

AJH PTO Meeting Minutes

September 3, 2021

9:00 am

Meeting called to order at: 9:04am by President, Darcie Parsons

President: Darcie Parsons (ajhpto1@gmail.com)

- Recess space update- There are plans to put in a recess space by the back of the school. This would be a black top paved space for students to use for ME. The plan is paused due to cost at the moment, as the estimate of \$100,000 is triple what was initially planned. Darcie offered to reach out to someone she knows to get another estimate. To have fiscal responsibility, any fundraising money for this project can go instead toward the purchase of two basketball hoops, which may cost around \$700-900 per hoop.
- Fundraisers:
 - Walk-A-Thon- plan for Tuesday, October 5th with a rain date of Thursday, October 7th. Mr. Gibson will look at the schedules to determine the best time for the Walk-A-Thon. Routes were discussed with each grade travelling a different route. No water stations will be needed as students will be asked to bring water bottles. A Committee Chair is needed and Information will be posted asking for volunteers; Teri volunteered to help with planning and Elizabeth volunteered to help with planning and the day of. Darcie will set up a Venmo account as another way to give money, in addition to cash, check and PayPal, The flier will advertise that all money raised will go towards basketball hoops and additional recess space for students.
 - Dance in Fall- pending, due to Lorain County Board of Health guidance
 - Mama Joe's Pies - instead of selling pies, the PTO will look into selling \$10 gift cards; all money will be split with the Powers and Nord PTOs. Teri Burich will be the chair and will talk with Mama Joe's about a timeline and if they will round up sales as a donation.
 - Apparel Sales- this will be handled by Nicole Waddle (Powers PTO President) and Jen Denn; Profit will split evenly between all 3 PTO's and the sale will run from September 7th-24th.
- The budget will keep a line for Academic Awards, as well as a line for 8th Grade snacks.
- eSports- The PTO will no longer be handling eSports funds or payouts. (see below)
- Hospitality- Mr. Gibson suggested that instead of doing something daily for the staff all week during Staff Appreciation Week, we have a monthly show of appreciation, like a hot chocolate bar, pies, candy apples, gum, root beer floats, etc). No funds will be needed for the month of December or conferences.

To better support this, increasing the budget was recommended. Elizabeth made a motion to raise the Hospitality budget to \$3000. Heather Pearch seconded the motion. Vote all ayes, no nays.

- Grant request - Mrs. Williams requested \$150 for the purchase of two novel sets for a Boys Group which will have group discussions on character building and social skills.

Dawn made a motion to give Mrs. Williams a \$150 grant. Teri seconded the motion. Vote all ayes and no nays.

- For future meetings, a phone option will be available for families who cannot attend in person.

Principal: Andrew Gibson (andrew_gibson@amherstk12.org)

- Recess space update- see above
- PBIS will provide students with rewards for positive behavior, and Mr. Gibson said that the PBIS funds in the budget were sufficient for the program.

Vice President: Heather Hatten (heathermhatten@gmail.com)

- Not in attendance
- Darcie will ask Heather to contact Kalahari to look at dates, possibly February the 18th, or see if they are available during Spring Break.

Secretary: Elizabeth Fought (ohhappyday789@gmail.com)

- Please sign the attendance sheet.
- Teri made a motion to waive the reading of last month's minutes, Heather Pearch seconded the motion. Vote all ayes, no nays.

Treasurer: Dawn Clappas (ajhptotreasurer@gmail.com)

- Remember that we are tax exempt; if you need to get any donations or supplies for your committee, please email Dawn Clappas for a copy of the form needed.
- Bank Balance: \$15,580.07
- Quickbooks: \$15,521.41
- Outstanding: \$58.66 (\$36.66-Dawn Dewey thought she used pto cc for personal purchase)
(\$22.00- 2 Apparel refund checks from 2019 were never cashed)
- Dawn talked about lowering the Principal Fund from \$3000 to \$2000, then adding a PBIS fund under Principal for \$1000.
- The line item for Student Outreach of \$500 was removed because the school will focus on PBIS from now on.
- The budget will keep a line for Academic Awards, as well as a line for 8th Grade snacks.
- eSports- The PTO will no longer be handling eSports funds or payouts. The remaining \$435.54 left in the 2020-2021 budget will be donated to the Amherst Junior High eSports Team, via the Amherst Exempted Village Board of Education which is left over from the previous school year to zero out that item.
- A line item of \$500 for Bus Garage was added to the budget. Each year, the school PTOs take turns hosting the bus garage during Staff Appreciation week, and this year is AJH PTO's turn.
- Heather Pearch made a motion to vote on the budget with all the changes. Elizabeth seconded the motion. Vote all ayes, no nays.

Committee Chairs:

Apparel Sale: this will be handled by Nicole Waddle (Powers PTO President) and Jen Denn;
Profit will split evenly between all 3 PTO's and the sale will run from September 7th-24th.

Community Support, General: Dawn Clappas (dclappas@gmail.com)

- Link Amazon Smile through Powers Elementary; Coke rewards- you can enter them yourself on Coke's website, under Powers Elementary. All money earned is split evenly between Powers, Nord, and AJH PTO's.

Community Support, Donation Drives: Post on Facebook to ask for a volunteer. Possible outreach to Second Harvest and Blessing House, as before. Another outreach could be to Good Shepherd Baptist Church to support their backpack drive. Mr. Gibson will follow up on assisting them.

Dances: on hold, due to Lorain County Board of Health Guidance

Hospitality: Nancy Penano (Nancypenano@hotmail.com)

Membership: Dawn Clappas (dclappas@gmail.com)

Walk-a-Thon: The PTO will post on Facebook to ask for a chair volunteer and volunteers. The Walk-a-Thon will be on Tuesday, October 5th with a rain date of Thursday, October 7th.

Spirit Account: Mrs. Aufdenkampe

Social Media: Nancy Penano (Nancypenano@hotmail.com)

- If you need anything added for your committees please let Nancy know and she will get it on Facebook and Twitter.

Other Business:

- In the past AJH PTO was paperless, and the need for paper to track receipts and give information is important.

Elizabeth motioned to use paper for AJH PTO records. Teri seconded the motion. Vote all ayes, no nays.

- The PTO will have the financial books audited to start fresh with a new PTO team.

Next AJH PTO meeting will be October 1, 2021.

Meeting adjourned: 11:14am by President, Darcie Parsons

Attendance: Mr. Andrew Gibson, Darcie Parsons, Dawn Clappas, Teri Burich, Heather Pearch and Elizabeth Fought