

PTO Meeting Minutes
January 13th, 2020

- The meeting was called to order at 6:37 pm.

The pledge of allegiance was recited by those in attendance which included: Rachel Hermann, Laura Popiela, Kelly Watters, Jen Frazier, Shari Kacius, Joanne Pratt, Eileen Skipper, Kim Hayes, Nancy M., Melissa Thompson, Valerie Franzen, Beth Dennert, Amanda Ortega, Karen Johnson, Brittney Brewer, Rebecca Ruf, Becky Smotrilla and Melissa Poletta

Meeting Minutes

- Last month's meeting minutes were approved by Rebecca and Becky S.

Principal Update

- Mrs. Hayes, in place of Mrs. Logan, gave an update on the sensory room. The purchases were made and the room is being used a lot by many different students. The sensory walk is also being used. The school is working on getting some posters made for the hallway.

Treasurer's Report

- The Walk-a-thon and gift card profits were low this year. Rebecca attributes that to the office fundraiser and also thinks the gift card fundraisers need to be spread out a little bit more next year. Ideally, Rebecca would like to have 6-8 weeks between fundraisers.
- Ladies Night Out will be cancelled this year due to not enough time to plan for the event. In the past, the event was held every other year and we just had one last school year. We will be adding additional Dine Out Nights to offset the money lost by cancelling this event.

Box Tops

- Brittney spoke in place of Melissa who wasn't present. Melissa would like to step down from coordinating Box Tops. One of the parents who has been helping her, Crystal, will take over for the rest of the school year.
- We really need people to scan their receipts as the paper Box Tops are being phased out.
- Continue to send in paper Box Tops until February 7th for the spring collection.
- We are set to earn less money this year than we did last year.

Strack's Receipts

- We have collected a lot of receipts so far and hope to do so until March.
- Discussed scanning all Strack's receipts through the Box Tops app as well.

Bench Update

- Some of the washed and sorted caps were accidentally thrown away. We have enough for an 8 ft bench that will be engraved and placed in front of the school. Karen's husband will be driving to Evansville, Indiana sometime in February to pick it up.

Hoosier Sports

- Brittney has started the process to get our school logo digitized. We would like the teachers to be able to order things with the logo on it. Brittney reported that the logo wasn't the best quality and the cost may be slightly more than the \$25 she was quoted. Melissa T. brought up

the idea of t-shirt design contest as a fundraiser. The best designed shirt (by votes) would be made and available for purchase for the whole school.

Dine Out Nights

- The January Dine Out Night will be at Texas Roadhouse on the 14th from 4-10 pm. Patrons either need to bring the flyer or show a picture on their phone. Texas Roadhouse will donate 10% of all food sales to the PTO. We would like to add more Dine Out Nights since they are an easy fundraiser and there is little pressure to participate. Possible future Dine Out Nights were discussed including: Buffalo Wild Wings, Red Robin, Cold Stone. We are planning a Chili's night in March and DQ in May. We would like to do something in maybe February of April-Valerie will work on setting those up. Brittney raised the idea about a Saturday breakfast dine out and everyone liked the idea.

Family Dance

- The dance will take place on January 24th from 6-8. It will be a carnival themed dance as Jynx has some carnival toys she is willing to lend. Becky has reduced the # of pizzas down to 8 based off previous years. There will be cotton candy (operated by Mrs. Pratt); sticks and sugar need to be purchased. Becky also reached out to the NJHS coordinator to see if the kids would be willing to volunteer. Becky was also discussing buying a "skeleton" from Amazon that allows you to make your own balloon designs. She would like to save some money and not have to use a balloon store. Melissa T, Melissa P., and Rachel have all expressed interest in helping Becky and Jynx out

Penny Wars

- Penny Wars will take place Feb 24th-28th and Rebecca is in charge of this. This event is run by the Lake Central Dollars for Scholar's program and it provides a scholarship for a Lake Central Senior that attended Bibich. The top earning class, per day, will earn a small prize. The prizes last year were small stuffed animals. The top earning class will earn the grand prize-last year they got smoothies.

Grandparent/Special Person's Night

- The event will take place on March 5th. We usually offer cookies, water and coffee. In the past we have gotten our cookies from Strack's. We discussed asking for donated cookies from Strack's but Valerie stated we have used them for as much as we can this year. Getting donations from Meijer, Jewel and Costco were also discussed. We will need to get approximately 500 cookies. We will need a few parents to help that night with setting up and serving the snacks.

Talent Show

- It will take place on April 15th this year and was a great success last year. Katy & Rebecca will help this year but more help is needed. Becky and Laura have agreed to help. The kids will practice Wednesday during recess for 3 weeks in a row. They will also be given an AM practice session if they were unable to make a recess rehearsal. There will be a performance during school and also an evening performance.

Teacher Appreciation Week

- The PTO sponsors Monday, Tuesday & Thursday. We only have \$116 left in our budget for this since we spent money at the beginning of the year (back to school bagels & coffee). We would

like to ask for parent donations but will do that sooner this year. Melissa P. and Laura would like to help with this event. **Rebecca raised the idea to move \$75 from the hospitality account to Staff Appreciation. Karen motioned to approve and Melissa T. seconded it.**

4th grade Party

- Mrs. Hayes has just started working on it. She will need parent volunteers; Melissa P. volunteered to help.

Wish List for Teachers

- The PTO would like to facilitate a Wish List for the teachers. The Wish List would outline things the teacher may need for the classroom, places they like to shop and other favorite things of theirs. The teachers all liked this idea and feel it could be very useful.

Second Chance Donation

- Rebecca introduced the idea of doing a toy donation. The company matches you with a local recipient (charity organization) and we collect used plastic toys that will be given to them. We would need a minimum of 50 plastic toys and small pieces cannot be included. The item must have batteries included and working, if applicable. We would collect these toys for approximately 1 week and would do it in March/April. Most people were in agreement and thought this would be a good idea. Rebecca will get more info to further clarify the “small pieces” stipulation.

Puzzle Drive

- The idea of a puzzle drive was discussed-parents would donate old but gently used puzzles for teachers to use in their classrooms. Mrs. Frazier mentioned she is in need of outdoor recess items and mentioned 1 teacher doesn't have any indoor recess items. **We will wait for Mrs. Logan's final approval before moving forward with this.**

Open Officer Position

- Rebecca will remain on the board and finish the 2nd year of her 2 year term and Amanda will be running for re-election. Those interested in being on the PTO board should email Mrs. Logan. A few people asked what the time requirements are and how many meetings are needed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 pm.