

Hearst Elementary PTA Executive Board Meeting 12/4/2025

In Attendance: Sarah Knight Marvar, Shari Rose, Dave Steadman, Beth Prince, Timothy Staffa, Sara Rastegar, Larin Rottman, Andral Hills, Monica Lucas, Alex Carozza, Dawn Gray, Sima Ghandi

Screen on the Green – Tim Staffa (Screen on the Green co-ordinator)

October Screen on the Green was successful, about 70 people attended. Probably fewer younger children because of the 8pm start time (field not available earlier).

Spring Screen on the Green will take place on Friday 30th Jan at 6.30pm, in Hearst Gym. Just need to schedule security and custodial staff. We will sell pizza again, plan to have 10 pizzas available at the start. Need to have some people manage money and others manage pizza. We can use our own popcorn machine in the gym.

There will be a 3rd film screen at the end of Term 3, April 3rd-6th.

Tim will put together a document for process instructions with vendor and field reservation. Discussed the ideal times to hold screen on the green to maximize attendance. For the Fall event we wait until student council is formed and wait until the field is available. Perhaps we can reserve the field for an earlier time before soccer teams reserve it.

Holiday gift cards update – Dave Steadman (PTA co-treasurer)

Readathon raised \$11,000 for families in need.

Need was assessed by Sarah Soloman together with AP Rottman and Principal Hills.

Currently serving 16 kids and gifted Walmart gift cards to all families before Thanksgiving.

Dave will start purchasing the Christmas cards next week. Walmart is a good solution.

In the New Year will assess how to do this moving forward with a view to distribute a gift card before school year starts. Need to think about criteria eg. If there was an explosion of need.

Readathon started as a student's idea to address community need. Makes sense to use those funds to continue to support the families. Could consider whether we want to add funds from PTA budget. We can discuss when decide on next years PTA budget.

Voting on PTA funds allocation to CLS aftercare scholarships – Shari Rose (PTA co-president)

Sima asked if we should use a poll voting. Bylaws only allow for in person voting. If we want to change that we need a vote with a 2/3 majority. Our current solution to be accessible and encouraging parents to be engaged. It accommodates people who can't join meeting on Zoom or in person. Proxy voting means email it to recording secretary. We want to give notice a month ahead and then include it weekly before vote.

Shari or Sara will sign off on payment to CLS for scholarship recipients.

Upcoming Events– Shari Rose (PTA co-president)

PTA meeting in December 11th: Discussion of voting outcome on CLS scholarship funds, Auction update from Cassie Anderson

Open House December 12th – good response for volunteers. 4 experienced and 4 first timers. Emily McVeigh will order coffee. We will need a Rho card for Emily for \$110 for the 4 open houses.

Holiday Teacher Gifts – Shari Rose (PTA co-president)

Parent collection is going well. We have heard some favorable things about the way we're collecting. We need a card box for personal cards for teachers. Shari purchased a box that can be secure that we will use to collect cards. We will store in PTA cupboard.

Room parents need to promote the holiday collection and give info. The new process may result in different amounts to previous years but will be more even between teachers and staff members. Should we give the teacher gifts as Rho cards to the teachers? If so we will need their info. Teachers already have Rho cards. But we will need to set up new cards for everyone.

Hearst Staff Holiday Lunch – Dawn Gray has ordered the food already. Dave has paid for it.

Parents to help with set-up 11am for the lunch. We still need some parent volunteers to supervise CES classrooms

Overall the community sign-ups have been well attended. We have given plenty of lead time and reminders.

Auction 2026 update – Shari Rose (PTA co-president)

Venue has been decided - McLean Gardens Ballroom. Larger than previous years so can accommodate all that want to attend. We will sign a contract soon and will pay for the venue

and catering. Planning an early 'Pop-up auction' where donations team will work early on Summer camp offerings and will offer those to the parent community in Jan 2026.

Glamping trip with Ms Beech and Ms Gray Planned for Fri 19th-Sunday 21st June 2026. Available for 3rd-5th Grades kids.

Upcoming PTA Meeting Agenda Items – Sara Rastegar (PTA co-president)

Jan – Care Brookland come to give a talk. We give part of the Owl fund to them and the Hearst community needs to know where that money goes.

Feb – Organization that discusses a pledge to wait until 8th Grade before giving kids a smartphone (smartphone abstinence). They also talk about ways kids be safe with smartphones to encourage inclusive conversation.

March – Present the proposed PTA budget for next year. (last year we didn't present budget until April but felt rushed). Discuss PTA budget in April, then vote on budget in May

Perhaps we can have a special EB meeting to start reviewing it in Feb, then give people more time to consider and input. We can use budget to communicate our values and highlight PTA work and discuss what we've spent it on.

CLS Enrichment Concerns – Dawn Gray (Hearst staff, reading specialist)

CLS has not communicated with staff who are holding enrichment classes about enrollment, location and aftercare arrangements of kids. Shari will reach out to CLS to aske them to communicate with staff. Winter enrichment starts on Monday Dec 8th. Mr Sidhu has already reached out to get rosters from CLS. Teachers need to request dismissal information from parents.