

## Pioneer Elementary PTO Meeting Minutes

Christy Gensburg - President Leesa Jones - Vice President Corina Abbatoye - Treasurer Erin Good - Secretary

Meeting: Tuesday September 13, 2022, 6:30pm Pioneer Cafeteria

Meeting called to order. Attendance was taken. Mr. Jeske, Christy Gensburg, Erin Good, Leesa Jones, Breanne Ternes, Jen Schmaltz and Mitch Stiegel were present.

There was no review of minutes from last PTO meeting in May. Christy moved to accept minutes as is and Erin seconded. May's minutes were accepted.

Christy shared the treasurer's report as Corina was unable to be at the meeting. Leesa stated the amount for the Penny Wars last spring should have been \$2331.38 instead of \$2531.38. Mr. Jeske reported the balance of the playground equipment is around \$8,000. Christy moved to accept the treasurer's report with the correction of the penny wars total. Erin seconded it. Treasurer's report accepted.

Mr. Jeske had lots of announcements. Pioneer currently has 213 students compared to 285 at the end of last school year. All of the teachers are back in the building with the exception of music remaining in one portable. Two teachers will be present at next month's PTO meeting. No teachers were able to make this meeting due to a prior scheduled teachers event. Mr. Jeske talked about the mission of BPS and the 4 pillars. Pioneer employees are focusing on mental health and wellness, for both students and teachers/staff. The book Pioneer is focusing on is The School Wellness Wheel, which focuses on the student as a whole and how the school helps them to grow as a whole person. There is focus on helping students sort through trauma, both heavy things as well as every day trauma. Pioneer is fortunate to have two full time social workers in the building. The teachers are also focusing on building resiliency (aptitude) and relationships (experiences) for the student body. There are lots of fun activities for the student body being planned, including field trips and after school clubs. 5th graders have their first parent involvement event Friday 9/23 with a tailgate at the school for families before the 5th graders then ride the bus to Legacy High School for the homecoming football game. Pioneer is working out the details for both a lego club and art/craft club. Both clubs will most likely be broken in K-2; 3-5, and alternate weeks. Example: Week 1 would have lego for k-2 one day and another day of lego club for 3-5. Week 2 would have an art/craft club for k-2 one day and another day of art/craft club for 3-5. Mr. Jeske is looking into the robotics side of the lego club that other elementary schools participate in. PTO bought lego robotic kits several years ago for grades 3-5, unfortunately the software is likely out of date by now. Dress for success for the 5th graders will also continue this year, along with the opportunity for another STEM day. This year breakfast and lunch are free to all students under the Esser grant. Pioneer is one of six schools in the district to receive these funds.

Old business - Corina did a great job organizing PTO's presence at the open house in August. Thank you to the new faces that joined us tonight!

New business - The fall fundraiser kicked off Monday 9/12 with raffle tickets going home. Each student received 5 tickets they are asked to sell. If more tickets are needed please see Ms. Deb in the office. If tickets are not sold, please return them to the office. All tickets and money are due October 3rd, with the first raffle winner being drawn that afternoon.

Mr. Jeske will check with Deb for a date and purpose for the next Penny Wars. It was talked about having a possible purpose be new basketball hoops for outside since there are currently none. Mr. Jeske would like to tie in a gratitude component and have the penny wars be around Thanksgiving. He will get back with details at the next meeting. It was decided that the raffle tickets and penny wars are enough fundraising for the fall.

Open - Questions - Student Council will exist in some form this year. When students completed a survey last year Pioneer heard from students they want more opportunities to be leaders in the school. The school is working on creating some neat opportunities for our students in this area.

A sign up sheet to help with popcorn went around. PTO pops popcorn the last Friday of every month for snack that day. We meet in the teachers lounge at drop off, about 8:15, and are usually done by 10:30. This is an easy way to volunteer with the PTO! Let Christy know if you are interested.

Next meeting is Tuesday October 11, 2022 at 6:30pm in the cafeteria.

Meeting adjourned