

Lincoln Elementary PTA Board Meeting

04/12/23 @ 6:30pm



I. Call to Order:

- 6:39p Lorraine May

II. Review of March Meeting Minutes

- Motion to Approve- Lorraine May
 - Second- Jaime DeCecco
 - Third- Erin Gentzel

[March PTA Board Meeting -2023 - Google Docs](#)

III. Executive Board Member Reports

- 1st VP - Erin Gentzel
- 2nd VP- Heidi Ghildyal
 - PTA Board Nominees (presented at March Meeting)
 - Treasurer- Kate Sweeney
 - Historian- Anna Rutledge
 - Recording Secretary- Jaime DeCecco
 - Corresponding Secretary- Laura Drozynski (Sebastian)
 - 4th VP- Dr. Kitsko
 - 3rd VP- Andrea Goeringer
 - 2nd VP- Katie Mikita
 - 1st VP- Annie Lahoda
 - President- Lorraine May
 - Vote to approve PTA Board Nominees, as presented at the March meeting
 - Motion- Lorraine May
 - All unanimously approved!
- 3rd VP- Katie Mikita
- 4th VP- Dr. Kitsko - *Principal's Report*
 - [PTA meeting Principal's Report 4/12/2023](#)
- Recording Secretary- Jaime DeCecco
- Corresponding Secretary- Andrea Goeringer
- Historian- Anna Rutledge
- Treasurer- Kate Sweeney
 - [Budget Amendments - Feb 2023 \(1\).docx](#)
 - [Proposed Budget 2022-23. V02.23.xlsx](#)
- President- Lorraine May - *notes from PTA Council Meetings*
 - School Board approved 2023-2024 calendar
 - [2023-2024SchoolBoardApprovedCalendar.pdf \(finalsite.net\)](#)
 - Playgrounds Update- A Playground Bucket is going to be set aside in the Capital Budget for money to be put into each year so funds will be

available to replace and repair playground equipment. The School Board asked the district to put together a list of items that need repaired and replaced and list in order of priority to be able to begin this process.

- Idea of PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE/CHAIR at each school
- Inclusivity / Special Needs committee for 2023-2024 school year to ensure all events are accessible for all students
- Next PTA Council meeting is April 19th at Lincoln. Anyone is welcome to attend!
- *Staff Representatives- Mrs. O'Shea and Mrs. Aaron*
 - Thank yous for field trips, Zoomobile, snack trolley

IV. Old Business

- **Paraprofessional Appreciation Day - April 6th**
 - Blooming Dahlia Thank You Gifts given to all of our Lincoln Paraprofessionals!
 - **Ms. Heidi Fimognari**
 - **Mrs. Lori Green**
 - **Mrs. Helen Kurek**
 - **Mrs. Cindy Nichols**
 - **Ms. Amy Peeler**
 - **Mrs. Amy Work**
 - **Ms. Vicky MacKenzie (new PCA from Sunbelt Staffing)**

- **Bylaws-** submitted to state in February
 - Still no update on final approval from state

- **Read-A-Thon - \$26,000 Raised**
 - Funding usage so far:
 - Staff Holiday Presents, Classroom Crayon Replenish
 - Teacher Pot of Gold - \$150/teacher for Classroom Wish List Items (raised from last year \$100)
 - Yearbook discount – approximately \$4k
 - Field Trips or In-Class Field Trips
 - Committee Budgets Increased
 - Sensory room enhancements – approximately \$2k
 - Seasonal supplies- school and basic need items
 - Replenishment of Recess Basketballs
 - Adaptive Swing for Playground
 - PSSA treat for the kids, stress balls, etc.
 - Extra Kindness gestures for Staff/Substitutes
 - Lincoln Weeks of Service items - approximately \$400

V. Committee Reports

Kids of Steel- Mary Ullman

April - May 6th

- \$500 Kids of Steel Grant money acquired by Coach Mary has been used to buy more supplies for more activities!
- This year Mt. Lebanon Elementary schools are partnering for weekend training practices, shirts for the actual race to provide more community feel to a big event!

