

Towanda PTO  
Meeting Minutes January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022

- Principal's Notes: Mr. Vogel
  - Last Friday was remote for cold weather – people are doubting this, but it is true.
  - Devices are now coming home every day. Please charge them if necessary and return them to school every day.
  - On the main page of the Towanda webpage there is a Towanda Elementary Staff Recognition Form – you can use this if you want to share praise for any teacher or staff member.
  - If you have specific covid concerns, please contact our nurse, Penny Brandt.
    - If your child is fully vaccinated and is a close contact: as long as the child has no symptoms, they can attend school.
  - Standardized testing for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grades will be in March – exact dates will be communicated soon so parents can avoid scheduling dr appointments and such on those days
  - The Valentine's Day parties will **not** be open for all parents to attend. Room parents may attend to facilitate the party.
  - Diversity Equity Inclusion: Our school goal is to learn about each other. The email about sharing holiday traditions was in line with this goal. We will continue to work toward this goal.
  - 5 Essentials Survey: coming soon! We want as much honest feedback as we can get.
  - Teachers are grateful for the PTO Christmas gifts. Thank you!
  - There will not be any Parent/Teacher conferences in the spring. Progress reports will go out at the end of February. Parents are encouraged to email teachers or schedule a meeting if they would like to.
- President: Lora Weigman
  - Thank you for a successful holiday season at school!
    - Your support and time volunteering are so appreciated for Mini Deck the Halls, Holiday Character Gram Store, and Teacher Christmas gifts
      - This year we added kid gifts to the holiday character gram store – never again
  - Lora will work on creating a PTO binder to be helpful moving forward
- Treasurer: Naomi Arndt (Lora filling in)
  - Beginning of December: \$ 4,834.46
  - Spent: \$ 1,696.62
  - Earned: \$ 1,005.08
  - End of December: \$ 4,142.92
  - We did a good job of staying in budget for Christmas gifts!
  - We got three State Farm Grants for 2021! – two individual grants and one team grant
- Old Business
  - Dine to donate at Panda Express rescheduled to January 20<sup>th</sup>
  - February will be Kristy Kreme coupon sales
  - No SCRIP orders in January due to historically low January orders
- New Business
  - Electronics Drive (Sarah sharing details) – coming up!

## Towanda PTO

### Meeting Minutes January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022

- We will collect old electronics to be recycled properly or refurbished for shelter donations. The company will pay us for these items about 30-45 days after shipping.
- The company provides boxes, fliers, letters for home, and pays shipping costs
- Okay to recycle: phones, tablets, ink cartridges, smart watches, blue tooth devices, toner, chargers, ...
- Not okay: monitors and lap tops
- Note: you must de-activate any “find my phone” apps prior to donating so your phone can be wiped
- Sarah will draft a flier/letter
- Fundraising Ideas
  - Review of Fundraising ideas for Spring
    - Walk-a-thon
      - Communications/Prizes would be in collaboration with the Get Movin company
      - The Arndts will provide an arch
      - Probably during PE time
      - Likely April
    - Used Book Sale – Michelle coordinating
      - Communications will be the key to maximize donations and sales
      - Location needs to be determined
        - Likely on one end of the gym
      - Likely early March
        - Set up Thursday night, Kids can shop on Friday, Open to the community on Saturday
      - Books can be dropped off at school and in each neighborhood
        - Kristine -Harvest Pointe, Lora – Lamplighter, Michelle – Eagle View, ?? – Indian Creek, ?? - Towanda proper
        - Any others?
      - Volunteers will be needed to staff the sale on the Friday and Saturday
      - Extra books will be offered to teachers for free first, then donated to local libraries
    - There will be opportunities for involvement with both of these fundraisers, please speak up or let us know if you are interested in leading or helping
- Important Dates
  - January 20<sup>th</sup> – Dine to Donate at Panda Express
- How Can We Help?
  - Complete the 5 essentials survey when you see the email
  - Collect and save old electronics for donation – check with friends and family members too!
  - Gather books your family is done with – check with friends and family too!
  - If you work at State Farm and volunteer time for school activities, contact Kristine Koerner

Towanda PTO  
Meeting Minutes January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Attendees

- Stephanie Kerber
- Lyndsey Sellitto
- Kristine Koerner
- Sarah Nix
- Heather Fermon
- Brandi Rockwell
- Megan Korn
- Lora Weigman
- Michelle Panizzi
- Scott Vogel