



Parents' Auxiliary Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2021

Neal Lea, President, called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

Stephanie Wade gave the opening prayer.

Abby Hughes Holsclaw, presented the February 2021, meeting minutes for approval. Mary-Margaret Marks moved to approved the minutes. Lisa Jones seconded the motion.

Steve Hickman, Interim Head of School, provided an overview of end of year plans. As the State of Arkansas has made changes to COVID mitigation strategies including lifting capacity limitations, leadership met with medical advisors to assess school plans. Recommendations are that ECS continue to stay the course of mask wearing, social distancing, and limiting capacity. The medical panel expressed there is still much work to do to eradicate COVID and the next 60-90 days are critical that we remain vigilant.

Mr. Hickman noted that leadership is working to ensure end of the year celebration gatherings happen and plans are evolving. Students and families will receive a reminder to stay vigilant during spring break and students who consider themselves to be a higher risk are encouraged to go virtual the week after spring break.

Mr. Hickman introduced Jamie Griffin, incoming Head of School, and noted that he is sincerely impressed with Mr. Griffin's demonstrated success, amazing work ethic, and ability to transition to ECS at a pivotal time.

Jamie Griffin, incoming Head of School, offered that he is finishing his doctorate at Vanderbilt University. He complimented Mr. Hickman and shared he is excited and honored to join Episcopal Collegiate School. Mr. Griffin grew up outside of Philadelphia where his father was in the military and mother was an educator. He attended Episcopal Academy – a school that was influential to his decision to become an educator. Through his own Naval Academy and Marine Corp. experiences, Mr. Griffin has had the opportunity to grow his leadership skills, take on large operational concepts, lead and influence teams, and work with a diverse set of individuals.

To be more present and grow his family, he left the Marine Corp. and went to school for his master's degree. He is currently in Franklin, TN where he is the fourth-ever head of school over a 65-year time span. Mr. Griffin commented the is blown away by the ECS board and families' commitment to the school. The Griffin's have been married for 20 years and will have twins entering 7th grade.

Mary-Margaret Marks, President-Elect/Treasurer, reported that for the month ending 2/28/21, ECS Parent Auxiliary cash ended at just over \$95,000. The annual fund and class day donations were made in February, \$10,000 and \$5,000, respectively. Wildcat Roundup deposits for the fall 2021 were also made.

Elizabeth Daniel, LS Traditions, noted that the committee works to support Mother Curtis in two distinct ways – Jesse Tree and Shrove Tuesday. This year Shrove Tuesday was muted due to COVID but students received a crown to decorate. Elizabeth thanked the committee for their ongoing help and support.

Neal Lea, presented on behalf of **Teacher Appreciation**, reporting that teachers received two bunt cakes prior to the snow in February. The next teacher appreciation will be the week after Easter. Also, official teacher appreciation week is the week of May 3.

Stacey Sebree, Auction reported that the Auction has been moved to a virtual event on April 6-10. The committee is excited to do another tuition raffle during the virtual live auction on April 10. A Google form is active where families can buy raffle tickets. The tickets will be \$100 each, and only 300 tickets will be sold. Will call dates for payments and ticket pick up will be in the Wildcat Weekly. All proceeds for the auction go to support teacher professional development over a two-year time frame. Clarification was offered that prior auction tickets will be honored for those wishing to attend the virtual event.

Neal Lea, presented on behalf of **Concessions**, shared that spring sports are underway and gate keeper volunteers are needed.

Neal Lea thanked everyone for attending virtually and announced used uniforms will be on sale at school tomorrow, Saturday, March 12 along with raffle tickets. With no further questions or announcements, the meeting was adjourned 9:07 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Abby Hughes Holsclaw on behalf of **Kathryn Irby, Secretary**