Science Fair - Shelly Burr

Thursday, April 13th (6pm-8pm)

- Science Fair is Tomorrow!!
- Exhibits and Judging (Gymnasium) 6:00 - 7:30
- Mad Science Fun Stations (Room 25 and 27 first floor) 6:00 - 7:30 pm
- Awards Ceremony (Gymnasium Stage) 7:45 pm
- Even if you are not participating, please come to support our students and join in the Science Fun!

Earth Day - Heidi Ghildyal

April 16th- 22nd

- Walk to school week, April 16th -22nd
- Pennsylvania wildflower seed packets distribution to all students
- Earth day all year: 5 small changes that make a Big impact Family Challenge
 - Flyers being sent home with the wildflower packets.
 - Self Score Sheet Student Incentive- Each challenge will include a Sustainability/Eco Fact so Families can see what benefits doing this as a family would have on the earth!

SMENCIL and SMELLY GELLIES-

April 24th- April 28th (3:30-3:45)

- \$1 per item
- After school from 3:30-3:45 on the Playground

International Families Night – Jen Curran and Joy Givens **Wednesday, April 26 (6-8pm)**

- Music, Crafts, Food from a few local restaurants, Potluck Items from Families
- Planning for an International Pittsburgh Cookie Table for dessert!
- Volunteers interested to help, please contact Jen or Joy

Staff Appreciation- Erin Gentzel

May 8th- 12th

- Just Plane Awesome Theme
 - Kids activities are set with an appreciation activity planned for every day
 - Staff activities (tentative ideas)
 - Monday - Breakfast from Panera
 - Tuesday - Cookie Table or Pittsburgh Popcorn Bar
 - Wednesday - "Things for your trip" swag bags
 - Thursday - Snack/Beverage trolley
 - Friday - Tacosburgh catering with take out containers
 - Volunteers needed to help with Sidewalk Chalk Art & week of activities (day TBD)
 - Volunteers needed to help with "You Mean the WORLD to Us" hallway showcase

- Contact Erin Gentzel to volunteer! eringentzel@gmail.com

Talent Show - Kristin Bartone, Erin Rutter, Joy Givens Friday, May 12, 2023 (6/6:30pm)

- Theme “Stars will Shine”. Student created graphic for the programs and tshirts
- Mandatory Talent Show dates:
 - Auditions: Wednesday April 12th, 5pm
 - Rehearsal: Wednesday May 3rd, 5pm
 - Dress Rehearsal: Tuesday May 9th, 5pm
 - Talent Show: Friday May 12th, 6:30pm
- All email communication will come from lestalentshow@gmail.com
- 5th Grade Stage Crew/MC Sign Ups forthcoming!
- Tryouts tonight - If you are still interested in participating, please contact Erin Rutter - egalerin@yahoo.com

Book Fair – Cate Albu -

BOGO BOOK FAIR- May 15th-19th

- THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS from our March Book Fair!

ICE CREAM SOCIAL - During Open House which is May 18th from 6pm-8pm

- Ice Cream Social will be Thursday, May 18th from 7pm-8:30pm
- Free Betsy's Ice Cream for Families
- Snack Shack items for purchase
- Families encouraged to stay and play
- Book swap to support 5th grade Community Outreach project

Fifth Grade Farewell - Kim Kappeler, Danny Johnson, Emily Nalitz, Amanda Babst, Lisa Sweeney, Erin Gentzel, Erin Davies

- Pool Party - Bower Hill Swim Club June 7th. Lisa Sweeney will coordinate snacks, etc.
- Thank you to Joanna Streets for her continued fundraising efforts-
 - Currently at \$3,147.93 as of 3/24/23
- Field Day – Likely will be June 1st with a rain date of June 2nd
 - Emily Nalitz to check in with teachers to confirm and make official dates and coordinate with Mrs. Majestic regarding t-shirts

Class Parties- Lorraine May and Andrea Goeringer

- Committee for 2023-2024 for Class Party Streamline
- <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9XJXB33>

