

Pittsfield PTO Meeting Minutes

Oct. 10, 2017

Present

Aster Banta
Brian Brichta
Candace Cackowski
Carol Shakarian
Carolyn Holland
Dawn Keech
Elizabeth Gawel
James Pendergrass
Jeff Irwin

Jen Duman
Jenn Bjurnan
Jenn Lill
Karen Hulsebus
Katie Daum-Bost
Kelly Pfeifer
Keri Mose
Kori Kasara
Lindsey Wolfe
Nathan Richards

Nick Molen
Patricia Memmott
Peri Stone-Palmquist

Guest Stephanie Zeng, Guest
Martial Arts
(questcenter@sbcglobal.net,
332-1800)

Meeting called to order at 6 PM by Dawn Keech

Introductions

Teacher Presentation - Joe Sims (5th) and Brett Moore (2nd)

- MobyMax is a personalized learning platform for all grades in Pittsfield. This is supplemental. This is not the curriculum.
- All lessons are aligned with Common Core.
- They initially do an assessment. Then everything will be tailored to their needs.
- Mostly focused on math and reading.
- The students earn points, badges and certificates. They can also earn time doing educational games (Mr. Moore only allows games on Fridays).
- They can access additional learning. For instance, science section has extra information that may not be covered during the school year.
- Use NWEA scores to target and assign areas where students need to focus.
- Helps with differentiating work.
- If they don't have homework, students could use MobyMax or Razz Kids for 15-20 minutes.
- 1st two weeks, they got instruction on how to use all the technology.
- Cost about \$1,295 for site license for Pittsfield. Paid for with general fund \$ out of the school improvement funds.

Principal's Report

- Received two pianos.
- Parent Teacher Conferences are ongoing. But feel free to reach out anytime. We are stronger together.
- Many teachers use SeeSaw to communicate frequently with parents.
- Email is used often to communicate.
- Oct. 25 is next early release day. 1:29 (after lunches) for professional development.
- Annual parade will likely be on Halloween. No masks allowed for visiting adults. No clown costumes for adults.
- Election day - Nov. 7. There is a special education renewal millage. Detailed information can be found at a2schools.org.

PTO Thrift Shop

- Selling until Nov. 4. Already have done better than last year.
- Still trying to sell more. Please promote at work.

President's Report

Dawn Keech

- Fall fest is coming up. Same week as book fair. Doing some special Harry Potter activities. Signup will be coming out this week. Book fair will also be happening this week.
- Book fair funds - Use whatever funds available in Scholastic dollars for birthday books like we did last year. Motion made by Lindsey Wolfe, seconded by Peri Stone-Palmquist.

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- Update for Cathy Babcock Memorial - Carol is meeting with Matt Stone-Palmquist this week to finalize placement.
- Garden cleanup - 10/13 after school from 4-5 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.-noon.
- Restaurant night at Potbelly (25%) - Tuesday, Oct. 17, 4-7 p.m. Flyers going out soon.
- Stephanie Zang, program director from Quest Martial Arts, focused on self-discipline, focus, respect. We can do "gym teacher for a day" and take the classes for the day. We have an after-school program for a few weeks (minimum of 25 kids, \$20 / kid), 100% of funds go back to the school. We have a table at events. Our staff can volunteer at events.

Fun Run (Lindsey Wolfe)

Goal is \$6,500. These funds are to support classroom, field trips, fun things for students. Only need \$659 to reach goal. If

PTOC

- PTOC Launch Party, Monday, Oct. 16 - 6:30-8 p.m. at Pattengill

Approve Minutes from September meetings. Motion to approve by Jeff Irwin, seconded by Lindsey Wolfe. Motion passes with all in favor.

Break

Lunch time indoor recess supply request discussion (Keech)

There is a request to the PTO to purchase items for indoor recess (puzzles, coloring books). Solicit donations, but we could also have Dawn/Aaron/Nathan approve spending of \$100 to purchase such items.

Treasurer's Report (Nathan Richards)

- Reimbursed teachers for grants. \$488 spent in September so far. Nearly \$800 in October. Only 18% of budget has been used.
- We had a couple of deposits from Krogers and Busch's. \$134
- Received 1st payment for 5th grade camp this month.
- Dues have been paid.
- Nate is getting final numbers on classroom size from Ms. Winters.
- Request for Nate to send an email out to teachers with how much they have to spend. Attach new form.
- Specials teachers don't know how much they have or how to access.
- Poker night fundraiser. Need \$200 for fee.
- **Amend budget to include \$200 fee in the licensing and regular fees line item - Motion made by Jeff Irwin, seconded by Nick Molen. Motion carries.**

Open Discussion

- Lindsey Wolfe asked about the Toledo Opera. Everyone agreed we'd like it back.

- Karen said Allen looks so nice after its renovation. How could we do that here? Carol shared that Darcy Knoll wants the gym painted. Patricia noted that with bond funds could get some of the things that Allen got, such as air conditioning, better lighting. Something celebrating diversity. Another idea is to paint the ceiling panels. Ms. Villaneuva will look into process of how to do something like this. Jen Lill has a family member working in art at U-M. Karen is happy to be the point person. May be a good way to get other parents involved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.