

Granger Elementary PTO 09/21/22

Meeting Minutes

The Granger Elementary PTO held their first meeting of the 2022-2023 school year in person on Wednesday, September 21, 2022 at 9:15 am in the cafeteria.

ATTENDEES

President Sara Welch, Vice President Shannon Just, Treasurer Vanessa Villers, Secretary Amy Block, Principal Dr. Leann Gausman, PTO Teacher Liaison Jeremie Pesek, Danielle Mixon, Denise Stalnaker, Beena Persaud, Stefanie Bitto, Lia Long, Erin Gross, Tessa Loos, Katie Conley, Monica Corradi, and Madison Amerio.

President Sara Welch called the meeting to order @ 9:15 and the first order of business was to welcome those in attendance and brief introductions.

Principal's Report

Principal Dr. Leann Gausman started her report by welcoming everyone back to in person meetings and sharing her enthusiasm for a great turn out. She stated meetings will be held the 3rd Wednesday of every month in the school cafeteria @ 9:15 am. She then listed the new staff members we welcomed to Granger for the new school year: Mikayla Foose- Preschool Teacher, Annmarie Brunkholz-Preschool Aide, Amanda Hanes- First Grade Teacher, Mindi Spencer-Latchkey Aide, Kelly Rogers-Preschool Aide, Mariana Mandato- Intervention Specialist, Melissa MacLennan-Special Education Aide, and Beth Bridge-Nurse.

Dr. Gausman thanked the PTO for the K Cup coffee pods that were donated to the teachers' lounges in the building and also for the snacks used to provide breakfast to any children who go without or need a pick me up throughout the day. Dr. Gausman was also very happy to announce that visitors and volunteers are welcome back into the building and provided a refresh for the entrance policy:

- All visitors and volunteers must enter through the front doors and sign in. They will receive a visitor's tag.

- All parties must go directly to their destination and exit through the front door when finished.
- There will be a limit of 5 volunteers per classroom party but everyone will get their chance to volunteer throughout the year when needed.
- Dr. Gausman will include various volunteer sign up links throughout the year on her monthly bulletin.

Dr. Gausman stated that assemblies would return to Granger this year and The Magical Theater Company would be doing whole school performances of Narnia and Mother Goose in October and November. One of the performances has been generously donated by a Highland Family Alumni. The school is currently looking for ideas for a science related visiting program to come in the second semester. In previous years COSI on wheels came to our school but they are no longer offering their program. Attendee Stefanie Bitto will check with Great Lakes Science Center in Cleveland for any in school programs. Granger will host their Halloween Parade for the students on the morning of the 10/28/22. This will be the day the classrooms will have their parties as well.

Old Business

President Sara Welch thanked the following people for their fantastic work last school year on their various endeavors:

- Science Olympiad-Carrie Green
- Granger Challenge-Lacie Moore, Jane Back
- 5th Grade Finale-Erin Gross, Beth Papadelis
- Granger Carnival- Vanessa Villers, Beena Persaud
- School Supply Kits-Sara Welch

Sara reported that the Granger Challenge raised an impressive \$13,321.16 and a fun time was had by all. The reviews for the 5th Grade Finale were also very positive as well as the feedback for the Granger Carnival. Treasurer Vanessa Villers advised there were games, face painting, popsicles, and a photo booth. For this year's carnival Vanessa proposed the PTO consider purchasing a tent, speakers, and a PA option to make announcements easier when instructing the students while outside. These items would also be used for other events as well.

Sara Welch concluded old business stating Granger will continue with the current school supply kit company as they are doing a wonderful job. The PTO receives \$5.00 for every kit sold, and we sold 132 kits for the 2022-2023 school year.

Teacher's Report

PTO Teacher Liaison Jeremie Pesek thanked the PTO on behalf of the teachers for the donation of the K Cup coffee pods. She advised the semi annual donation is plenty for their enjoyment. She said there was nothing new to report other than she wanted to let everyone know how much her students were enjoying running club this year.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Vanessa Villers provided all those in attendance copies of the Statement of Activity 9/25/21-8/31/22 and the Budget Overview for 7/22-6/23. Vanessa advised the PTO is spending and making more money post Covid as we have more activities planned. She stated that last year we profited \$3,130.46 even though we are a non profit group, and our annual goal is to break even. She suggested that the event chairs for the 2022-2023 school year use the Budget review for guidance when planning their expenditures. Vanessa said this year we are projected to bring in \$39,050 and to spend \$45,675.11. There is a \$6,625.00 deficit due to the fact that we are changing chairs for our Santa Shop and we will be advancing more money this year than previous years. It should all even out in next year's budget. She then mentioned that any persons needing reimbursement should go to the PTO site and submit a reimbursement form along with any receipts. If there is any confusion, Vanessa can be emailed directly for a google form link. Vanessa closed her report stating the current balance of the PTO bank account is \$33,136.66.

