

Monday, September 13, 2021 6:30 meeting (MINUTES)

Board Members in Attendance: Christy Szekely, Katie Rodewald, Erin Kissinger, Jessica Biggs, Sara Blum, Tiffany Irvine, Sam Loker, Amanda Osborn, Nicole Reedy, Colleen Ruggiero, Ken Slocum, Megan Start, Caitlyn Demmond

Board Members Absent: Katrina Miller, Kayleen Grand, Maggie Pottter, Sasha DeKam

Parents in Attendance: Amanda Molitor

Teacher Representatives in Attendance: Alex McCullough, Lisa Trott, Ashley Palmer Vance, Summer Walker

Call to order: Christy at 6:33 pm

Secretary's Report: Approval of August minutes. Motion to approve by Colleen and second by Erin.

Treasurer's Report: No variance. Pending items are: license renewal for non-profit and Turtle Trot envelopes. \$12,469 in checking account. Have \$5000 from anonymous donor for Turtle Trot, plus two small business sponsorships totaling \$1000 for \$6000 so far. Motion to approve by Colleen and second by Jessica.

School News by Alex: Staff is very excited to be back in school with students! As a district, we are looking at updating covid procedures and policies as numbers change. There are still no volunteers allowed in the building. They are in the process of doing fall screenings, reading is mostly done and working on math. We are very excited to do Turtle Trot and are brainstorming ideas for ways to allow parents to participate. Grab and go breakfast went really well and everyone is looking forward to continuing building community between school and families. Thank you for your support!

Old Business

Grab-n-Go Breakfast:

- Jessica and Sarah came in under budget, Meijer and Biggby donated coffee and a gift card for food. We were able to set up in the entryway which worked really well. It was a great location for this event per Alex. Extra food was left with the staff for later in the week.

New Business

Turtle Trot – will be held October 5-8 during PE time

- Sponsorships: we had a donor give \$5,000 to cover t-shirt and prizes costs. We also had two of our sponsors from 2019-2020 reach out wanting to continue with their sponsorship of the PTO this year. Erin did a Facebook post and has been in contact with a few of the sponsors. Christy is sending an email out tonight after the meeting to our previous sponsors to let them know that we are opening up that opportunity, but there will not be a “back of the shirt” advertising this year. We will do a banner, though.
- Envelopes will go home Friday with students.
- Prizes have been picked out and a live virtual assembly will be held on October 29 to announce winners and prizes.
- Tshirts have been ordered. Thanks to the staff for getting the last minute sizes for us!
- Still working out logistics on volunteers/decorations/setup.

Spirit Wear - We have been in contact with The Spirit Shoppe about opening up our site again. We are going to change the colors to more fall/winter colors since we just had bright colors during our spring sale. However, some of the colors we would like are out of stock or have very low stock. The goal is to launch SW by 9/27. We're also hoping to bring back teal zip up hoodies for adults and will resize the logos on the adult shirts. Christy is checking on color availability with The Spirit Shoppe.

Updates to the PTO Calendar –

- Harvest Moon Acres and Great Skate family fun events have been approved, so we will look into setting those up.
- 10/29 is a half day. Turtle Trot prize assembly and Halloween parties will be held this day.
- Folk dance moved to spring.
- Family movie night in December: possibly looking at doing drive in style if we can find a big screen
- 5th grade camp: potentially will be day camp in fall, overnight in spring. Sherman Lake is limited with covid numbers and the number of districts using their space. Working to make sure all kids get the experience and team building that are part of camp.
- Will leave 2nd semester schedule as is for now and will reevaluate as we get closer.

Book fair – Tiffany has been in contact with the Scholastic rep. We decided to do a sale in October to spread out TT and SW. The dates for upcoming book fairs will be announced at the next meeting. Possibly virtual for fall and spring conferences and in person during ice cream social (if allowed).

Mileage Club- We are doing it “virtually” again this year. Christy made the google form for families to fill out when they have ran. Google form will go out once dates are confirmed with Jen Kitchen.

Teacher Requests – The Y5 teachers have requested chair pockets for their kiddos. There are a total of 41, and the cost will be \$503.16. <https://www.reallygoodstuff.com/store-more-deep-pocket-chair-pockets-6-pack-green-blue/p/163199/>. Motion to approve by Tiffany, second by Nicole. Vote passed. Christy will email Marlene to order, Erin will work with the office to get a check for the chair pockets.

Communications

-Katie is working revamping the Weebly site to include event descriptions, pictures and history to help make it more informative for new families.
-Newsletter will include Meet the PTO this month. Everyone will be asked for blurbs about themselves and a photo. We may take some photos once we get our Turtle Trot shirts.

-Newsletter DEADLINES: 3rd Friday of the month (12 days post PTO meeting)

Family Giving - Box Tops, Coke Rewards, Amazon Smile, Etc. We just had a larger Amazon Smile donation (\$65) than we typically do. You can now have AmazonSmile organizations selected with the app. Some questions were raised on the actual donation program. Katie will look into this and will promote the Amazon Smile on Look at Us Learn and LCEPTO facebook pages.

-Next meeting we will discuss if we should hold a special election to fill empty board seats or if we should wait until spring.

Upcoming Events

Mileage Club

Spirit Wear

Picture Day - Friday 9/17

Turtle Trot - October 5-8

Comments, Questions, Concerns?

Checks: All Checks MUST be made out to Portage Lake Center PTO, Inc.

Next Meeting - October 11, 2021 at 6:30pm

Meeting Adjourns: 7:23pm motion Tiffany, second Erin