

# **Pennell PTO Minutes**

**Tuesday, November 10, 2020, 6:30pm**

## **Call to Order:**

### **In attendance:**

#### **Principal/Teacher Representatives:**

Mr. Leight, Ms. Trofa, Mrs. LaTour

#### **Board:**

Teresa Mai, President

Michelle Tinsley, Vice President

Jennifer Herman, Secretary

Jennifer Snook, Treasurer

## **Mr. Leight Principal's Report:**

- ❖ 10.5? Do we know what this number represents?
- ❖ On the first day of school I said, "Practice Makes Perfect!" Today I am saying, "What a difference a day has made!"
- ❖ Shared some pictures of the kids in school showing how well they are adjusting and doing with all that is going on.
- ❖ We had a fun October! Thank you parents for donating items to your teachers to help us have a memorable month.
- ❖ We held a "Vote for Cookies" Thank you, Mrs. Rittaco for getting the voting box ready for the kids to enjoy.
- ❖ Trunk or Treat went off without a hitch. Thank you for getting it done!
- ❖ We are facing many new challenges. I send hats off to all of our teachers for accepting the challenges and making it work for our children.
- ❖ The Penn Delco website now hosts a "Being in a Pandemic Dashboard" that will be updated biweekly with cases throughout the district.
- ❖ Pennell students and staff are doing amazing!!!
- ❖ An email came out from Ms. Bell around 5:00 pm explaining that there is a possible COVID exposure at Pennell. There is no need for alarm at this time. If you weren't contacted then there's nothing to worry about.
- ❖ Important Dates:
  - 11/19 & 11/20: Picture Day
  - 11/23 & 11/24: Parent Teacher Conferences
  - 11/23-11/25: In-Person, 11:15 am Dismissals
  - 11/26 & 11/27: Thanksgiving Holiday
  - 12/23: Typical Wednesday Schedule
  - 12/24-1/1: Winter Break
- ❖ Back to what 10.5 represents....How many in school days until Christmas Break!

### **Teacher Representative's Report:**

- ❖ Ms. Trofa and Mrs. LaTour: Thank you for putting together the Fall Fest. Thank you for surprising us with a nice Halloween treat and Wawa free hoagie certificate. We love the way you are making everything feel normal!

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- ❖ We would like to welcome Jennifer Snook to the PTO Board as the new Treasurer.
- ❖ Beginning balance: \$4,160.
- ❖ Collected money from the 5th grade raffles, fall fest, spirit wear sale.
- ❖ Paid out money for: agenda books, cookie voting and teacher vouchers.
- ❖ Ending Balance: \$5,183.00

### **Regular Business Items:**

- ❖ **Box Tops/Amazon Smiles**
  - Wrapped up loose Box Tops-We expect to receive about \$17.00. We are not surprised by this number because we have transitioned to the Box Top App and the clippings are becoming more obsolete.
  - We will have another collection in March.
  - If you items say do not clip, please scan your receipt so we can get credit.
  - Please keep scanning your receipts. They do add up!
- ❖ **Fall Fest/Trunk or Treat**
  - Great success! Sending a huge thank you to Jenn Druding!
  - We had a lot of fun with a great turn out.
  - All of the trunks were amazing. We have some very creative families.
  - A virtual vote was held to bring trunks back again next year. It was agreed that we will.
- ❖ **Spirit Wear Sale**
  - It was handed out to families that attended Fall Fest. If you weren't there it was sent home with your children following that weekend.
  - We have another sale going on for sweatshirts. All orders are due November 13, 2020. Get your orders in!
- ❖ **Pennell Waddling Fundraiser**
  - Huge turn out! We are starting to slow down.
  - As we wrap up this fundraiser we have few spots left in November. If you want to reserve them, send your request.
  - If anyone requested a date past November, we will honor it.
  - After the fundraiser ends the penguins are still available for rent. If you decide to rent them, send a request. Pick up would be at Michelle Tinsley's House.
  - We will revisit starting another fundraiser in the Spring.
  - Dr. Steinhoff was waddled. He got a kick out of it : )

