

Eagle River Optional  
Steering Committee Meeting Minutes  
August 31, 2015

In Attendance:

Lisa LoSordo-Santo (Principal), Dr. Long (K/1), Mrs. Dolan (1/2), Mr. Long (3/4), Mrs. Spain (5/6), Kaleigh Wotring (co-chair), Alexis Kallen (co-chair), Lisa Norbert (secretary), Robin Gray (treasurer), Nicole Mercer (SC member), Codie Costello (SC member), Rosanna Lee (SC Member) and Cherie Shirey

Called to order:

Kaleigh called the meeting to order at 5:00pm at Pizza Man.

Old / New Business:

1. Introduce Principal Lisa Losordo-Santo and steering committee members to the group.
2. Approved the minutes from the May 6, 2015 steering committee meeting.
3. Treasurer's budget report (Robin)
  - A. On-line reimbursement request for teachers/parents expenses (link on our web-site)
    - Go to <http://eagleriveroptional.org/expense-form.html>
    - Take a picture of your receipt with your phone, answer a few questions about the expense and upload a picture of the receipt to the above link or e-mail the picture to [treasurer@eagleriveroptional.org](mailto:treasurer@eagleriveroptional.org)
4. ER Elementary- Parent Information Night (school wide event)
  - Thursday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6:30-7:30pm
  - Intro from principal and teachers; meet in multi-purpose room.
  - Parents invited to go back to class (2 – 20 minute sessions) to ask specific questions and learn about classroom structure from teachers.
  - Optional SC: to verify contact information for the directory and be available.
  - Teachers: handle driver/insurance forms, Chaperone expectations, supply lists, ASD and upcoming optional upcoming events lists.
5. Garden and Potluck (Nicole Mercer/Felicia Hanna)
  - **Needs a 1 or 2 parents volunteers to co-lead the garden program.**
  - Thanks to the awesome Optional families who watered the garden this summer!
  - Garden harvest dates: Friday, 9/4 (potatoes); Tuesday, 9/8; Wednesday, 9/9
  - Vegetables and recipes are available to go home with children (by request).
  - Make soups at school with kids (Thursday, 9/10)
  - Optional Potluck with families (Thursday, 9/10 @ 6:30pm)
  - Potluck- children's behavior expectations (gym closed)
  - Anyone handy...optional needs a compost bin to be made.

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6. Learning labs (Codie Costello)
  - Needs a parent volunteer to co-head the learning labs w/Codie.
  - Budget (TBD)
  - Learning lab dates (4): Wed., Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> (Grades 3-6; 50 students) need 7-10 labs  
Wed. Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> (Grades K-2) need 7-10 labs  
Wed., Jan. 27, 2016 (K-6) & March 2016 (K-6) need 12-16 labs
  - Cherie Shirey and Lisa Norbert to assist in planning Sept. event; Codie out of state.
  - ER High School rock wall available for a labs.
  - Like the small groups of students (6-8).
  - Need to reserve classrooms w/office, make & send home flyer listing labs, see if leaders need supplies and request additional volunteers to assist lab leaders.
  - Codie will create a Google doc and share with the teachers/SC listing to include a list of lab ideas, leaders with contact information and dates available.
  
7. 5/6 Field Trip (Mrs. Spain)
  - Sea Life Center in Seward (every other year with class) – costs \$2000-3000
  - Last year the field trip was in February and was amazing!
  - For scheduling purposes, not in March or April; prefer May.
  - Steering committee voted to give \$500/year towards the field trip.
  - Donorschoose.org – is a great program that gives money towards field trips/events
  
8. ER High School- Team Building Event (Kaleigh)
  - Friday, Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> (9:30am – 1:30pm) at ER Elementary
  - Will need a few parent volunteers to help with lunch/recess.
  
9. Halloween Carnival (Felicia)
  - Saturday, Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm at ER Elementary
  - Theme: Mad Scientist
  - PTA has a sub-committee for any parents interested in assisting.
  
10. Kids Kreations- Fundraiser (Rosanna)
  - Students will do artwork in the classroom
  - Instructions will come home if families wish to submit additional artwork.
  - Artwork due by November 8<sup>th</sup>; will get proof sticker sheets with order form.
  
11. Principal LoSordo-Santo's Report
  - We have a new business partner with Starbucks in Eagle River.
  - Going to the ER Chamber Meeting
  - New school-wide fundraiser: will have prizes (Zumba and extra field day) to encourage positive health rewards.
  - School participating in Running Jamboree (Wed. Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>) at Chugiak HS.

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12. New Buisness:

- Cherie Shirey will create a list of HS students that want to volunteer at school and have it available to e-mail them to assist with various optional events.
- Discussed new child protection laws about sharing photographs of children.
- DATE CHANGE for the remaining steering committee meetings to the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday (versus Wed.) of the month at 5pm at Pizza Man.

13. Sub-committee heads: (Red still needs committee head)

- **Garden (2):** Nicole Mercer and \_\_\_\_\_
- Parent Information Night: Felicia Hanna \_\_\_\_\_
- Fundraising: Rosanna Lee \_\_\_\_\_
- Potlucks Felicia Hanna \_\_\_\_\_
- Halloween: Felicia Hanna \_\_\_\_\_
- Craft Day: Cherie Shirey (lead) and Lisa Norbert \_\_\_\_\_
- **Learning Labs (2):** Codie Costello and \_\_\_\_\_
- Volunteer Coordinator: Codie Costello \_\_\_\_\_

14. Next Meeting: Monday, October 5' 2015 at 5pm

The meeting ended at 6:35pm.