on Washington Avenue. It's a costume appropriate event. They're opening with a student band (Woodhead) that has some students from Lamar, as well as some from HSPVA. Donations will be accepted at the door, and they'll be split equally



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between HSPVA and Lamar PTO. It should be a fun community event and hopefully we'll raise a little money. We'll be pushing that out on social media and through the newsletter and on our website.

- The homecoming tailgate is on Oct 23rd and we welcome everybody to come out and have a good time.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Kara Richardson presented on behalf of Casey Schultz (VP of Communications):

- Please follow us on the PTO Twitter, Facebook, and Remind Accounts. The handles for those platforms will be on our website and we encourage you to follow us.
- You can reach out directly to Kara Richardson (PTO President) through her email: [LamarPTOPresident@gmail.com](mailto:LamarPTOPresident@gmail.com)
- More information will be coming your way about the College workshop Wednesdays and the College Night, and other information regarding socials.
- Stay connected by checking our PTO website and reading the Texan Connection newsletter that should be sent out every other Friday.
- Principal Graves reminded everyone that Millard House, our new HISD Superintendent, will be at Lamar on October 4<sup>th</sup> for the in-person parent "Listen and learn Workshop". You can hear a little bit from him about his vision for the district and give him your feedback on what we're doing well and how we can improve.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by Kara Richardson, President, at 6:47pm.

Respectfully submitted by Ronelle Meikleham, Lamar PTO Recording Secretary.

**Approved at the Lamar PTO GENERAL/BOARD meeting on {Date}.**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Agenda</b> <b>Lamar High School PTO General Meeting</b> <b>Tuesday, September 28, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.</b></p>
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**Call Meeting to Order** Kara Richardson, President

**Minutes** Ronelle Meikleham, Secretary Approve [Draft Minutes 5-11-21](#)

**Reports**

Principal's Report Rita Graves, LHS Principal  
Presentation on GPA

President's Report Election of the 2020-2021 PTO Executive Board Officers  
Approve appointment of Class of 2025 Representatives

Treasurer's Report Heather Hajdik, Treasurer  
Review and Approve 2021 – 2022 PTO Budget

Membership Tonya Anderson, VP of Membership

Big & Bright Campaign Tonya Anderson, VP of Membership

Class of 2022 Beth Lane/Alyson Rooney, Co-chairs

Class of 2023 Jill Calderone/Sarah Thweatt, Co-chairs

Class of 2024 Lori Black/Jenny Wood, Co-chairs

Class of 2025 Kristine Martinez/Leslie Wubbenhorst, Co-chairs

Teacher Wish List Moya Varner, VP of Teacher Wish List

Communications Casey Schultz, VP Communications

**Upcoming Events**

**Adjourn**

**Fall PTO Calendar**

- **October**
- Oct. 12th – Class of 2022 Senior Activity Planning Social – Kirby Ice House
- Oct. 14th - College Night – Virtual
- Oct. 18th – Class of 2023 Social – Roma (Rice Village)
- Oct. 23rd – Homecoming Tailgate – Lamar Sports Field
- Oct. 30th – Chocolate Orb Halloween Bash – Rockefeller's
- **November**
- TBA - College Workshop Wednesday
- TBA - PTO Meeting
- **December**
- Dec 4<sup>th</sup> – Movie Night

