**Emerson Elementary PTO Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, March 14, 2017**

1. Welcome

* Meeting came to order.

1. Science Night
   * ARMS – Adult Role Models in Science
     + Downtown Madison Kiwanis adopted Emerson
       1. At that time (25 years ago), Emerson had the highest population of children who were homeless
       2. Saw a need for more science programming at Emerson
          1. Started Science Night
          2. Grew to Lakeview, Mendota, Hawthorne
          3. Now district-wide
          4. Plus after-school programs, classes, etc, to incorporate more science into curriculum
          5. Capacity building with teachers
          6. Mentors for students
       3. More UW students now volunteer and receive training via ARMS
   * Science Night (April 25th) is a culmination of all the efforts during the school year
     + ARMS coordinates these district-wide
     + Dinner at 5:15
       1. PTO provides vegetable and a drink
       2. Celebrate 100th anniversary of Kiwanis
       3. Quick activity in the cafeteria
     + Teachers have placed attendees in their sessions based on advanced RSVP
     + 6:00 is the start of the first session
     + 6:45 session two starts
     + In the past, there were alternating years with a science fair
       1. Found it was less interactions and most work done at home versus hands-on at the event
       2. Could incorporate having students conducting sessions at Science Night itself
     + Science Expeditions is March 31-1st
       1. Open house on UW campus
2. Adolescent Experience
   * Looking at Madison middle school experience
     + Potential changes initiating in 2018-19 year
     + Assessment of disparities in high school achievement
       1. Middle school seemed to predict later achievement
     + Developed considerations to present to those present at meeting
       1. Receiving feedback district wide
       2. Other sessions at a variety of venues to receive feedback from wider population
3. After School Program
   * Next family dinner is May 18th
   * Around 50 students enrolled
     + Close to capacity currently
     + Many students are getting extra hours on Lexia
4. Principal’s Report
   * Budget
     + Some discretion allowed with Title funding
       1. Most allocated to staffing
          1. 100% social worker
   * Playground update
     + Productive meeting with the city
     + Phase three might occur this summer
     + More accessibility
5. Treasurer’s Report
   * Dance raised $375
   * Bake sale $588
   * Sale of compost bags = $162
   * Expenses
     + DJ is actually $375 but we had a credit with him so only needed to pay $125
6. Committee Reports and Volunteer Opportunities
   * Events
     + Dance - positive response to the dance
       1. Had many volunteers and offerings for the bake sale
          1. Someone needs to volunteer to chair this event
     + Parent Teacher conferences coming up April 6th
       1. PTO provides lunches
     + Spring beautification in April
     + Madison Mallards is May 30th
     + Playtime Productions, April 18th
     + Hockey Game
       1. Raised $100 check
       2. 50 tickets sold ($2.00 kickback to Emerson)
       3. Star Wars characters were a big hit
       4. Could add having the mascot come to school if PTO wants this again
7. Adjournment – Thank you for coming!

## Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 4th

Agenda items for next meeting:

* Trends on PTO fundraising – Kirk Stone
* REAP