

Pittsfield PTO Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2019

Present

Dawn Keech

Nathan Richards

Jason Prince

Shannon Ellis

Kelly Pfeifer

Peri Stone-Palmquist

Aaron Kraft

Kyle Bale

Karen Hulsebus

Katie Loomis

Patricia Memmott

Rachel Brichta

Denise Chevalier

Nadiya Ramlawi

Ms. Shakarian

Ms. Hooppaw

Ms. Pavlik

Ms. Kayto

Ms. Villanueva

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

Introductions

Special Guest

- Get Movin' Fundraising staff members came. Founded by a former PTO president. Pittsfield has been a long-time client. Last year, raised \$25 million across the country. Schools kept 95%. We ran a couple contests, including a logo (for what fundraiser you were doing, including fun run, dance-a-thon) and a video contest. In January, we watched the six videos and 19 staff members from around the country came to Novi to judge it. And Pittsfield won. Congratulations to Aaron Kraft and his boys for creating such a memorable promotional video. This got our school an extra \$1,000. A large check was presented.

Principal's Report

- STEAM fair is coming in early April. You should have received the STEAM fair guidelines, FAQs, proposal form. Ask your teacher for more details or for help. We don't want it create angst. Ask for help as needed. Let's keep it elementary developmentally. April 4 gallery walk in the evening. PTO paid for poster boards. No need to purchase that. (Also, poster board is not required.)
- Recently, had a motivational speaker from Jackson, MI came. PTO supported that assembly. Had a different assembly for lower el and upper el. Jerry Kchodl, kid motivator.
- Paleo Joe is coming March 22 to end March is Reading Month. Thanks to Katie Loomis for setting up. PTO supported.
- Spring break is last week of March (25-29). This is part of county's common calendar. Back on April 1.
- March is Reading Month calendar of activities was sent home.
- Annual climate survey will be sent out soon. A link will be emailed from the district. Students and staff also participate. April 2-19 window.
- April 8-end of May - state assessment. Teacher will send out schedule for 3rd, 4th and 5th. Please don't schedule appointments at that time.
- Talent show is moved up this year and will be Friday, April 26. Parents welcome to join us.
- We've had a lot of upgrades to our building thanks to taxpayer support and more to come. This summer, there will be a ball field restoration. Shade tree project to provide more shade to the playground and reduce the heat effect (little groves of trees will be planted and some single trees).

PTOC Report (Rachel Brichta)

- A2Safe Transport presented (parents and high school students). They developed to develop safe walking routes. They are looking for a PTO liaison to help them work on this plan. Carol suggested putting in Monday Message.
- The other part of the meeting was about special education. Ann Arbor Parents Advisory Committee is a good resource to help families navigate the system. Principal is the person to go to if you wonder if you believe your student should be evaluated for an IEP. 12% of our students have an IEP. 20% of those are students with autism, which is above the state average.
- The next meeting is Monday, March 18 at 7 p.m. at Westerman on Boardwalk. The topic is the future of education.

Pittsfield PTO Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2019

ICS / Directory (Kelly)

- Friday, June 7 is Ice Cream Social. Planning is underway. We have a good committee. We could always need help. We need help with music. Jason has access to equipment and can help with that. We have some new ideas. District still is forbidding inflatables that kids can climb on. We're looking at caricatures, henna tattoos, DIY photo booth, petting zoo? If you would like to get involved, let us know.
- Student directory - is nearing completion. Jen Lill worked on this. Got the information from Jane, filtered out those who didn't want their information. We talked about taking out addresses and middle names before distributing. Physical copies only.

President's Report (Dawn Keech)

- Thanked Karen for such a great winter dance
- We only have 2 more PTO meetings this year. So we don't have that much more time to talk about positions for next school year.
 - There are two presidents every year -- those positions are filled by Jason and Kelly. But we do need a vice-president. The hope is that they move into the co-president role.
 - Secretary position will be open next year.
 - Treasurer will also need to be filled next.
 - Fundraising Co-Chair needed to work with Aaron.
 - Not sure if Kevin is doing PTO Thrift Shop Co-coordinator?
 - We will need a 5th grade camp chair
 - Need a restaurant coordinator to set up the monthly restaurant nights.
- Merchandising - still working on getting these set up. Every grade will get their own color. We are paying. Every student and teacher will get their own. We have been stuck on figuring out sizes. Teachers agreed to help with sizing.
- PTO was getting requests for Teacher Grants that exceeded the amount we had allocated. PTO Board had concerns about equity.
- Fund requests
 - Orchestra books - \$221 to cover the costs of new books. Dire need for method books.
 - March is Reading month branded book baskets that are delivered to local restaurants. Amanda Saffian is working on the books. But they need \$150 for baskets.
 - STEAM Fair for additional costs - \$150.
 - **Motion to approve these additional costs. Kelly made the motion, Aaron seconded. Motion carried.**
- March is Reading Month activities reviewed.
- Teacher grant policy still in process. We just got teacher feedback. We can't just give money without receipts. We will take feedback and develop that policy more.
- Preview of next month's PTO meeting - Cyber safety. Washtenaw Area Council for Children is coming. That will be 90 minutes. We will have to limit the rest of the meeting. We will try to publicize. Aaron asked to get more of an outline of what will be presented.
- Amanda will do Scholastic next year but she would like help. She will need volunteers for April book fair (same night as STEAM).
- **Motion to approve January meeting minutes. Aaron made the motion, Kelly seconded. Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report (Nathan Richards)

- Income is going up. We're already at 85% of what we expected to bring in and we haven't even done the Ice Cream Social yet.
- Expenditures - we have been under budget for many items.
- Reminder that we have \$450 for assemblies, \$150 for bulletin boards. Lots of money for teacher grants.
- Talked about maybe having offering a free movie night since we have made such extra. Talked about offering movie night for free next year (only charging for food).

Pittsfield PTO Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2019

- Create PTO VIP voucher for teachers to give to students who may not be able to afford going to different events.
- This year, 4th graders are going to Lansing. Next year, we need to budget for 3rd and 4th graders. The following year, it will just be 3rd graders.
- Nate can share the Google doc with information about grant balances with Ms. Villanueva.
- Peri will work with Nate to develop a teacher PTO Google folder to share with Ms. Villanueva.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50p.m.