

# Meeting Minutes

## Akins ECHS PTSA Meeting

December 4, 2024

5:30 – 6:30 PM

**In attendance:** Angel Miralrio, Beth Pasko, Belynda Montgomery, Trudy Richards, Isabella Cervantes, Melissa Contreras, Cecilia Gutierrez, Jessica Cooke, Connie Miralrio, Nikki Hempe, Ceci Vazquez, Gabriella Rodriguez, Rosa Cervantes, Jess Rest

### 5:30 pm Welcome

Angelica Ancira

### 5:35 pm Minutes Review/Approval

Jess Rest

- A. General Meeting: November 6, 2024 - Ceci motion to approve the minutes, Rosa 2nd. Motion passes unanimously

### 5:40 pm Old Business

#### A. Pies for Teachers Update

Trudy Richards

1. Successfully raised **\$600** in cash donations.
2. Overwhelming support led to surplus pies; **10 pies were returned** to the store.
3. Every staff member received a pie; custodial and cafeteria staff received two.
4. Some individuals mistakenly donated cakes due to translation issues, but they were enjoyed by the teachers.
5. **Expenses:** \$750 spent on pies; approximately \$100 extra covered by general donations.

### 5:50 pm Reports

Various

#### A. Treasurer – Trudy Richards - **Treasurer's Report** - [11.30.24](#)

#### B. Fundraising Update – Nikki Hempe

1. Blue & Gold Night had issues with chargebacks, impacting revenue.
2. Looking into alternative fundraising strategies for next year.
3. **Shoe/Christmas Shoe Drive** to support students in need.
  - a) Previous sponsors have stopped providing assistance.
  - b) Plan to distribute **\$75 gift cards** for shoes (Rack Room Shoes, Shoe Carnival, Target, etc.).
  - c) A donation link will be set up for fundraising.

4. **Angel Tree** sponsorship program for families in need.

C. Advocacy Update – Trudy Richards

Monitoring district budget changes and advocating for student needs. Encouraging community participation in upcoming elections. Engaging with trustees to address disparities in school funding and construction projects.

**1. District Budget Changes:**

- a) Proposed bus route changes for magnet students to save **\$2.5 million**.
- b) There are no current plans for teacher/librarian cuts.
- c) Vacant district positions are to be eliminated for cost savings.

**2. Runoff Election Reminder:**

- a) Early voting: **December 2-10**
- b) Election day: **December 14**
- c) Encouraging community participation.

D. Academy Update – Academy Coordinator

**1. TAFE (Teachers and Future Educators) Competition:**

Several students qualified for the **state** competition.

**2. Mock Trial Team:** Hosted **400+ students** for a YMCA Youth and Government District Conference; the senior team placed **2nd overall**.

**3. Austin Corps:** Students engaged with city planning departments and Project Connect discussions.

**4. STEM & Biomed Programs:** Students competed against robots in a precision contest, with several excelling.

**5. Social Media Initiative:** Discuss reviving the PTSA's **student-run Instagram** for event promotion.

**6. Fashion Show Collaboration:** A local tux shop owner offered support and donations, including free tuxedos for prom.

**7. Winter Fest Volunteer Request:** St. Elmo Elementary seeking student volunteers for their event on **December 13**.

**8. CTE Internship Program:**

- a) Paid summer internships (\$2,000 stipend) for students.
- b) Applications open in **January**.
- c) Teachers needed to support program.

## **6:10 pm New Business**

### **A. Membership Ideas**

Angelica Ancira

Current membership count: **76** members.

1. Goal: **125 members**.
2. Ideas for boosting membership were collected via post-it notes from attendees.

### **B. Student Activity Comm-Hot Chocolate and Coffee** Melissa Contreras

1. Student council working on a **budget** for an upcoming event

### **C. Kam's Clothiers & Tux Shop**

Belynda M

Willing to partner with the school for a fundraiser. Mentioned tux rental fundraiser or fashion show. Also, donating 2 tux for Akins prom. Need to communicate Kam's Clothiers & Tux Shop for prom rentals to the students and families.

## **6:25 pm Announcements**

Various

ACPTA Holiday Party Wed Dec 11th 6-8pm Oddwood Brewing.

AISD has a paid and credit internship program. The interest form for the program will be open for submission in January, and PTSA will include it in their newsletter.

Request from St Elmo ES for student volunteers for their winter festival on Dec 13 5:30 - 7:30p.

## **Meeting Adjourn 6:28p**

### **Upcoming Events**

- Next CAC meeting Wednesday, January 15
- Next PTSA/CAC meetings Wednesday, February 5