

Eisenhower PTO
General Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2021
9:30 a.m. (virtual)

PTO Executive Board:

President – Justine Walker

1st Vice President – Jenny Hecht

2nd Vice President – Mark Miller

Board Advisor – Kristin LeBeau

Treasurer – Laura Lisien

Secretary – Lisa Whitman

Welcome: Justine Walker

Attendance: Executive Board, Guest Speaker, 15 PTO members

The meeting was called to order by President Justine Walker.

Approval of Minutes: All

Guest Speaker: Erin Rectenwald, MSCP, CTTS

SAP Liaison—Student Assistance Program

UPMC—Western Behavioral Health Services

- Erin is a SAP Liaison to provide student assistance and address barriers to learning (sometimes called Student Support Services or “S Cubed”)
- The program helps identify social, emotional, personal or academic concerns that individual children may be having.
- Students can be referred by anyone, including the student themselves, the parent, a teacher or other school personnel. That referral is passed along to the school counselor, who calls the parent.
- With parental permission, Erin meets with the student and also speaks with other relevant individuals to get the whole picture of the student’s situation.
- Erin follows up with the parent and provides recommendations. Those recommendations run the spectrum from simply monitoring the situation, to putting different strategies in place in the classroom, to recommending counseling or referring the student to other community resources.
- Mr. Miller added that S Cubed teachers meet once a month to talk about children that might need support.

Treasurer Report: Laura Lisien

- Current balance is \$9,044.
- PTO Membership has come in.

President’s Report: Justine Walker

- Harvest Parties: The harvest parties were great. Unfortunately, it rained and we could not have the outdoor parade. The kids really enjoyed the parties and were able to parade inside and see everyone else's costume.
- Winter Parties: The winter parties will be similar to the harvest parties. Only the room parents will be allowed into the classroom. We are optimistic that we can have more parents involved in upcoming spring events.
- Fundraising Updates: It has been difficult to fundraise without holding the annual Eisenhower fundraiser in the fall. We are planning to replace the Eisenhower this year with an outdoor spring carnival to be held on May 13.
- Spirit Wear: The Eisenhower tee shirts have been delivered. Spirit Wear should be in next week. We have had the most spirit wear sales ever this year.
- Upcoming/Spring Events: In addition to the spring Eisenhower event, we are also working on an adults-only event in the spring. This should be a nice way for the parents to get to know one another better, since parents have not been able to be at the school as much this year.

Committee Chair Reports: Outreach: Natalie Livingston & Jess Strub

- We will be collecting materials and supplies for Senora Gilbert's son, who is organizing for troops stationed overseas. We will be sending information within the next week.
- We will be partnering again with the Kelly School before the end of the calendar year.
- Holiday Mart will be on Tuesday, November 30 and Thursday, December 2. More information will be coming home before Thanksgiving break. Shop at USC merchandise will also be included this year.

Principal's Report/Eisenhower Update: Mark Miller

- At the beginning of the year, some parents were upset with the mask mandate and the restrictions put on the school. The kids, however, are having a great year and are, for the most part, enjoying a normal school day.
- Mr. Miller played two videos that were shown at recent staff meetings. These videos demonstrate the core beliefs that we don't give up on kids, we have to connect with kids, and all kids have value and something to share.
- Mr. Miller addressed a question regarding when we would return to more normal school events and when more parents would be allowed in the school buildings. Mr. Miller stated that the goal is to keep kids in school. He believes that the key to masking requirements and parent attendance at events will be the contact tracing requirements. So far, the school has not had to send many children home due to contact tracing, which is great. Because the remote learning platform is not in place this year, we really want to keep kids in school.

Upcoming Events:

- November 30 and December 2 Holiday Mart

- November 24, 25, 26 No School
- December 22 Winter Parties
- December 23-January 2 Winter Recess