

# **Pennell PTO Minutes**

**Tuesday, October 13, 2020, 6:30pm**

## **Call to Order:**

### **In attendance:**

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

Mr. Leight, Mrs. Lafferty, Mrs. Hopkins

#### **Board:**

Teresa Mai, President

Michelle Tinsley, Vice President

Jennifer Herman, Secretary

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

- ❖ We feel overjoyed and overwhelmed.
- ❖ We are so excited to see the kids' faces again.
- ❖ Please have patience with us. Slowly, overtime everything will fall into place. We will add more live time as we move along with Hybrid.
- ❖ Thank you for the décor outside.
- ❖ We don't forget our penguins at home. They are still part of us.
- ❖ Practice makes perfect: Backpacks and car lines are packed. It will get easier as time goes on.
- ❖ Homeroom Parents-Still looking for volunteers: Ms. Wiley-AS, Mrs. Hopkins-2<sup>nd</sup>, Mrs. Plakis-3<sup>rd</sup>, Mrs. Carlin 5<sup>th</sup>.
  - I will send out an email next week (10/21/2020) at 9:30 am with all the Homeroom Parent Assignments — an optional Zoom Homeroom Parent Welcome Meeting will be given at that time.
- ❖ Our goal is joy and normalcy. We will be ok!
- ❖ Indoor recess proposal: I am asking the PTO to fund and put together a bucket of games, cards, play doh, etc for each class to have during indoor recess.
- ❖ Important Dates:
  - 10/23: Fall Fest
  - 10/23-10/31: Red Ribbon Week
    - Instead of focusing on Drugs Mrs. Watts want to focus on “Really Excellent Decisions”
  - 11/2-11/3: School Closed for Teacher In-Service
  - 11/19-11/20: Picture Day—Rescheduled
  - 11/23-11/24: Parent Teacher Conferences—Zoom; students will have ½ days during conferences

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

- ❖ Mrs. Hopkins:
  - Love the welcome back décor. It made us happy and we felt appreciated

- Thank you for restocking the lounge.
  - Band wants to thank you for the interface and microphone that was purchased.
  - Mrs. Watts will put out the Red Ribbon Week schedule
    - Wear Red on Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup> (Cohort A) & 30<sup>th</sup> (Cohort B).
  - The Teachers are looking to do a “Cookie Election”.
    - Can the PTO purchase winner cookies for school?
  - Library: Please remember to return all books from last year. Students will only be allowed to check out one (1) book per cycle. Once they return all books they will be able to check out two (2) books.
- ❖ Mrs. Lafferty:
- Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!
  - All the teachers were really excited when they heard the lounge was restocked.

### **Treasurer’s Report:**

- ❖ Balance has not changed from last month. \$4160.30

### **Regular Business Items:**

#### **❖ Box Tops/Amazon Smiles**

- Amazon Prime is still going. Sign up under “Pennell” so we can get credit.
- Box Tops are still coming in.
- If you have any clipped please send them in. We are accepting them until 10/23/2020.
- All clipped box tops must be postmarked and sent in by 11/2/2020.
- Please continue to scan your receipts.

#### **❖ Spirit Wear Sale**

- Orders will be in by the end of the week. We hope to have it sorted and out by next week.

#### **❖ Pennell Waddling Fundraiser**

- Unbelievable so far, within an hour we had to shut down the request page.
- We are changing somethings as we go along.
- We request that you pay once your date is confirmed.
- We have 1 or 2 dates still available for October and are already half full for the month of November.
- You should have received an email to make your payment.
- We currently have request past November. We aren’t sure if the ground will be too hard. We will decide as we go.
- We are looking for volunteers to help move it along.
- It was suggested that High School and Middle School’s National Honor Society are looking for volunteer hours and might be able to help.

#### **❖ Directory Form/PTO Dues/Volunteer Sign Ups**

- We are still seeing PTO dues trickling in.

- Directory form still open. It will be closed soon. We hope to get it out by mid-November.
- Please continue to sign up for volunteering. Any help is appreciated!
- ❖ **Little Caesars**
  - Begins October 12, 2020; Delivery expected before Thanksgiving Break.
  - Paperwork was sent home.
  - Little Caesars scaled down a bit this year so you won't see all the usual choices.
  - We usually bring in \$1900.00 with this fundraiser.
- ❖ **Fall Fest/Trunk or Treat**
  - Keeps changing-We've been working hard, got approval today to go ahead with some plans.
  - We will still have a teacher trail.
  - The front of school will be closed off for Trunk or Treat-No candy will be handed out. Only a walk by to vote for trunks.
  - There will be staggered times per grade from 5:30-7:30. You are only allowed to go through the walk one time. If you have children in multiple grades please pick one grade time to walk through.
  - Must wear a mask as we are on school property and have to follow the school rules.
  - Cost: \$3.00 per child, \$10.00 to enter your car for the contest.
- ❖ **Scholastic Book Fair**
  - Last meeting we decided to do the book fair virtual. Now we might do it in school. We are still on the fence on which would work best.
  - Begins the week of 11/9/2020 and will run all week.
  - If we decide to do it in person there will still be a link online to place orders.
  - Scholastic has an EWallet you can put money in as an alternative to sending money in with your children.
- ❖ **Cannoli Fundraiser**-Will return in December
- ❖ **Fifth Grade Info-**
  - Please join the 5<sup>th</sup> grade Pennell Fundraising page on Facebook so you don't miss out on all the fun things we have going on. ["The Penguin Plunge: Slide, waddle, and roll in for some fun"](#)
  - We got approval for Election Day Sales on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. We were asked to not wear anything that supports either candidate and to not speak about any of the candidates to prevent persuading a vote.
  - Spirit Night-possibly in November or December. Italy to Go.
- ❖ **Yearbook**
  - Looking for a way to get pictures from parents, especially traditional 5<sup>th</sup> grade photos. Any ideas are welcome.
  - We can ask teachers for pictures but we do not want a yearbook full of our children in mask.
- ❖ **Additional Information**-N/A

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