

Approved: October 14, 2025

September 02, 2025  
PTO Meeting Agenda/Minutes

Meeting: in person in the King library/media center

In attendance: Tiffany Walther, Koren Clinkscale, Katie Dobbie, Betzy McCarty,, Kristin Berger, Trisha Shah

1. Called to order: 6:05pm
2. Minutes - Review previous meeting's minutes
  - a. Motion to approve minutes: Tiffany Walther
  - b. Seconded: Erin Hill
  - c. Vote: approved
3. Board Introductions: Board Members introduced themselves
4. Board Mission: We, as a board, are a group of parents who have collective experiences and time at King. We're committed to enriching our children's education and building a strong sense of community in our schools. We do this by enhancing communication between families and the school, providing volunteers and funding for programs and activities, and by working together with parents, teachers, and staff to support the school whenever we're needed.  
\*Please let Tiffany know if you didn't receive the PTO e-mail, she will make sure she has the correct e-mail. These will go out bi-weekly.
5. Principal Report - Koren Clinkscale - Welcome everyone, especially new parents! 30th year in education and she feels this is the best place that she has worked in her life. She had only planned to stay 1-2 years and is still here. She introduced her family- son in college, daughter is a junior, husband is also an administrator. New families will love their time here! Great start to the school year, busy, but great. This is the most students we've had in Koren's time at King. 539 students enrolled! Most in any elementary building. Dynamics of the building will be talked about during curriculum night. Teachers are focusing on culture and getting to know students; building relationships, and wanting our students to feel supported and loved here. Try to establish routines. Drive line- please stay in your vehicle; don't argue if you get cut off. We need to model appropriate behavior. Please read her emails about arrivals/dismissals, there is a lot of important information. Volunteers- begin Monday Sept 8th Teachers will discuss when you can enter the classroom. Background check MUST be submitted and approved. You will receive an email that you are approved. You can not volunteer

until you have that approval email. Reach out to Koren if you have any concerns about volunteering. Must do background check each year. If your child is leaving early, e-mail king [attendance@aaps.k12.mi.us](mailto:attendance@aaps.k12.mi.us). This will allow them to call the child down at the appropriate time. If there is an emergency you can always call. Early dismissals need to end at 3:25pm. After that it's too close to formal dismissal. Must complete free and reduced lunch form- students can come in any day and get breakfast and lunch for free. It seems that it may be going away-we may not have the funding for it. Please fill out this form regardless. Any family that thinks they may qualify for free/reduced must fill out. Every Friday the dreamkeeper newsletter will be coming out. You should have all the info you need between the dreamkeeper and PTO newsletter. Computers are coming home with the students. Grades 1-5 will each have a computer going home, Y5 and K will share in the school. If you don't want your child to have a device at home, just have them turn it off and put it in a safe place. Upcoming events: NWEA testing, standardized test that is taken 3x/year. Monitor students' growth throughout the year. NWEA begins Monday Sept 8th and will go throughout the week. Schedule of testing will come from the teacher. Curriculum night will be Wednesday Sept 10th from 5:30-7pm. Meet on blacktop for staff introduction and then indoors for presentation. 5th grade camp meeting 5-5:30 sept 10th, prior to curriculum night. Student count day: Oct 1 need all students to attend so we get all of our funding. School pictures are October 14th, day after fall break. This is the picture that goes in the yearbook. Please review district calendar, dreamkeeper, and PTO newsletter.

\*\* if you don't know the student ID for the meal registering, call the office and they can provide it.

6. Teacher Report - Mrs. Shah/Mrs. Berger - Tricia- 6th year at king, 14th year teaching. Mom of middle schooler and 3rd grader. Her daughter loved 5th grade camp, so if any of are worried, don't be, it will be great!. King is the best place, she loves it here. Kristin Berger- kids call her ms. cheeseburger. Been at King 6 years, and teaching 13 years. She loves King! Any questions for teachers in general, reach out to them. Teachers are spending their time getting to know their students and establishing routines.
7. Treasurer Report - Betzy McCarty - Ways to Donate: we recommend \$50-\$100 donation per year or whatever you feel comfortable giving. We accept cash, check, or use our digital platform through CheddarUp. Passive ways to give: Kroger and Busch's (link every quarter) Cash for Education programs. Employer Donor Match Programs such as Bright Future and Benevity are a couple others ways to donate.

\*We brought in \$63,500. 1/3 of money goes to teacher grants. \$25/student is what they received. We offer innovation grants- extra money for extra projects. Other

programs: recorders, 5th grade celebration, bagel friday, community action network, homework folders, king community support, learning garden, student council. Staff appreciation; PTO Events- silent auction, IN, fun run, ice cream social, harvest moon, book fair-Ask Ann if you have questions about scholastic dollars. Clubs: support math club, academic games, science olympiad. DAW: 4th and 5th grade combined this year. PTO operations- digital platform, council dues, website. We are working on this year's budget. We will have one at the next meeting to review and vote on for approval.

