

## AJH PTO Meeting Minutes

November 4, 2022

9:00 am

Meeting called to order at: 9:11am by President, Darcie Parsons

NEXT MEETING DATE: Friday, December 2nd at 9:00am, in person and via Zoom

**Principal:** Andrew Gibson

- The outdoor recess pad area is moving forward! Basketball hoops are being ordered by Chuck Grimmert, with the idea being that 3 to 4 hoops be installed into the concrete. Also, benches will be purchased and used on the concrete as well, to allow for easy snow removal and to allow shoes to be kept clean by not having them in the grass where mud can be. Weather permitting, the project will be done by Thanksgiving

**President:** Darcie Parsons

- Vote to waive the reading of minutes  
Motion to waive the reading of the October 2022 minutes was made by Teri Burich.  
Motion was seconded by Heather Pearch. Vote: all ayes, no nays  
**Motion passed.**
- Grants -
  - Abbey Hegarty requested a grant for \$29.99 for the 8th grade Language Arts curriculum package that was approved by the PTO Board as it was under \$50. This is for a resource tool for Teachers Pay Teachers and it will allow 260+ 8th grade students to engage in book lessons and give access to a website used for "The Giver."
  - Melinda DiFranco requested a \$100 iTunes gift card for AJH Broadcasting to make app purchases necessary to easily convert their current technology into teleprompters for AJH Broadcasting.  
Motion to purchase a \$100 iTunes gift card for Melinda DiFranco. Motion was made by Heather Pearch. Motion was seconded by Terri Burich. Vote: all ayes, no nays  
**Motion passed.**
  - Lisa Schenk, Brad Draga, Katie Schullick and Abbey Hegarty requested a \$260 grant to benefit 290 Language Arts students to be used for the Playhouse Square Streaming Performance of Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad. It is a classic tribute to the great American who freed herself and hundreds of others from the bonds of slavery.  
Motion to approve the \$260 grant for the Playhouse Square Streaming Performance. Motion was made by Lissette Pagan. Motion was seconded by Terri Burich. Vote: all ayes, no nays  
**Motion passed.**
- Picnic tables will be purchased using Walk-a-Thon funds and set up for staff. Chuck will see if there are any more radios, and if not, will purchase 3-4 more radios and the PTO will make a donation towards those purchases.

- Chick-Fil-A Dine to Donate- the PTO decided to take part in their fundraiser on the 3rd Thursday each month and will get 10% of sales on a Spirit Night. A PTO member is recommended to be present on those evenings.
- Green take home folders- Mr. Gibson will look into possibly using this next year for 6th and maybe 7th grade
- PTO By-Laws need to be updated by President and Vice-President

**Vice President:** Amanda Beres

- Amherst Junior Comets will donate used footballs for M.E. and Amanda will drop them off at AJH.

**Secretary:** Elizabeth Fought

- Please sign the attendance sheet.
- A newsletter will be emailed monthly to paid members to inform of upcoming events and news.

**Treasurer:** Dawn Clappas

- Bank Balance: \$18,151.33
- Quickbooks balance: \$18,151.33
- Outstanding: \$292.00- check deposited into our bank account but hasn't been cleared yet

**Committee Chairs & Co-Chairs**

\* Must be a paid member and with a current student attending AJH

\* Chair members that cannot attend a meeting should send an update to the PTO email address, and the President will share on your behalf.

**Apparel Sale: Chair:** Amanda Beres

- Last day to place a holiday order is November 28, 2022
- First profit check was \$292.00 per PTO
- A profit check will be distributed to the PTOs every three months or as needed

**Donation Drives: Chair:** Teri Burich.

- Second Harvest food drive - October 17th to November 11th
- Update on drive and what each school has donated in pounds/meals
- As of November 3rd, Powers has 987 pounds collected total, and Nord/ AJH has collected 754 pounds.

**Dance: Chair:** Sherry Glass Strohsack

- The new tentative dates are Thursday, April 20th for 6th grade and Thursday, April 21st for 7th/8th grade.
- Sherry asked for Co-Chairs for each dance. Amanda Beres offered to be the 6th grade Co-Chair.
- Donations will be requested but will have a donate-by date at the end of March to allow for planning in April of what else needs to be purchased.
- 100% profit goes to the Student Council and Sherry will work with the Student Council in the planning of the dances.

**End of School Reward: Chair:** Elizabeth Fought & Dawn Clappas **Co-Chair:** Teri Burich

- This is scheduled for May 22, 2023, during M.E./lunch periods.
- Karen from Sugar Buzz will come to AJH for the end-of-school reward with ice cream and cotton candy.

- The ice cream flavors will be:
  - Cookie Dough
  - Brownie Bandit
  - Cotton Candy (gluten free)
  - Vanilla (gluten free)
  - Lemon Ice (gluten/dairy free)
- For cotton candy, the flavors will be blue raspberry and pink vanilla. We will start off with 150 total, with 75 of each flavor. If possible, Karen will bring the cotton candy machine to continue making cotton candy on-site since it went so quickly last year.

**Fundraisers:**

- **Walk-a-thon: Chair:** Amanda Beres **Co-Chair:** Darcie Parsons  
The Walk-a-thon raised \$7497.51 and spent \$461.28, for a profit of \$7036.23. Funds will be used for picnic tables, radios, and general PTO needs over the year.
- **Wizards: Chair:** Darcie Parsons  
Profit is still to be worked out, but it was a successful event with 811 people in attendance. Funds will be used for picnic tables and radios for AJH as well as general PTO needs through the year.

**Membership: Chair:** Jen Vrooman **Co-Chair:** Dawn Clappas

Families: 36 Staff: 37

- Email reminder will be sent out to people who registered but have not paid yet
- Various ideas were mentioned on how to boost membership
- Blast another email to join the PTO with Cheddar Up link
- Ask all 3 grade level staff as well as Mr. Gibson to include in their newsletter

**Social Media: Chair:** Jen Vrooman **Co-Chair:** Darcie Parsons

- If you need anything posted for Social Media, please let Jen know.
- Weekly email updates will be sent to each grades' newsletter POC, Mr. Gibson, and Rachel Mellen to assist with getting information out to parents.

**Staff Hospitality: Chair::** Elizabeth Fought & Dawn Clappas

- **November-** have small pies, with thank you notes
- **December-** order Amherst koozies as a gift along with other treats
- **Future-** Mr. Gibson's Room Service idea was a hit last year in the winter.  
Amherst Note pads could be used for St. Patrick's Day.

**Student Gifts: Chair:** Elizabeth Fought & Dawn Clappas

- Student bags will be made in December- pencils were well received and ideas were discussed.

**Meeting adjourned at: 11:34 am by President, Darcie Parsons**

**Attendees: Mr. Gibson, Darcie Parsons, Amanda Beres, Dawn Clappas, Teri Buich, Claudia Lissette Pagán, Heather Pearch, Sherry Glass Strosack, and Elizabeth Fought**

**As always, please feel free to reach out to [ajhpto1@gmail.com](mailto:ajhpto1@gmail.com) if you have any questions about the AJH PTO meeting or would like to volunteer.**