

Pittsfield PTO Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2018

Present

Aaron Kraft
Aahbia Plump
Biniam Yohannes
Denise Chevalier
Jason Prince
Jeff Irwin
Jenn Bjurnan
Karen Hulsebus
Katie Daum-Bost

Katie Loomis
Kelly Pfeifer
Kelli Gase
Keri Mose
Kevin Lill
Lindsey Wolfe
Marj Lamoreaux
Marty Turco
Melanie Bale
Patricia Memmott

Peri Stone-Palmquist
Rachel Brichta
Semhar Tesfai
Shannon Ellis
Tara Campbell
Ms. Shakarian
Ms. Villaneuva
Ms. Hoopaw
Mr. Sims

Meeting called to order at 6:05 PM by Dawn Kraft

Introductions

Teacher Presentation – Joe Sims

- 5th graders have loved being part of Safety Patrol. They apply to be a part.
- They get a belt.
- Thanked the PTO for funding hot chocolate, pizza, popsicles. Appreciated that it's part of the budget this year.
- Also thanked us for funding 5th grade camp. Students got to build a shelter, handle snakes and turtles. Cabins are very nice.

Principal's Report

- Great start to the year. Up to 274 students now.
- 16 children in Young 5s (up by 3 from last year)
- Kindergarten teachers are very excited by Young 5s. They are seeing the benefits.
- New Spanish teacher -- Ms. Sturer -- teaching 4th and 5th grades.
- Playground equipment is going up. Rain and drainage issues caused delays. Will include a shelter to give more shade.
- Gaga pit remains popular.
- We are getting new cafeteria tables soon.
- Mr. Broom is our intervention specialist this year. He'll be here 2.5 days a week.
- Ms. Lunning is in the office. (Abby Woodham left last year.)
- Ms. Mills is our new social worker (Mr. Schwab now works in Livingston County).
- Curriculum night is Sept. 27, 6-6:55 Young 5s-2 / 6:30-7:30 for 3-5th.
- No new teachers, but teachers have moved grades.
- Ms. Pehrson moved to 2nd grade.
- Ms. Hoopaw moved to 4th/5th grade class

Fundraising Update (Aaron Kraft)

- Fall Fun Run is the big one coming up.
 - Focus on health. A packet will go home. Families create an online account and share on Facebook, social media. There will be incentives. Possibly Oct. 15.
- Ice Cream Social in the spring is another big one.
- Boxtops, Kroger and Meijer are opportunities that don't cost parents any extra money.
- We talked about a charity poker night. Paperwork is challenging and this is not in the budget, but we will see.
- Ms. Villaneuva is doing monthly restaurant night. First one is Curriculum Night at Marco's.
- Kevin Lill is in charge of PTO raffle. We sold the most on Curriculum Night. Be great to have volunteers to help me sell. Must be done by Nov. 6. Will sell at Fall Fest. Parents can "sign out" tickets, sell them and pay Kevin. Kevin could use parents to help sell raffle tickets after school and at events.

Pittsfield PTO Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2018

Care Closet (Katie Loomis)

We developed a position last year called Family Resource Coordinator to help with school expenses, clothing, referrals. We are getting additional help this year. Ann Arbor Community Center is setting up a "care closet" in the office, stocked by AA Community Center. Toiletries, school supplies, snacks. Jennifer Wade, reading specialist will be on-site person to monitor and make requests for resupplies. Staff have suggested the need for socks, underwear, sanitary napkins.

President's Report (Dawn Keech)

- The bulk of our money went directly to the classroom (teacher grants, purchase of Title I books). We also paid for fun events such as Fall Fest and Winter Dance. We pay for 5th grade camp, staff appreciation, childcare and dinner at PTO meetings. We are open to new ideas for ways to support specific needs or ideas for fundraising. We have goals to make the events less expensive for families.
- If you have ideas for speakers or issues for future meetings, let us know. IB, Student Council, maybe Internet safety.
- Patricia will see if PTOC's board member forum will be videotaped and that can be shared.
- Two positions open.
 - Holiday Shoppe (Melanie ran it last year) - Kelli Gase volunteered.
 - Science Olympiad (2nd-5th). Will be in January. Need volunteers.
- Food prices for PTO events have not been consistent. Proposal is \$1 a slice of pizza and 50 cents per item. Peri will make a sign and share with event contacts for approval. Consensus was reached on new consistent prices.
- Fall Fest will be Star Wars themed but keep it quiet. Oct. 26
- Scholastic Book Fairs - Amanda Saffian. Week of Oct. 26 and will end at Fall Fest. 2nd book fair TBD. We have a balance of \$3,500 in this fund. Will support holiday program. Birthday books will be happening again. Need a co-chair.
- Merchandising -- we will be buying shirts for every student. Diana Cass is in charge of merchandising.

Approval of minutes

- Lindsey made the motion to approve the minutes from May and August meetings. Kate seconded. Motion passed.

PTOC Report (Patricia Memmott)

- Hasn't met yet, so no update.

Garden Report (Karen Ostafinski Hulsebus)

- Garden has gotten a little overrun. Need to do some weeding.
- Would like a co-chair.
- 80 students passed through in the spring to do garden club three times a week.
- Ideal would be to have more students in there and to have teachers using the space more.
- There is an IG and FB accounts.
- Will have some cleanup dates next week.
- Ms. Villaneuva will coordinate with Karen to talk about whether a teacher point person could be helpful.

Treasurer's Report (Nathan Richards)

- Review of 2017-2018 financials
 - Great success with restaurant nights. \$500 over expected income.
 - Ice cream social rained but we still exceeded budgeted income (but had hope to do more).
 - PTO Thrift Shop was a wild card but we still exceeded income.
 - Every event was successful.

Pittsfield PTO Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2018

- We took some things out. We took out the pizza fundraiser (competes with Girl's Scouts and we weren't netting much money).
- Kroger and Boxtops were really helpful.
- Last year a big expense was the Title I Reading kit. One-time amount, so we don't that in this year's budget.
- We had a good year in the grand scheme of things. Budgeted income of \$25,951 but actually had \$32,343. Expenses were budgeted at \$43,080 but we actually spent \$37,820.
- 2018-2019 Budget increased amount to specials. Adding free T-shirts for all students. Every teacher has a classroom grant, a field trip grant of \$500 per classroom. Nate will come and present to staff meeting, maybe Oct. 3.
- Lindsey asked for \$150 for bulletin board, pulled from Miscellaneous.
- Let Ms. Shakarian know that the \$1,500 budgeted for Jazzistry remains in the budget, so staff can pick another cool assembly for this year.
- \$27,000 is in the bank currently.
- Motion to adopt budget adoption for 2018-2019 with a friendly amendment to make Bulletin Boards a line item of \$150 (from Miscellaneous). Motion made by Jeff, Seconded by Katie. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.