

# **AJH PTO Meeting Minutes**

**October 1, 2021**

**Meeting called to order at: 10:08 am by President, Darcie Parsons**

**President: Darcie Parsons** ([ajhpto1@gmail.com](mailto:ajhpto1@gmail.com))

- There will be a Zoom link for November's meeting, and the link will be posted on the AJH PTO Facebook and Twitter accounts.
- Grant Request approved by email  
A grant request by Mrs. Williams was for \$101 to purchase 10 sticker by number posters for the nurses station as well as the counselor's office for the next year in order to help students reduce anxiety while waiting or taking a break. The board voted all ayes, no nays, by email on Sept 15th.
- Grant Requests voted on
  - Financial Literacy for Nearpod- Michele Jagodzinski and Kate Parker requested two accounts at \$120 each, for a total of \$240. These will benefit 300-360 8th grade students, presenting material for Financial Literacy in person and a link for students in quarantine. Elizabeth made a motion to approve, Heather Pearch seconded the motion. Vote all ayes and no nays.
  - Creative wellness for collaborative activity focused on emotional skills- Jess Glatz and Jesssica and Breanna Carden requested \$150 for North Point Ballet original work, "Because of You", that will focus on empathy through a 360-degree augmented reality experience, including student and teacher resources. This will benefit Creative Wellness at AJH and Gym Classes at Nord, for 4-8th grade. Table the purchase for now, to talk with Nord PTO about splitting cost. Elizabeth made a motion to approve partial or complete amount, Dawn seconded the motion. Vote all ayes and no nays.
- Apparel update from Nicole Waddell
  - The sale ended on 9/26/21, and had been extended due to high sales
  - 1095 total items were sold, which is more than last year.
  - A rough estimate of profit per school is \$3,285.00, and Nancy will post the final amount on FB and Twitter accounts.
  - With the high sale volume, PTOs are thinking to start the apparel sale at Open House next year.
  - Talk with other PTOs about a Spring/Summer Apparel fundraiser in the Spring.

**Principal: Andrew Gibson** ([andrew\\_gibson@amherstk12.org](mailto:andrew_gibson@amherstk12.org))

- Students are encouraged to wear Amherst gear every Friday, for Green and Gold Fridays.
- The Walk-A-Thon route and schedule details were discussed. The schedule was modified, and the Walk-A-Thon will be at the beginning of the day., If students raise \$25 or more, they can wear a hat on October 12th. Reminders will be posted on AJH and AJH PTO social media.
- Staff raised \$994.13 cash to put into the Spirit Account for a Sunshine Fund, to purchase get well/ sympathy cards and flowers.
- Mr. Gibson suggested an idea for monthly staff support is to place door hangers on classroom door handles so teachers can "order" a drink and snack to be delivered to them.

- He said that the student aids and staff can help with PTO needs, such as taking in items for conference meals and putting items together, like the Walk-A-Thon packets.
- Plan meals and thank you treats for 90 staff members, which includes all AJH staff. No food is wasted as any leftovers are eaten. Takeout boxes would be a helpful purchase by the PTO.
- Indoor events where masks can't be worn, such as Kalahari, are on hold.
- Amherst Sports can be promoted on the PTO social media.
- After a Sunday Browns victory, students can wear Browns wear for Victory Mondays.

**Vice President: Heather Hatten** ([heathermhatten@gmail.com](mailto:heathermhatten@gmail.com))

- Revisit Kalahari in the spring to possibly schedule a date, depending how the year proceeds

**Secretary: Elizabeth Fought** ([ohhappyday789@gmail.com](mailto:ohhappyday789@gmail.com))

- Please sign 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](mailto: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: \$15,902.21
- Quickbooks: \$15,463.67
- Outstanding: -\$438.54 \*Outstanding check #1223 to Board of Education for eSports donation
- Dawn was able to void two old outstanding checks, which fully balances the account.

**Committee Chairs:**

**Apparel Sale:** this was handled by Nicole Waddle (Powers PTO President) and Jen Denn  
Profit is split evenly between all 3 PTO's

**Community Support, General:**

- 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:** Teri Burich ([teri@danbinford.com](mailto:teri@danbinford.com)) Possible outreach to Second Harvest and Blessing House, as before. A food drive will be planned to start on November 1st for Good Shepherd Baptist Church, with collection boxes in the school office. Mr Gibson will ask for a list of items needed. Dawn and Elizabeth offered to assist Teri..

**Dances:** no dances, due to Lorain County Board of Health guidance and vote on by Mr. Sayers and Principals

**Hospitality: Nancy Penano** ([Nancypenano@hotmail.com](mailto:Nancypenano@hotmail.com))

- October conference meal has been ordered from Your Deli, with 5 types of sandwiches.
- Families have donated chips and pop items, and the PTO may need to purchase additional items not donated.
- November idea is mini pies with whipped cream
- Nancy suggested sending out a SurveyMonkey to teachers to see what they would like to receive.

**Membership: Dawn Clappas** ([dclappas@gmail.com](mailto:dclappas@gmail.com))

- Families: 45                      Staff: 49

**Fundraisers: Walk-a-Thon and Mama Joe Pies**

- **Walk a Thon:** (Chair: Teri Burich/ Elizabeth)  
Date- Tuesday, October 5th - Rain date- Thursday, October 7th
  - No water stations this year
  - Route and time TBD by Mr. Gibson
  - Student donation packets sent home and 50 \$5 gift cards to local businesses will be purchased, with suggestions of Pulp, Sugar Buzz, Subway, Chipotle, Starbucks, along with \$10 Amherst cinema cards.
  - Need list of all students listed by first period teachers (Mr. Gibson)
- **Mama Joe's Pies** (chair: Teri Burich [teri@danbinford.com](mailto:teri@danbinford.com))
  - Mama Joe's is excited about the fundraiser and will need a 2-3 week timeframe. The PTO will receive \$2.50 for every \$10 gift card sold.
  - A possible time frame would be to begin selling for 3 weeks in March, then distribute gift cards around April 1st.
- **Kalahari:** due to Lorain County Board of Health guidance and vote on by Mr. Sayers and Principals this is a "NO GO" for this year at this time.

**Spirit Account: Mrs. Aufdenkampe**

**Social Media: Nancy Penano** ([Nancypenano@hotmail.com](mailto: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:** Any new business?

Next AJH PTO meeting will be Thursday, November 4, 2021 at 9am

**Meeting adjourned: 12:05pm by President, Darcie Parsons**

**Attendance: Mr. Gibson, Darcie Parsons, Dawn Clappas, Heather Hattan (phone), Nancy Penano (Zoom), Teri Burich, Heather Pearch, and Elizabeth Fought**