Yearbook- Erin Davies and Maggie Shiels

- Yearbook Orders Submitted
- Update

Garden Committee – Jeanne Marie Hannan and Heidi Ghildyal

- Heidi is looking into a compost program and planting trees for playground shade (costs/feasibility for both)

- Jeanne-Marie proposes holding the garden club once a week during lunch throughout the month of May. During this time, we can divide and plant daffodils and tulips, make garden art, and resurrect the fairy garden. We can also plant marigolds and sunflower seeds, annuals in pots, and vegetable plants in our new raised beds.
 - Looking into the feasibility of serving the harvest in the Cafeteria vs. offering them to families. If we get a Helping Hand food take home program up and running by then, we could distribute vegetables that way.
- To organize the club, Jeanne-Marie will create a Google form for students to sign up. I also hope to recruit parent volunteers to assist in running the club, so that the maximum number of students can participate.
- I believe this club would be a great opportunity for students to learn about gardening and the benefits of growing their own plants. It would also be a fun way for them to get involved in beautifying our school's grounds.
- Coordinating with Dr. Kitsko on all activities
 - Possible Gardening Grant available through the acting Food Services Director and will coordinate with Jeanne-Marie

Community Outreach- Katie Mikita, Anna Rutledge, Lorraine May, Julie Wagner

- Dr. Kitsko's Pennies for Puerto Rico -
 - \$1,015.50 raised by Lincoln Elementary Students
 - Socktober - 314 pairs of Socks Collected and delivered to Sisters Place
 - THANK YOU Notes to Beverly Shops
 - Mrs. Majestic- 118 Stockings for Soldiers delivered to soldiers abroad
 - Coat Drive and Hat/Mitten Trees
 - Over 200 Mittens, more than 50 Hats, 1 scarf & dozens of Coats Collected!
 - Donated to MTLFD/MRTSA/MLPD and Salvation Army
 - Halloween Costume Collection- Laura Palmieri JLPFamily11@gmail.com
 - February 5th Grade Community Outreach Project- Humane Animal Rescue of Pittsburgh
 - 5th graders took ownership and initiative for their first student lead service project! We hosted a brainstorming session with the entire grade, sent out Google surveys with service opportunities, and created a service schedule. The students made PR, collection boxes, and donations during recess time.
- Donations Collected:
- 8 cat scratchers
 - 2 peanut butters
 - 8 boxes of bones
 - 2 pet beds
 - 7 bags of food
 - 1 box of TP tubes
 - 30 lbs of newspaper
 - 26 bags of treats
 - 72 pet toys
 - 21 kid made blankets
 - 4 store bought blankets
 - 3 dog outfits
 - 27 kid made tug toys
 - 95 cans of pet food

COMMUNITY OUTREACH UP NEXT:

- **Lincoln Weeks of Service** (Jaime DeCecco) **May 8th-12th**
 - April - Collection for Week of Service Projects - Diaper Drive
 - K, 1st, 2nd Grade –
 - Assemble treat bags and cards for Baptist Homes and Kane Assisted Living residents
 - 3rd, 4th Grade -
 - Assemble birthday cake kits and diaper donations
 - Perform activities with 30 minutes service / 30 minutes play supervised by volunteers so teachers get 1 hour of “time”
 - Next step is for Dr. Kitsko to send Jaime/Lorraine the master school schedule to coordinate dates/times/volunteers
 - 5th Grade Community Outreach
 - Activities driven by 5th grader to donate to Homeless Shelter
 - Book swap at 5/18 Open House – Bring two books, take one book
- Summer Community Outreach- School Supply Drive for 2023-2024 School Year
 - (collected at Julie Wagner’s office on Overlook and in lobby of Lincoln)

