



## **Blue Creek Elementary PTO October General Meeting Minutes**

**Date, Time, and Location:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023, at 5 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room

**Meeting called to order by** President Nellie Escorcia at 5:08 p.m.

**Attendance:** Liz Hawthorne, Nellie Escorcia, David Schonefeld, Mary Solock, Ashley Vinston, Melissa Walton, Victoria Ross, Julie Abney, Kierston Reno, Annette Mobley, Shawn Babner, and Crystal Homer. There were 12 members in attendance; a quorum was reached. There were no guests in attendance.

**Minutes:** The September 19, 2023 minutes were read and accepted.

### **Officers' Reports**

President: given by Nellie Escorcia

- The PTO participated in the Down Syndrome Network of Onslow and Carteret Counties Buddy Walk on October 7th. We loved being a part of this worthy cause and hope to participate in future events supporting the community.
- The Board voted to amend our meeting dates to the first Tuesday of each month in our Standing Rules. Copies of the Bylaws and Standing Rules can be requested from our secretary by email.
- We have a nominee for Vice President. Our nominee, Melissa Walton volunteered with the PTO as secretary from 2021-2023.

Treasurer: given by David Schonefeld II

- Our account balance is \$1655.27
- We deposited \$178 from Hat Day
- We spent \$57.72 on Pumpkin Jack books for the Media Center, \$37.97 for Custodian Appreciation Day, and a case of copy paper
- We received a grant from Aldi for \$250 for Parents Morning Out

Communications Chair: given by Kierston Reno

- We have a Class Dojo account. The interactions on Class Dojo have been great.
- Our numbers are up on Facebook because of shares and this helps our reach.

- We would like to purchase yard signs to promote meetings. Kierston Reno will donate vinyl for these signs. The projected budget for these is \$20.

## **Committee Reports**

Courtyard Committee: given by Kierston Reno

- We received a donation for one bucket/scoop of soil to get our garden boxes started.
- Kierston Reno and Mrs. Abney will coordinate a plan for the courtyard committee before the end of the month.
- Interest surveys went out to staff this month.

## **Old Business**

Fundraising: Our first Hat Day was September 21st. We made \$178. Our next Hat Day is October 18th. Flyers were sent home with students last week. We also advertised on Class Dojo and Facebook. We will have Hat Day on every half day this school year.

Our Green Clean Auto Spa fundraiser runs through December 31st. Flyers were sent home with students last week. We will be at the Green Clean Auto Spa on Richlands Hwy this Saturday, October 21st from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m. to promote our cause.

We have reserved Smokin' Joe's BBQ Co. and Colevanelli's Italian Ice for the Fall Festival. Both have agreed to donate 10% of sales to the PTO. We will be collecting t-shirt orders and selling raffle tickets for \$1 at the Fall Festival. T-shirt order forms were placed in teacher boxes on Monday to go home with students this week. Kierston Reno gave details about the 2 raffles that we will have at the Fall Festival. We currently have donations from Bowlarena, Mike's Farm, and Splatter N' Rage toward our raffles.

We are seeking pizza donations for the upcoming Parents/Kids Morning Out. David Schonefeld motioned that we budget \$300 toward this event. We will need at least 5 more adult volunteers for from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Registration forms will go home 1 month before the event and registration will close on December 5th.

Staff Appreciation: PTO delivered gifts to the custodians for Custodian Appreciation Day on October 2nd. There were over 350 student signatures on the card that we created for the door decoration.

Mrs. Hawthorne is donating Halloween-themed treats and Nellie Escorcia is donating a \$20 bag of candy for the staff appreciation on October 31st.

We will ask for individual pie donations from grocery stores and Mrs. Mobley will check with Piggly Wiggly to see if they have pies for November. A budget was already voted on last month if we are unable to secure donations.

We have decided to purchase gift cards from favorite restaurants listed in the Staff Favorite Things binder for the Gift Card Hunt in December. Updates on donations from businesses toward this hunt will be given at our next meeting.

We applied for a \$400 gift card donation from Target to go toward the Flu Fighting Kits we would like to give out in January. The estimated cost is \$400. Nellie Escorcia will follow up with Target by the end of the month.

Events: Our community meet-up at Muddy's was unsuccessful. To build community and recruit parents, we will meet at Onslow Pines Park tomorrow, October 18th from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Pumpkin Jack books were donated to the Media Center on September 22nd for student enrichment. We requested pictures from 1st-grade classrooms that are using these books to promote PTO's donation.

The PTO averaged 3 parent volunteers for every day of the Book Fair (October 5 - 13). Mrs. Hawthorne noted that we did not make enough for Literatti to return in the Spring. We will partner with Scholastic for future book fairs.

Our Candy Collection Contest ends on Friday, October 20th. Bags will be collected in the Media Center to be weighed. PTO will weigh candy in the morning of Tuesday, October 24th to determine a winner.

### **New Business**

There was no new business.

### **Voting**

Melissa Walton was voted in as Vice President, 12 to 0.

The yard sign purchase of \$20, was approved 12 to 0.

The Parents Morning Out budget for \$300 was approved 12 to 0.

### **Announcements**

Book donations for the Book Walk at the Fall Festival can be dropped off at the front office.

**Next meeting is** 11/21/2023 at 5 p.m. in the multipurpose room

**Meeting adjourned at** 5:51 p.m.

**Minutes compiled by** Melissa Walton, Vice President for Shaliz Arias, Secretary