

Pittsfield PTO Meeting Minutes

Nov. 14, 2017

Present

Aaron Kraft

Amanda Rodeffers

Amanda Saffian

Brian Dickerson

Carol Shakarian

Jenn Lill

Karen Hulsebus

Katie Loomis

Kelly Pfeifer

Lindsey Wolfe

Mike G.

Melanie Bale

Meredith Harrison

Nathan Richards

Patricia Memmott

Peri Stone-Palmquist

Zoe Pehrson

Meeting called to order at 6 PM by Aaron Kraft

Introductions

Teacher Presentations - Brian Dickerson (Intervention Specialist), Zoe Pehrson, 4th grade, Meredith Harrison (Special Ed Consultant)

- Brian - This is the 1st year the intervention program has been in elementaries (was in high school and middle schools). Brian is 1 of 5 elementary intervention specialists. Provide staff with data and trends of failing students that leads to conversations about how to reach all students. Strategies might include creating structured breaks for students, a visual schedule, behavior log, eating lunch with students, role plays, home visits, behavior contract between home and schools, connect with community resources, help create home schedules, send tips and strategies to teachers, etc.

- Zoe and Meredith - Wanted to share about a push-in model (co-teaching). In special education, we have two models -- sometimes we will pull a student out of class and work individually or small group on skills. The other model is push-in where the teacher comes into the classroom. In Zoe's 4th grade math class, they started push-in this year and have seen better progress and increased independence. They plan classes together. This allows more students to get support (more than just the two students on the special education caseload). There could be logistics in this working in other classrooms.

Principal's Report

- Thanked our PTO for bringing the Toledo Opera Company tomorrow (Opera on Wheels). The production is Big Bad Wolf.

- Elementary report cards are coming home next week. Personalized learning plans will also be coming home with math and reading goals.

- Playground Committee is nearing some considerations as to our playground update. Walk by the display case to see options. More to come on that. We will have to have quick turnaround. We will be seeking more student input. Access, equity are considerations. The 2 large structures will be replaced. Students wanted places to spend time with friends, socialize, climb, jump. Katie Loomis suggested that the committee involve Student Council.

- Aaron Kraft asked if teachers have more requirements this year. Ms. Shakarian said that there is new science, social studies curriculum, new 3rd grade reading law requirements, new benchmark assessments. New report cards should be easier but there is a learning curve.

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

Aaron Kraft

- Thanks to Kerri Mose and Kate Daum-Bost for a great Fall Fest. Special thanks to Nick Molen for the box maze.

- Thanks to Amanda Saffian for a successful book fair.

- Thanks to Karen Ostafinski Hulsebus for organizing garden cleanups.

- Thanks to Jen Duman for another successful restaurant night.

- Thanks to Dawn Keech for helping to arrange dinner for our teachers.

- Thanks to Candace Cackowski for crushing the PTO Thrift raffle sales over \$1,100.

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- Congrats to Fran Steele and Lindsey Wolfe for a great Fun Run.
- Thanks to Lindsey Wolfe for organizing a quick spirit wear drive. We inadvertently made a profit and we agreed to use that to buy extra shirts to use for prizes or students in need.
- Possible Foster Grandparent for Pittsfield - Seniors on a fixed income get a stipend to work in classroom 20 hours a week. Lindsey noted that Carpenter has one and they use this person in the after-care program and one in music room. Ms. Villaneuva will bring to staff.
- Still need co-chair for ice cream social, WESO Science Olympiad key volunteer or supervisor, PTOC co-chair (3rd Monday evening) so that we can take turns. Katie Loomis may be willing to serve as the PTOC co-chair. Aaron will follow up and we will vote on this at next meeting.

- **Motion to approve consent agenda.** Lindsey Wolfe made the motion. Katie Loomis seconded. Motion passed.

Fun Run (Lindsey Wolfe)

This is the first time we did this on our own and we did great. We budgeted a profit of \$4,000, but we brought in more than \$7,000. Being able to bring in money online is the game changer. Discussed how to make rewards more equitable, such as rewarding the number of laps versus dollars raised. Principal's lunch is for students who raise \$150. Suggested a drawing for something else (best hair for crazy hair day, for instance).

Holiday Shoppe (Melanie Bale)

Dec. 11, 12 13. Will be seeking parent volunteers soon. Envelopes will go home. Lindsey Wolfe makes a motion that the PTO provide each classroom teacher \$10 to use to support students at the shoppe. 2nd by Melanie Bale. Motion carries.

Family Resource Coordinator (Peri Stone-Palmquist)

Have had two requests so far. One for a sibling that is not school-age. There was agreement that we could spend PTO funds for a sibling not at Pittsfield.

Katie asked about a winter clothing exchange and said she was willing to organize. We will have this at the next PTO meeting.

Treasurer's Report (Nathan Richards)

- Brought in \$4,360 (Fun Run, Restaurant night, Fall Fest, 5th grade camp)
- Expenses were \$835.

Book Fair Proceeds (Amanda Saffian)

Earned \$3,900, a record year. We have more than \$3,000 in Scholastic dollars. Proposal to purchase books and give parents in need at Pittsfield to give their child. Amanda will send an order form home and wrap books. Could also purchase gift baskets for prizes for ice cream social. Will also purchase books requested by the specials teachers (that were not available at the book fair).

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm.