

# **Pennell PTO Minutes**

**Tuesday, September, 2020, 6:30pm**

## **Call to Order:**

### **In attendance:**

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

Mr. Leight, Mrs. Watts, Mrs. Pringle

#### **Board:**

Teresa Mai, President

Michelle Tinsley, Vice President

Jennifer Herman, Secretary

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

- Spoke about all the challenging times we have experienced and will continue to experience as we move forward.
- Reiterated how incredible the staff and parents have been through all these challenging times.
- Requested that any Hybrid Learning questions please be held off during the meeting. If you have any questions or concerns to please call or email him. He promises to get back to you.
- Upcoming mail and emails to be expecting:
  - Arrival/Dismissal Details
  - Brief Instruction Overview
  - Bus Cards
  - Hybrid Student Handbook
  - Lunch Lanyards
  - Kindergarten Expectations Day 1
  - Health and Safety Info
  - Supplies to and from School
  - Related Arts Logistics
- Important Dates:
  - 10/2~Wednesday Schedule
  - 10/5~K-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Cohort A "First Day"
  - 10/12~3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Cohort B "First Day"
  - 10/15-16~Picture Day
  - 10/23~Fall Fest?
- Thank you for your partnership. You will all make it through this.

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

- Mrs. Pringle:
  - Sends a huge THANK YOU! Thank you for the snacks in the faculty room. Thank you for our goody bags and masks.
  - Question about Scholastic?
    - Will teachers be receiving magazines into their classrooms?
      - Mr. Leight responded that both him and Teresa decided that the teachers will not be receiving them this year. He will discuss it with the staff at their morning meeting tomorrow.
- Mrs. Watts:
  - Thank you, Thank you, Thank you again for all of your support.
  - Thank you for the first and hopefully only virtual back to school night success.
  - Thank you for the shirts and mask.

- Keep up the great work at home. The teachers and staff can see the support in the kids.

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

- Over the summer we purchased: Masks, shirts for staff and students, agenda books for 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade, band supplies for Mr. Orlando, stocked the teachers' lounge, and teacher gifts.
- We are still waiting for families to pay their dues and the Spirit Wear Fundraiser to end to see what we have to credit.
- Ending Balance: \$4,060.30

### **Regular Business Items:**

- **Introductions of the Board for the 2020/2021 School Year**-Teresa Mai-President, Michelle Tinsley-Vice President, Jennifer Herman-Secretary, Vacant-Treasurer
- **Student Staff Shirts/Masks/Stock the Lounge for Teachers/Voucher Planners**
  - Thank you Mrs. Cassidy for getting all the spirit wear together.
  - We stocked the teachers' lounge with snacks, treats, water and K-cups to begin the school year.
  - We gifted the teachers with goodie bags.
  - We did a chalk the walk and put signs out for the students and staff on distribution day.
  - We are looking to do some more fun things as we go along.
- **Giant A+ Rewards/Box Tops/Amazon Smile**
  - Giant A+ Rewards has stopped. Giant no longer does this program. It was a big profit for the PTO and needs to be replaced.
  - Box Tops is an ongoing resource for profit to the PTO. Please keep scanning your receipts. We know there have been some issues with the app and scanning errors but we encourage you to continue to keep scanning. Sometimes you get a really good return and every bit helps. We usually receive about \$1000.00 from this resource but we currently aren't seeing that at this time. We are still collecting clipped box tops. The deadline to send them in is October 23<sup>rd</sup>.
  - AmazonSmile info was sent home at the beginning of the year. We are aware that it seems to be tricky to sign up. You need to make sure your app is updated. It was suggested that you do it from your computer as opposed to the app. This is a quick and easy way to generate money for the school.
- **CheddarUp/Membership Dues/Directory/Spirit Wear Sale**
  - CheddarUp is a new website that was created over the summer by the PTO. It is a one stop shop for all your PTO needs such as: Paying your dues, spirit wear sale until September 30<sup>th</sup> (get those orders in!), sign up for committees, Homeroom Mom applications, deadline September 30<sup>th</sup> (get those applications in!)
- **Pennell Waddling Fundraiser**
  - New this year, we are going to roll out a fun fundraiser where you can purchase 8 penguins with an additional sign that says "You've been waddled by a Pennell Penguin" to go along with the penguins. We also have a Happy Birthday sign and the option to have a personal message typed up and printed to add to the display for an additional cost. We plan to roll it out mid-October and have it run until the end of November. If it is a big hit we might bring it back in the Spring. More details will be forthcoming.
- **Little Caesars-Flyers** coming soon. Pickup is expected to be sometime in November.
- **Fall Fest/Trunk or Treat**-Fall Fest is usually out on the front lawn. This year will be challenging. We want to do something fun. Maybe a drive by or trunk or treat. Please let us know if you have any ideas. We really need to be creative this year. We will be reaching out to teachers about handing out candy in some way. We hope to be able to have something together by October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

- **Scholastic Book Fair**-Still trying to figure it out. It will be held online this year. Unfortunately profits online are less than in person but we decided it would be easier to do it this way with all that is going on. They will not do bulk shipping so if you spend less than \$25.00 you will have to pay for shipping. Two positives are you will receive the full scholastic catalog which includes over 6000 titles and all books will be delivered to your house. We will wait until the spring to see what is happening before we make any decisions for the spring sale.
  - Please share the link once it goes live!!!
  - Mrs. Pringle suggests that we put a video together to send to the teachers to share with the children to get them excited about the sale.
  - Will teachers be able to make their wish list?
    - We don't see why that isn't possible. Mrs. Watts is willing to create a Google docs form for the teachers to make a list of their requested books.
    - It was suggested that maybe the Homeroom Moms collect a certain amount of money from their classes to purchase books off a wish list to prevent double books being ordered by parents.
- **Fifth Grade Info**
  - You do not have to be in 5<sup>th</sup> grade to be involved with 5<sup>th</sup> grade fundraising. The funds raised go towards the 5<sup>th</sup> grade but the fun is for all of Pennell. Please remember one day your child will also be in 5<sup>th</sup> grade so please help support us as we have supported the classes in the past.
  - We plan to create a PTO 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Committee Page to help spread the word for all the fun things we have planned this year.
  - We will be kicking off our first fundraiser as a raffle gift (October's Gift will be a Coach Bag). We will ask that you make a donation for a chance to win the prize for that month. Once all the slots are filled we will pull a name.
  - Another fundraiser that we will be kicking off is Fast Cash Fridays. You have a chance to win \$100.00. More details to follow.
  - We are currently selling a Pennell Yard Flag in the Spirit Wear sale through the PTO's CheddarUp website. Deadline to order is September 30<sup>th</sup>! (Get those orders in!!!)
  - We got approval to sell snacks at Election Day on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. We have to do it a bit differently than we have in years past. We will need small pre-packaged snacks donated for the sale. We are asking anyone that has a contact for donations such as bags of chips, drinks, etc. to please let us know so we can get our request in. A Signup Genius will be coming out soon for you to donate items and/or your time on that day. We plan to have the sale run from 8:00 am-6:00 pm or until we sell out.
  - We usually have a Bingo Night for the kids. At this time we don't know what will happen. Please reach out to us with any suggestions you might have. All ideas will be greatly appreciated.
- **Additional Information**-The next PTO Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>.

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