

Pittsfield PTO Meeting Minutes

Oct. 9, 2018

Present

Dawn Keech

Jason Prince

Nathan Richards

Kelly Pfeifer

Patricia Memmott

Peri Stone-Palmquist

Aaron Kraft

Eva Ackermann

Denise Chevalier

Jenn Bjurman

Krysta December

Karen Hulsebus

Joy Knoblauch

Katie Daum-Bost

Katie Loomis

Kelli Gase

Keri Mose

Kevin Lill

Nadiya Rembwi

Lindsey Wolfe

Melanie Bale

Rachel Brichta

Semhar Tesfai

Tara Campbell

Ms. Shakarian

Ms. Villaneuva

Ms. Hoopaw

Ms. Kastanis

Ms. Gengler

Ms. Pavlik

Meeting called to order at 6:02 PM by Dawn Keech

Introductions

Teacher Presentation – Young 5s / Kindergarten

- Kindergarten is much different than what we may have had. No nap, full day, expectations around reading and writing. Kindergarten is more what 1st and 2nd grade used to be.
- Young 5s is more like what kindergarten used to be, but full-day. They are expected to recognize all letters and sounds by end of year, count 1-30, show beginning addition/subtraction. It is a kindergarten class. Parents are invited to come in and check it out. Young 5s are ineligible to be held back at 3rd grade, due to the 3rd grade reading bill. Free program, free transportation. The kindergarten teachers can tell a difference with students who were in Young 5s last year.

Principal's Report

- Pittsfield playground is done! More to do now. Students are very engaged. A more quality experience for our visitors. The committee made some really great choices.
- Fall parent teacher conferences are under way. If you haven't scheduled it yet, please reach out. Your voice is important for the personalized learning plans. Please consider bringing the students, particularly 4th and 5th grade.
- October is a full month. Fun Run, Toledo Opera (Romeo and Juliet), Fall Fest, Book fair, Halloween. We do celebrate Halloween. Please keep masks to a minimum (adults no masks).
- Congratulations to new Safety Patrol students.

Fundraising Update (Aaron Kraft)

- Fall Fun Run - up to \$7,000, already surpassed our fundraising goal. New goal is \$10,000. Date is Oct. 15. 3 stations and need some help: Silly Run, Fast as You Can, and Pulse Zone. Aaron showed a video he made (Lego Stop Motion video, which will be shared with teachers and families). Friday, Oct. 26, the slushie truck will be coming. Please share your child's fundraising page on social media and email. Donations accepted until Oct. 22.
- Kevin Lill is in charge of PTO raffle. Chance to win \$1,000. Last year we sold 234. So far this year about 149. Parents can check out 10 to sell but they need to be returned Oct. 23. The stubs and money can be turned into Kevin at after-school pickup.

By-Laws(Kelly Pfieffer)

Cleaned up language, which will be shared electronically. Vote at next meeting.

- Executive Committee versus Board of Director)
- Language to allow us to vote in between meetings.
- Give more flexibility around positions (particularly with SIT position).
- Clarifies members versus directors.

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President's Report (Dawn Keech)

- Fall Fun Fest
 - Classroom pumpkin project - Dawn noted that some teachers were feeling overwhelmed by this project and there a lack of clarity around expectations. Last year, it raised about \$125. Ms. Villanueva reported that she did a Google survey of teachers and that they were feeling like they would prefer having help from parents. Kerri noted that she wondered why students weren't more involved. Peri wondered if the art teacher could collaborate with teachers to assist and noted that the kids really seemed to like this project. Ms. Shakarian noted that the historical intent was to build excitement for the fall fest and build school spirit. Katie wondered if it could be voluntary. Kerri and Dawn will chat off-line and loop back for teachers for what we can do, given that we are only a couple weeks out.
- Ice Cream Social - already set with Busch's and Cottage Inn. Ms. Villanueva will reach out to Scarlett Honor Society for volunteer community service
- Winter Clothing Swap -- need a volunteer.
 - Katie did it last year. We put bins in the hallway for a week. Put something in Monday Message. Come and take what you want on this evening. Leftovers were given to office staff and teachers.
 - This year, it would be nice to coincide with Fall Fest or November board meeting. We need someone to set up, collect donations. Talked about bringing to Fall Fest. Drop-off from 4 to 6 p.m. Peri
- Dawn is working on researching grants and creating a deadline calendar. Dawn is willing to write grants, even for teachers. If you have thoughts or leads, let her know.

Approval of minutes

- Aaron made the motion to approve the minutes from September. Lindsey seconded. Motion passed.

PTOC Report (Patricia Memmott)

- No update.

Garden Report (Karen Ostafinski Hulsebus)

- Nate volunteered to help build benches.
- Needs volunteers.

Treasurer's Report (Nathan Richards)

- Modifications made for the 2018-2019 budget. We made minor tweaks that more aligned with last year's actuals (such as 5th grade camp, assemblies). We wanted to make sure we would have a certain amount of cash in the bank for "reserves," so we needed to tweak things
- It's been a slow month. Not a lot of requests made.
- Teacher and specials have been communicated with.
- We plan to monitor the budget closely.
- Request to have more transparency. Can we add rollover to income? Can the reserve be added to income?
- Katie noted that we had 25 more students
- Dawn asked if there was a motion to approve the modified 2018-2019 budget. No motion made. Request to have a parent who is an accountant review and add more transparency to budget (adding rollover as revenue).

Other Notes

- Ms. Villanueva is working on October Restaurant night.
- No update on spirit wear.
- Aaron announced that birthday books is happening. Holiday book project is still happening.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.