Cultural Arts (Cate Albu) and Field Trips (Kate Sweeney) -

- The Lincoln PTA is so happy to be able to fund all of the Assemblies and Field Trips!
- Assemblies- So far this year:
 - Cello Fury (October)
 - Jeff the Geode Guy (November)
 - Josh and Gab (November)
 - Echoes of the Four Directions (December)
 - Attack Theater (March)
- Author Visits(virtual and in-person)
 - Max Brallier (January, Grades 4-5)
 - Troy Cummings (February, Grades 2-3)
 - Saadia Faruqi (March, Grades K-1)
- Field Trips- So far this year:
 - 2nd Grade (Uptown Mt. Lebanon)
 - Kindergarten (Simmons Farm)
 - 5th Grade (Pittsburgh Zoo and PPG Aquarium)
 - 3rd Grade (Carnegie Museum of Natural History)
 - 4th Grade (Heinz History Center)
 - 3rd Grade (Pittsburgh Zoo and PPG Aquarium)
- Field Trips- Upcoming:
 - 1st Grade - Zoomobile Assembly
 - 3rd Grade (Bird Park)

Corporate Rewards and Fundraising- Joanna Streets

- Box Tops - \$208.57 to date
- Amazon Smile - \$202.90 to date

- February Mediterra Fundraiser- \$250
- March- Philly Pretzels- \$329.29
- April - Blooming Dahlia - \$355
- May 5th- Madsen Donuts
- May 10th- Millie's Ice Cream Truck
- June 1st - Kona Ice

Frosty Shop- Lorraine May and Kim Tranquilli

- Kim has been assessing materials and will be organizing meetups with people and materials so that we can get a jump start on crafting for Frosty Shop 2023!
- Requesting volunteers and level of interest in volunteering!
 - Meetups over the summer to begin crafting
 - If you have extra craft supplies you no longer need, please consider donating them to Frosty Shop! Examples: Like-new golf balls, Old crayons, Perler beads, Fabric, Beads for jewelry, Yarn, Molds, Pom-poms, Wine corks, Buttons, Jean Pockets, Anything else we could make something out of!

VI. New Business

PA Farm Bureau Mobile AG LAB

May 22nd-26th

- Lincoln PTA is sponsoring the PA Farm Bureau Mobile AG LAB!
- You can check out more about the Mobile Ag Lab at <https://pfbfriends.com/mobile-agriculture-education-science-lab/>.
- Every K-5 classroom will be spending time in the Mobile AG LAB at some point during the week. The goal is that all students who visit the AG LAB will have a successful and enjoyable experience while in the lab and leave with new knowledge and interest of agriculture's importance to our society.
- To help make things run smoothly throughout the week, we are in need of some adult volunteers. Your assistance is a vital part of accomplishing this goal. Your role in the lab will be to assist the lab teacher in any area where assistance is needed. Areas of need will vary by experiment, but may include: material preparation, student assistance, lab clean up between classes, and distribution of materials.
- Please note that you **MUST** have all 3 clearances to serve as a volunteer for the Mobile AG LAB. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Dr Ron Kitsko directly at rkitsko@mtlsd.net. THANK YOU!

Grand Finale – Monday, June 5th (All Day- 2 Shifts)

- Contact Lorraine May to volunteer for this super last day of school event!

VII. Upcoming Events

* **Calendar of Lincoln PTA Events** [Copy of Calendar of Events to Share - 2023 - Google Docs](#)

4/13	6pm-8pm	Science Fair
4/26	6pm-8pm	International Families Night
05/09	4pm-8pm	Talent Show Dress Rehearsal
5/10	6:30pm	PTA Meeting, Lincoln Cafeteria
5/12	9:30am and 1:30 pm	Kindergarten Orientation
5/12	6pm	Talent Show
5/15-5/19		BOGO Book Fair
5/18	5:30-7:30pm	Open House
5/18	7pm-8:30pm	Ice Cream Social and Snack Shack
5/23 and 5/24		Spring Sing Concerts
5/22-5/26		AG LAB Visit
6/5		Grand Finale
6/7	11:45am	Fifth Grade Clap Out
6/7		Fifth Grade Farewell, Bower Hill Swim Club

VIII. Adjourn

7:14 Adjourn Lorraine Mae

- Second- Erin Gentzel
- Third- Katie Mikita