

Minutes

Board meeting

DATE

January 12, 2026

TIME

3:30 PM- 5:30 PM

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY

Jeff Henry

IN ATTENDANCE

Jeff Henry, Amanda Byerly, Kelsey Parker, Jennifer Jenkins, Christina Munn, Kristy Barlow, Carson Parris, Ragan Lewis, Tracy Kropf

OFFICER REPORTS

PTL Fund balance \$16,871

PREVIOUS MINUTES

- Color Run
- Christmas Store: investment approximately \$2700; profit approximately \$1200
- No Book Fair

BOARD

Carson Parris was nominated as PTL Secretary. Parris volunteered for the vacant position, was nominated by Henry, and voted without contest.

REPORTS

- Christmas Store: Profit exceeded expectations. Parents expressed gratitude for students being able to give, for promoting the idea of giving, and for the joy that their kids had from giving. Volunteer coordination was challenging: shifts were not covered, volunteers no-showed, efforts lacked instruction and teachers had to help beyond what was anticipated. Christmas Store 2026 will be further discussed in the fall, with ideas of less material presents and fewer volunteer efforts in mind.
- Grade Reps: Two grade reps present (Byerly, second grade and Parker, Kindergarten) both planned and executed Fall Outings with varying success. Encouraged to continue planning class outings approximately quarterly or “a few per school year.” Individually planned birthday parties and outings are also planned and fill the desire to unite class families.
- School Ministry Team (SMT) representative Munn presented PTL Handbook outlining purpose and scope of PTL engagement. PTL representatives present voted with no contest to adopt the Handbook. The PTL Handbook will be available online and by request.
- ELS report from Jenkins, teacher Leason, expressed appreciation for Teacher Appreciation food truck and the upcoming need for volunteers for January 30, activity during school hours. Teacher participation in PTL activities was discussed: teachers are not required to attend, as it is beyond the scope of their work; teacher family participation is voluntary, and costs associated will be covered by the PTL.

- Teacher Appreciation: Emily Truluck leads and has planned a popcorn bar for January, mini Bundt cakes for February, and lunch from Texas Roadhouse in March. All expressed appreciation for her efforts.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next event is a family dance, described as “Dress to Impress” to be held in the gymnasium on Friday, February 6. Shari will email school families with details. Planning:

- Invitees ELS K-8 Families
- Cost \$25/family; ELS teachers no charge.
- Food: Apollo Flame Bistro, same as last year, to be coordinated by Parris
- DJ: Mark Studer or 8th grade student Wyatt Johnson were mentioned as options to run the mic and music; to be coordinated by Henry.
- Decorations: costs can be minimized by using items on hand; to be coordinated by Emily Leatherwood (if available). Volunteer help could be students if weather day-of permits gymnasium to be unoccupied during school hours; parent volunteers may be necessary.
- Photo Booth: Barlow will coordinate with help from Munn.
- Clean up: volunteers needed for after dance to clean and pack

NEW BUSINESS/CONCERNS

- How to recruit volunteers: mandatory volunteering was discussed but not supported. Varying the shift time of volunteers was discussed, back-up or on-call volunteers proposed. Issue is that volunteering for events seems to be supported by the same few, but as families have differing circumstances, a sweeping policy for volunteering is unavailable.
- Background checks for volunteers, including parents attending field trips, is in place. Online background checks could make it easier for ELS to keep records up to date with less man-power.
- Early Childhood Education (ECE) is running a blanket sale and would like to share the opportunity to buy the Emmanuel Lutheran blanket sale information with ELS. This was approved.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, March 9, 2026 at White Labs restaurant. This is an evening meeting for parents and some food/drinks will be donated by the venue.

Future meeting dates: May 11, July 28