



Minutes of PTO Meeting – February 24, 2020

Present:

Mr. Cross- Principal	
Lindsey Becker- Teacher Representative	
Tara Colussi	
Mary Ference	
Susan Holle	
Kristin Kennaugh	
Sunila Kumar	
Colleen Geyer	
Mike Keszo	
Jyl Boehms	

1. Welcome

- a. Called to order by President Tara Colussi.

2. Approval of January 27 Meeting Minutes

- a. Group reviewed the meeting minutes from January 27 PTO Meeting. Approval of January minutes – motion made by Colleen Geyer and seconded by Mary Ference.

3. Principal's Report: Mr. Cross

- a. **February was a very busy month!**
- b. **Scheduling for current 6th and 7th graders:** Deadline Feb. 28th at 8pm for Online Power Schools Registration. Hardcopy to Science Teacher 2/28. Schedules need to match. Refer to Counseling section in Baker Blast and Website.
- c. **Scheduling for 8th graders:** High School counselors will be visiting in March (more details to come).
- d. **Washington DC trip for 8th graders** – so much fun!! It was a safe and successful trip. More than likely will move back to the Fall next year.
- e. Feb 21st – **Danger of Vaping Presentation** - In Partnership with Ascension Providence Rochester Hospital. Presented by Dr. Ashley Argona and Officer John Julian. Increased exposure to Baker students and the community. Baker is taking a proactive approach to this growing problem. Baker MS has a NO TOLERANCE policy against Vaping. Presentation broke down dangers of Vaping with scientific information and also presented information about patient needing double-lung transplant at Henry Ford recently. Pictures are in the Baker Blast.
- f. **Kevin Jeanes, WXYZ Meteorologist, visited Baker MS 6th grade** on Feb 14th. See pictures and video in the Blast.
- g. On Feb 13th **Author and Retired FBI agent Andy B visited Ms. Taylor's 6th grade English class.** Wrote "A Christmas to Remember". He spoke with students about writing, editing and the process of writing a novel.
- h. **Baker's Veteran Project** – coming up in May through the Social Studies Dept. Veterans can sign up to come in and be interviewed by students. Link will be in the Blast.

4. Teacher Representative Report: Mrs. Becker

- a. Mrs. Becker is the Innovation Coach at Baker. She shared her presentation on a creative way for the middle schools to strengthen the gold pillar: Celebration of Learning where students will showcase their learning from the school year on June 8 from 6-8pm. The

event will be student run. Larson did it last year and all Troy middle schools doing it this year. Students can share learning in academics, clubs, music, sports, art, etc. and can present by themselves or with a group. Mrs. Becker will be presenting the event to the students on 3/4.

Timeline:

3/4 present to students

3/31 applications due

4/15 first lunch meeting with presenters

6/5 presentation deadline

Students and families invited to attend, will ask for RSVPs. Will invite feeder schools also.

Ideas are coffee/tea for parents, water bottles, baked goods, snacks/food. Need from PTO: parent presence, advertising help.

- b. Tara shared that PTO purchased kleenex, clorox wipes, hand sanitizer, and pencils for the teachers. Will give to Mr. Cross tonight.

5. **President's Report: Tara Colussi**

- a. **2 new microwaves** installed in cafeteria
- b. **Teacher Grants** - applications due March 13. Same application process as in past. Up to \$200 per grant.

6. **Treasurer's Report: Sue Kumar and Mary Ference**

- a. Sue took us through the monthly financial report. Our revenue for the month was \$679.10: Bob Shop - \$403.50, Box Tops - \$160.60, Concessions - \$115.00.
- b. The mention of Bob Shop led Mr. Cross to share that there has been a problem with students using stickers as locker decorations. Change will be coming on what is allowed with locker decorations. Would like to have Bob Shop oversee approved locker decorations for students and/or parents to purchase. Jennifer, noon aide at Baker, has done some research on decorations. Noon aides would do the decorating after the package is purchased.

7. **Committee Reports:**

- a. **Baking Committee**- can help with Celebration of Learning in June.
- b. **Bob Shop**- question about inventory of graph composition books. Kristin to follow-up with Jennifer.
- c. **Box Tops**- due this Friday. We didn't advertise due date much.
- d. **Concessions**- nothing going on right now.
- e. **8th Grade Celebration**- party date is June 10, 12-2pm. Planning is underway.
- f. **Restaurant Nights**- next one is Thursday, February 27 at City BBQ and then 4/22 is Chipotle.
- g. **Staff Appreciation**- Susan touched base with committee chairperson, Stephanie Zender. Stephanie wants to know budget amount, if secretaries should be included and whether the Board has any event parameters. Group discussed. Budget is \$1000; include secretaries; would like a tentative plan prior to event.
- h. **Winter Activity**- discussion among group as to whether we should pass on doing an activity or plan an event at Skate World. Mr. Cross shared that they have done an after-school event at Skate World in the past and it worked out well. Could have a bus transport

interested students to Skate World after school and then parent pick up after the event. Kristin to contact Skate World regarding details and dates.

8. New Business/Announcements:

a. Water Fountain / H2O Bottle Fillers: Mr. Cross reported that he has done additional research and spoken with TSD Building Administration. Baker has high end water fountains by Halsey, installed when Baker was built at \$3500 each. This causes difficulty with installation of standard bottle filler. There are 2 options that would work with our current water fountains:

- 1) Combination Halsey water fountain and bottle filler, cost \$4500 each
- 2) Stand-alone Halsey bottle filler on the side of existing water fountain or in place of existing water fountain, cost \$3000 each

TSD recommends that we go with option #2 and they will partner with us financially to place one stand-alone bottle filler on each floor in place of an existing water fountain. Looking for a total of \$3500 from PTO for the balance of the project. A vote by members is needed to approve.

b. Need to do recruiting for new PTO Board since many current officers are leaving.

9. Adjourn at 8:32pm.

Minutes submitted by Susan Holle, Secretary.