



PTO Minutes

November 8th, 2021

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Attendees: Gerri Balthazor, Dana Ford, Erica Cisneros, Becky Henry, Jes Simecka & Jill Reynolds

President's Report- Jill Reynolds

Treasurer's Report- Dana Ford: Dana presented the final Hawk Walk numbers and we discussed the PayPal fees and incorporating an option where the person making the payment covers the fees in the future. One family made a donation to the greenhouse fund and a separate donation of \$100 to go direct to PTO funds. We voted to apply that money to the staff appreciation budget. Dana has provided the funding to Mrs. Blaine for the bookfair which is passed through PTO.

Committee Updates:

- Hawk Walk: The walk was a hit! The kids loved the obstacle course and bracelets. Having Mr. Sullivan's assistance for set up and MC was so incredibly helpful. Our final donations raised was \$31,359 however PayPal feeds will deduct almost \$1000. All money has been deposited in the bank and the PayPal transfer is complete. All class parties have happened and were a hit with the kids. We came in almost \$1,000 under budget what we planned on spending for the walk/prizes.
 - Greenhouse/gardens next steps: Phase 1 of the project will kick off in the Spring and will include the greenhouse and raised beds. Gerri will begin reaching out to the grounds crew to make arrangements for the greenhouse installation. The kids will be involved in building the raised beds. We plan to have a groundbreaking celebration when the greenhouse is installed. We are one of three schools who are in the running for the "spotlight grant" which would be an additional \$10,000. Based on final numbers Phase 1 will hopefully also include a tool shed and tools. Phase 2 will include the rod iron fencing and edible landscaping including fruit trees and berry bushes.
- Staff Appreciation: conference meals & snacks were a big hit! The staff loved the Love Letters truck. The Thanksgiving pie sign up will go out this week. Mize embroidered stocking caps are in production for staff holiday gifts. Monica will send out a sign up genius for \$10 Target cards for the teachers to go along with the hats. A Facebook post was made promoting the Teacher Favorites on the PTO website for families shopping for staff holiday gifts.
- Spirit Wear: All spirit wear has been delivered to families. The final profit was \$2,122.50. The key learning was by narrowing the design options to two designs our profits increased from the vendor charging less.
- Fundraising: Erica has organized a dine out fundraiser for Sombreros on 11/17. Flyers will go home to families this week. Papa Murphy's is scheduled for January and Chipotle for February. Erica is contacting Chik Fil A for March. Amanda will contact Skate City for January or February. Jill will make a Facebook post about Amazon Smile for holiday shopping.
- Family Activities: we are holding tight for mother/son and father/daughter events until after winter break. We would still like to host both events in the Spring but they will likely need to be off site or outdoors.

- Sharing and Caring: Veterans Day packets went out this week and Kerri is working with Mrs. Souders to distribute. Kerri will contact Mrs. Graham regarding a holiday toy drive. We also discussed doing a "Penny Drive" sometime this year to go to a local charity.
- Birthday Board: all is going well. No updates/changes
- Gift Card Coordination: Packets have been distributed and included in the HEV. Order forms are due on 11/23.
- Website Manager: Jes has the website updated and is looking into the PayPal functionality. Great feedback on the updates to the staff favorites!
- Graphic Design: No needs at this time
- Principal's Report: Gerri discussed reimplementing a program for the kids to encourage kindness and respect. Each classroom has a Huddy Card reward program but in years past there was a monthly drawing where 2-4 names were drawn per grade level and given a special prize/reward. Gerri would like to put this back in place but needs PTO's support for the rewards. Gerri also discussed what a tough year it has been for staff and trying to do more fun things for the staff. The Woot Woot wagon has been delivered which was awarded with grant money but now we need items to stock the cart. I would like to propose that with the remaining budget of almost \$1000 from Hawk Walk that we reallocate those funds and give \$500 for student Huddy Card drawing prizes and \$500 for Gerri to use to stock the Woot Woot wagon with snacks and beverages. Jill will send an email asking for the committee to vote to approve this budget change. Jill & Erica will also work to contact some local businesses for donations and Jess will contact a neighbor who owns a few local McDonalds about ice cream cone voucher donations for the students' prizes. We also voted and approved an additional \$300 to go to the 95% reading program for additional material fees.

Next Steps: We will not host an in person December meeting due to busy schedules and activity being in a great place. Jill will send out an update email in place of the December meeting and we will reconvene in person on January 10th at 6:00 pm.