## 8. Committee Reports -

- a. Academic Games - Jayeun Lee; a program that they run after school to help students grade 3-5 learn academic subjects in the form of games- trivia, board games, etc. They then compete at regional, state, and national level. Practice Tues/Thur 7-8:30pm in the media center. They start Tuesday 9/9. Kids are welcome to show up and try it. It's a very big program throughout michigan. King academic games is the only academic games that is solely student run- Huron Students.
- b. Harvest Moon- Lisa Arnsdorf is taking over for Yun. 1st social event of the school year. Wednesday Oct 22nd with rain date of Oct 23rd. Kids can come in costume if they'd like. Crafts, face painting, pumpkin painting, etc. Kids can play with friends. Food for sale. Costume parade at the end of the evening. Talk to Lisa with questions.
- c. Bagel Friday - Buffy Beattie. Social activities, completed a few times a year. Social event for families from 8-8:40am. Teachers and staff get free bagels and coffee
- d. Lego League - Aarti Raheja: alot of interest. All teams are currently full, but once practice times and locations are set, some students may drop. Bringing this to King for the first time.
- e. Mini Monthly-once a month there is a specific date that the pto sponsors an snack for teachers. Set up in the conference room.
- f. Appreciation Week - need committee lead! Provide them with lunch daily, 75 staff members. May 4-May 8. This year we are asking for a dedicated committee. Decide what food to get. Food needs to be ready to go at 10:50 am. Cold drinks, dessert re-stocked. 1 day of that week is a potluck- SUG where community members can bring in food.
- g. Book Fair-Sam Scherba; 2 book fairs this year. Dec 1-5 and April 13-17th.

- h. Field Day Frenzy - Need co-chairs; replacing what we used to call Fun Run. Kids used to ask for donations and there was a grade level winner. Committee chairs have left King and we need committee co-chairs and committee members.
- i. Learning Garden - Whitney Wilkes-Krier - would love any help in the King Learning Garden. Students all visit at least twice per school year. Right now the sunflowers are blooming. Its a room that has been mulched- the Y5 and K planted these last year. She has assigned each grade a passion project. A lot of community involvement. The garden is huge! Tons of weeds. Plan to have some garden clean out days in the coming months. The garden is a lot of work and needs a bigger committee. King parent recently built all of our garden boxes. Getting some more raised garden boxes. Need more volunteers to lead the garden visits. Reach out to whitney at whitneywk@gmail.com
- j. King Gear - Harini - This year we are trying to move to an online platform. It will be a year round sale. Everything will be online, it will be shipped directly to you. Link will be coming out early October to start ordering.
- k. Math Club - Yunus - after school enrichment club
  - i. Who: 1st -5th grader
  - ii. When: Once a week
  - iii. Where: King Classrooms\*Ends with the optional Math Kangaroo National Test
- l. Turkey Trot- Nav Cheema - 3rd year chairing turkey trot. The kids go outside and run around the track (2-4) rounds. Parents will then volunteer to hand out donuts from Washtenaw dairy; cider as well. Fruit and allergy friendly dessert as well. SUG will go out mid october and will be organized by teacher- you can sign up during your child's time slot if you wish.
- m. International Night -Vidya; 1st year doing IN; Hansini is guiding her through what need to be done. King school is very diverse with over 39 languages spoken. It is an evening where we can show off our cultures. They are looking for more volunteers on the committee.
- n. Science Olympiad- Maeran Uhm; Another science STEM enriched after school program. All parents are coaching and hoping to enrich their interest in science. They need a lot of event coaches around Nov and Dec. They meet every week and they then compete at Washtenaw

County Science Olympiad. They don't know when WESO will be yet. You don't need any coach experience to be a coach. Thanks to Lisa Whitehead! She is stepping down after having done so much for 8 years. Email [kingscienceolympiad@gmail.com](mailto:kingscienceolympiad@gmail.com) if you have any interest.

- o. Ice Cream Social- Emily Mashal: 4th year doing ice cream social with Susin Tang. Over 800 people attended last year. Sell pizza, drink, chips. Lots of sponsors. Huron students volunteer. Email [kingelementaryicecream@gmail.com](mailto:kingelementaryicecream@gmail.com)
- p. Restaurant nights: if you have a recommendation please let her know. Usually a "date night" and family friends. 9/25 Peridot. 9/30 Qdoba. Recommend ordering online as well. Ongoing- sticky monkey labels.
- q. Directory: we will have a google form in our newsletter with information that you can fill out with as much info that you want. It will be put into a PDF format organized by grade and teacher
- r. Silent Auction - Sara H: biggest fundraiser of the year; 100's of donations from local business, families donate experiences. Many teacher experiences as well. This takes ALOT of people to put it on. Many mini committees: Marketing team, database team, business donations, teacher solicitations, family experiences. Held in March 2026. Email [aakingpto@gmail.com](mailto:aakingpto@gmail.com)

9. Addressing Question:

10. Old Business:

11. New Business: Committee Chairs Needed for the following:

- Field Day Frenzy
- Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week
- International Night: committee members
- Silent Auction Chairs - Two chairs needed to lead
- Harvest Moon- Need Committee members
- Disability Awareness Workshop - Work with staff and outside company to coordinate ½ day workshop for 4th and 5th graders - chair per grade
- Trivia night- plan an adults only fundraiser
- PTOC liason: umbrella PTO of the district; they hold meetings every month and they ask a representative from each school.

12. Meeting Adjournment: 7:19pm

13. Motion to adjourn: Tiffany Walther

14. Seconded: Erin Hill