New Business

President Sara Welch stated that Sandy Noall, the previous PTO secretary resigned and thanked her for all of her hard work. She then advised a new

secretary, Amy Block, would be voted in, and turned the voting over to Vice President, Shannon Just. All were in favor, and Amy Block is now PTO secretary.

Sara Welch advised the PTO still needs a committee chair for the Art Show which will be on April 20, 2023. They will need to gather volunteers to make and display art a few weeks before the show. Attendees Lia Long and Stefanie Bitto offered to co-chair the event. President Welch approved.

A committee chair is still needed for the Talent Show. The event will take place at Highland High School on February 24, 2023 with a dress rehearsal being set for February 21, and another rehearsal on February 14, 2023. This event is open to all students Kindergarten through Fifth grade.

Sara reported that an event coordinator with the Cleveland Cavaliers contacted her about having a fundraiser that included Hinckley, Granger, and Sharon schools attending a basketball game together this winter. Sara will sit in on a call to get more details and report back at a later meeting.

Standing Committee Reports

President Sarah Welch advised that the Master's Pizza Fundraiser was the day of the meeting. It would run from 11am-9pm. Everyone was reminded to mention Granger Elementary when ordering so we would receive part of the proceeds.

Next on the list was the Granger School/Family Directory. Vice President, Shannon Just advised that she had sent out an email to all families which included a google form link to enter their contact information. So far she had received responses from 136 families down from 210 families that were in the final copy in the previous year. Everyone agreed to set a October 7, 2022 deadline and to send a paper reminder home with students.

Sara then spoke of the return of the Running Club. She is the chair of this program and explained that any student wanting to participate in the club during recess receives a shoelace necklace with a foot shaped card that Sara hole punches when they complete laps. Each card holds 20 punches which equals roughly 3 miles. The students' response to the club has been overwhelming, with 300-350 students running the first day! A surprise Running Club

participant, Granger's Officer Bob, delighted the kids with his running as well! A certificate of miles completed will be given to every student at the end of the club season.

Attendee Danielle Mixon was next to speak about the return of the in person Scholastic Book Fair in which she is the chair of the event. The Book Fair will be open October 4,5,6 2022 for all classes to shop during their allocated time. A small makeup session will be available Friday morning, October 7, for any student who missed their class time due to absence. She also mentioned that the Book Fair will have shopping hours the evenings of October 4 and October 6, during Parent Teacher Conferences. A flyer will go home with all students Monday, September 26, 2022 and there will also be a sign up link posted to the PT0 Facebook page to encourage volunteers.

Monica Rizzo is the chair of the Parent Teacher Conference dinners. Sara Welch stated that the PT0 provides meals to the teachers for all 4 conference dates. There are 3 dates in the fall and one in the Spring. Parent, Esther Prediy volunteered to make dinner for one date and the rest will be purchased from local restaurants and carried in.

The Stoller Butter Braid sale was the next item introduced. Erin Pick is the chair of the event. The students can sell Butter Braid bread as well as Cookie Dough. The sale runs from October 12-October 26, 2022. The pick up date is November 16, 2022.

Erin Gross was in attendance and she is the chair of the Mother Son Event that will be held on Friday November 5, 2022 at a Cleveland Monster Hockey Game. A save the date reminder will be sent out in the October Bulletin.

The last event to be discussed is the Veteran's Day celebration chaired by Monica Rizzo. There will be an assembly for our students and Veterans on November 11, 2022 but no food served due to building constraints. We will provide each Veteran with a to go bag decorated by students but the PT0 still needed suggestions for a gift to include in the bag. Ideas were welcomed from our attendees. Katie Conley suggested Christmas ornaments decorated by the students and the PT0 will look at prices and suppliers.

Other Orders of Business

President Sara Welch advised Holiday parties will be discussed at October's meeting and attendees were reminded meetings will take place the 3rd Wednesday of every month except December and April.

Adjourn Meeting

President, Sara Welch called for the Vice President to adjourn the meeting. A motion to adjourn was made by Vice President, Shannon Just with a second by Beena Persaud. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.

Next meeting 10/19/ 22 @ 9:15 am

President Sara Welch

Recorder Amy Block