Leal PTA – October 10, 2016 Minutes

28 members, 7 board members

6:00 – family-style dinner.

1. 6:30-- Call to order, opening remarks: Lara Orr, co-president.

1. Guest Speaker: Beth Mears, Instructional Coach—Eureka Math
	1. Last year there was a committee who researched many materials and tools and decided Eureka was the best.
	2. The focus is on the process of getting the answer and laying the foundation of understanding the concept, rather than the answer.
	3. Builds on the number talks that were already happening in the district.
	4. Chip model and other visual strategies are used to solve problems.
	5. Online tools to help:
		1. [www.embarc.online](http://www.embarc.online)
		2. [www.zearn.org](http://www.zearn.org)
		3. [www.greatminds.org](http://www.greatminds.org)
2. New Buisiness/ Asuntos Nuevos—
	1. Ms. Tiffany and Jane Laskowski presented the Pumpkin Project to benefit the Eastern Illinois food bank on Wednesday, October 19 2:45-3:30pm $.50-$7. There will be a raffle for the largest pumpkin, and tickets are $1 each. Ms. Tiffany’s class is also collecting non-perishable food items for EIFB on October 27th, when students bring their costumes for the annual Halloween Parade.
	2. BOOK FAIR, Cheryl Lehman-- The Leal Book Fair is October 24-28, and is an annual event. All proceeds from the fair (50% of sales) go back to Leal, so that each Leal student can select one free book to take home. Scholastic also donates 30% more of whatever is raised during change wars (October 17-21) to buy books for the Leal school library.
3. Presentation of the September minutes: Jen Straub, secretary.
	1. Minutes presented and approved.
4. Old business
	1. Presentation of 2016-2017 PTA budget, Kathy Adams, treasurer
		1. Escrip makes lots of money. Please register at escrip.com to easily raise many funds for our school simply by shopping online at the vendors you already use.
		2. Restaurant fundraiser— Lacy’s Kansas City Style BBQ and Minnecis at the Crossing will allow us to pick a day that they will donate 15% of the sales to anyone who brings in a flier.
		3. Pot lucks vs buying food—We will have two more potlucks this year to save money on food. The others will be catered.
	2. Walk-a-thon: MaryKate says over 70 volunteers helped with walk-a-thon this year and over $2000 has already come in (keep sending your donations in!).
5. New business
	1. Vice presidential reports
		1. Felipe Menanteau
			1. Membership is not enforced, but it is suggested to change it from $5-$8. PTA membership allows us maintain a nonprofit status and liability insurance.
				1. Suggestion membership dues changed from $5-$8.
			2. Los Iguales—A group of parents were concerned about issues of diversity, they got collaborated with other parents, school staff, and district administrators to develop a pledge to highlight the values we hope to espouse as a Leal school community.
				1. December 2, Spirit Day – the launch of our pledge at a school assembly. Teachers were invited at the teacher meeting today.
				2. Committee meeting Thursday, October 13 at 3:30pm. Open to all interested members. Questions, contact Ricardo Diaz xpenn.diaz@gmail.com, or Felipe Menateau felipe@menateau.org
		2. Angela Waarala
			1. Teacher appreciation dinner and breakfast are October 27 and 28th. Please sign up at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054da9a723aa8-teacher2> to bring a dish or <https://squareup.com/market/leal-pta> to make a monetary donation.
			2. Reflections Program
				1. There is a national program called Reflections that supports the arts. It is an art competition. There is a local celebration of students’ artwork in 6 different categories—dance, production, literature, choreography, visual arts, photography. It would start with a local show. The theme this year is “What’s Your Story.” If you are interested in learning more, or becoming involved in this program, please contact Angela Waarala waarala2@gmail.com
	2. Principal’s report, Spencer Landsman
		1. Make sure you sign up for your child’s parent teacher conferences.
		2. News notes haven’t been going out, but all dates can be found on the D.E.A.R. Calendar, lealschoolpta.com, or our Facebook Page
		3. October 21, CU Schools Foundation hosts their Adult Spelling Bee. Three person teams are encouraged to compete. Leal has never had a team.
		4. Spencer will be out December 7- January 3 for a knee replacement.
	3. Treasurer’s report, Kathy Adams, treasurer
		1. If anyone is interested in joining the supplemental mini-grant committee, Kathy would love to hear from you! kathyadams817@gmail.com
6. Meeting adjouned 7:55 pm. Next meeting November 14, 2016. 6:00 pm, Leal MPR.