#### ❖ **Recess Baskets**

- Last month, Mr. Leight requested help from the PTO with putting together some type fun recess activities for the children when they have indoor recess.
- Amy Kusen volunteered to help put baskets together.
- Teachers suggested the following items for kids to be able to do solo: Puzzles, Wickie Stix, Etch a Sketch, Pipe Cleaners, Legos, Matchbox Cars, Yoga Cards, Games, Bingo, Etc.
- If anyone has anything they want to donate, Amy is happy to pick it up or you can drop it off. Send her a message and she will get back to you.
- There will be a basket for each classroom by the end of the week.
- Are we still looking for pool noodles?
  - Someone is looking into it. If everything goes as planned, it looks like we may only have to pay shipping for the noodles.

#### ❖ **Little Caesars**

- Pick up: Tuesday, November, 17, 2020-4:30-5:30, at the school gym. You must pick up your orders. The PTO does not have room to store them. If you can't pick them up at the available time slot please try to send someone else to pick them up for you.
  - More details will come out to follow about pick up.
- We raised about \$1600.00 from this fundraiser.
- Thank you for your help.

#### ❖ **Scholastic Book Fair**

- Started yesterday and will run for 2 weeks.
- Homeroom Moms, if they haven't already they will be sending out a teacher wish list.
- If you spend \$25.00 you get free shipping.
- Videos will be coming out with stories read by Mr. Leight and Mrs. DeAngelo. Be on the look out on Facebook and Twitter.

#### ❖ **Cannoli Fundraiser**

- Flyers will be sent home at the end of the week.
- Pick up dates at DeVour: 12/19 & 12/20
- Price: \$12.00 for a six pack & \$24.00 for a 12 pack
- There will be an online form to fill out. This is the best way to order
- Venmo is the preferred form of payment but you can still send in the orders and payment with your child(ren) on their day of school if you prefer too.
- If you order please remember to pick it up!

#### ❖ **Holiday Shop**

- As with everything else, we face challenges this year with our holiday shop. We can not have the traditional shopping experience for the children. We are trying to come up with ideas to make it just as enjoyable for the kids.
- We are looking for ideas and opinions...Possible virtual holiday shop? How would it play out? Craft for purchase? Gift tag to make?
- We discussed not doing the Holiday Shop at all this year. Do people have the time with everything else they have going on in these crazy times?
- Jenn Fisher, suggested making a plate

- Kate Bigelow suggested we have a reverse Holiday Shop? Donate money to Toys for Tots, local family to adopt, etc.?
  - Ms. Trofa will talk to Ms. Raucci to see if we can group together with PBIS.
  - Coupon book?
  - 5 Below will give 10% back to the PTO when you shop. We would need to fill out a form to apply for the percent back.
- ❖ **Hospitality**
- We usually do a holiday lunch for the teachers and staff. Right now we have Plan A and Plan B.
  - Plan A-Hybrid-We will provide some type of luncheon in a social distance form. We aren't sure if we can request any donated desserts because they are homemade.
  - Kate Bigelow-suggested us to look into Panera Bread. She said, teachers would be able to put in their own orders. We would need to look at the pricing for this service.
- ❖ **Winter on Broad Street Winter Spectacular**
- The Penn Delco School District has partnered with Winter on Broad Street Winter Spectacular as a district wide fundraiser to have a magical experience and try to raise money for the schools. It is a drive through experience with timed tickets. A link will be sent out to purchase the tickets. The school with the most sales can win a visit from Gritty.
- ❖ **5th Grade Info**
- Thank you for supporting the plunge! If you haven't already, please join our Facebook page, Penguin Plunge. Don't forget to invite your family and friends!
- ❖ **Additional Information-**
- There is no PTO Meeting in December.
  - The next meeting will be held on January 12, 2021

There are so many people in the PTO who volunteer their time that we could not possibly list them all. To all who help in any way, no matter how large or small, we hope you realize that your efforts are much appreciated.

Any questions please email us [pto4pennell@gmail.com](mailto:pto4pennell@gmail.com) and **LIKE US on FB Pennell PTO** for reminders and updates.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jennifer Herman, PTO Secretary