<b>LAMAR HS PTO BUDGET</b>			
<b>1 JULY 2021 - 30 JUNE 2022</b>	As of 6/30/2021	Proposed	
	<b>ACTUAL 2020</b>	<b>BUDGET 2021</b>	<b>ACTUAL 2021 YTD</b>
<b>INCOME</b>			
<b>FUND RAISERS</b>			
Income from LBRC Deposit	14,652.62	-	
Big & Bright Campaign	62,239.42	84,145.00	28,440.21
The Alamo	2,941.87	2,500.00	1,212.61
Corporate Sponsorship	9,500.00	25,000.00	14,000.00
College Night (1 time)	-	2,500.00	-
College Workshop Wednesday	3,000.00	3,000.00	-
Parking Spots (4) Auction For Next School Year	14,338.50	16,000.00	-
Seniors Paint Your Parking Spot/Towels	12,614.85	4,300.00	-
Chocolate Orb Concert (2 times)	-	3,600.00	-
Senior Activities	-	16,000.00	-
Sociables (8 times total, 2 per class)	-	10,000.00	-
On-Site Event Food Sales	-	4,500.00	-
T-Shirts / Class Spirit Shirts / Yard Signs	8,413.00	8,000.00	5,770.00
<b>TOTAL FUND RAISERS</b>	<b>127,700.26</b>	<b>179,545.00</b>	<b>49,422.82</b>
<b>AFFINITY PROGRAMS</b>			
Amazon Smile	604.07	600.00	-
iGive	72.16	75.00	-
Kroger	985.36	700.00	246.20
Randall's/Albertson's/Safeway	291.89	350.00	294.38
<b>TOTAL AFFINITY PROGRAMS</b>	<b>1,953.48</b>	<b>1,725.00</b>	<b>540.58</b>
<b>FEE REDUCTION / INTEREST INCOME</b>			
<b>Texas Citizens Bank</b>		-	11.19
<b>Stripe / Other</b>		-	304.81
<b>TOTAL FEE REDUCTION / INTEREST</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>316.00</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>129,653.74</b>	<b>181,270.00</b>	<b>50,279.40</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
<b>STUDENT PROGRAMS</b>			
College Night (1 time)	72.45	1,500.00	-
Homecoming	-	1,000.00	-
Senior Activities	76,472.86	70,000.00	5,461.57
Technology	2,237.50	2,500.00	-
<b>TOTAL STUDENT PROGRAMS</b>	<b>78,782.81</b>	<b>75,000.00</b>	<b>5,461.57</b>
<b>TEACHER PROGRAMS</b>			
Teacher Welcome Lunch	1,921.78	2,000.00	-
New Teacher Lunch	-	1,000.00	-
Professional Development	12,027.45	15,000.00	1,021.63
Teacher Appreciation	15,669.23	16,000.00	329.77
Teacher Wish List	38,721.88	40,000.00	-
<b>TOTAL TEACHER PROGRAMS</b>	<b>68,340.34</b>	<b>74,000.00</b>	<b>1,351.40</b>
<b>FUNDRAISING EXPENSES</b>			
Parking Spots (4) Auction	-	300.00	107.85
Paint Your Parking Spot	120.96	120.00	-
Chocolate Orb Sound & Venue	-	2,500.00	-
T-Shirts / Class Spirit Shirts / Yard Signs	3,595.79	3,100.00	5,698.99
Postage & Printing	55.99	100.00	-
Banners & Signage	667.53	1,000.00	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDRAISING EXPENSES</b>	<b>4,440.27</b>	<b>7,120.00</b>	<b>5,806.84</b>
<b>BUILDINGS / GROUNDS</b>			
Beautification Committee	119.53	10,000.00	-
<b>TOTAL BUILDING/GROUNDS</b>	<b>119.53</b>	<b>10,000.00</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>			
Principal's Discretionary	3,232.97	6,000.00	2,704.19
WuFoo/Stripe/Paypal/Square Fees	1,266.37	3,000.00	1,744.63
Administrative-General	602.37	800.00	20.00
PTO Officer Insurance	574.00	600.00	644.00
Accountant	400.00	-	-
President's Discretionary	2,941.90	3,000.00	175.00
Magnet Tour Supplies (Red Folders)	-	400.00	-
Membership Supplies	390.47	400.00	688.05
Social Media Publications	17.98	200.00	-
Website/ Mailchimp	373.82	750.00	61.98
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>9,799.88</b>	<b>15,150.00</b>	<b>6,037.85</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>161,482.83</b>	<b>181,270.00</b>	<b>18,657.66</b>
<b>NET INCOME (LOSS)</b>	<b>(31,829.09)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>31,621.74</b>