

MINUTES

Howe Elementary PTA 2023-2024

Date April 10, 2024 | Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Amy Grella

In Attendance

Name	Email
Marissa Johnston	marissa.e.johnston@gmail.com
Michele Rowland	michele.rowland290@gmail.com
Emily Balestreire	emilybal79@gmail.com
Sally Berri Pratt	sally.berri@gmail.com
Jen Webler	jen.webler@gmail.com
Amy Grella	president@howepta.org
Aimee Danley	aimeedanley@gmail.com
Heather Moore	heathermsmoore@gmail.com
Greg Engle	

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the March 2024 meeting were reviewed and approved.

All present voted in favor. APPROVED

PTA Officers Reports

- HGT is on FRiday. Show at 6:30, performers at 6, doors 6:15
- Next Weds, 4/17, session on supporting parents with anxiety, childcare available. Signup list is in the wild.
- District budget forum was held on Monday, 4/8.
 - About 1h long, out on BoardDocs web resource. Link will be distributed

- There's some drama/rumors out regarding SD funding; **please** watch to learn the full story. Approx \$2m deficit needs filled this year.
- Next week, SD will vote to authorize a furlough. Not a guarantee that furloughs *will* occur, but may be a mechanism that will be engaged
- Please consider making an effort to show teachers/staff/supports how important they are

Chair Reports/Recent Activities

- Garden: Still flourishing. A few items are on backorder - for vegetables, especially -
 - After school Wednesdays will be planting & volunteering
- 5th gr:
 - Pool party planning underway, will be the last day of school (along with a ton of other things!) at 7pm
 - Next Weds, 4/17, Totopo fundraiser!
 - 5/1, last day of PSSAs, Kona Ice
- Spirit Center report tabled for next week w/ finalized numbers
 - Last one is next week, 4/18
- Reflections
 - Some of our entrants actually making it to nationals!
 - Charlie Kohler (4th gr) - literature piece "Fruit Picking"
 - Mariandra Luane Naval (2nd gr) - visual arts piece "A Better Tomorrow"
 - Lumin Nash (5th gr) - film "The Hopeful Mother"
 - Discussion on if/how community can see these - will look into do if possible
 - Funds requested \$75 for trophies - further discussion held as to best plan between certificates/trophies/etc. Definitely would like to incorporate w end-of-year
- Teacher Appreciation
 - Next week with fabulous tropical theme and different events every day!
- Kindergarten Orientation
 - Working on
 - Seeking additional \$200: crayon packs, nametags, snacks. Lots of supplies will roll over to next year. **Funds approved.**
 - Thoughts for next year - another school they give water bottles and/or teeshirts, should consider. (Shirts = great parity with the shirt for 5th gr)
- Funding request for 5th grade musical
 - NTE \$300 for props. **Approved**
- Funding request for last day of school lawn signs - tabled for next meeting while we look into what's already purchased/available
- Funding request: \$650 for Uline shelving to spruce up and reconfigure PTA shed - each committee may have their own bin. **Approved**
- Family Reading Night

- Query from Ms. Mader: Still have \$750 in budget? Started with 1675, 940 went to authors program. No reason to believe not? Will be confirmed
- Intending \$350 for participation prizes (sunglasses!)
- Requesting a specific line-item for library. District budget has been cut.
- Suggestion from committee: Keep the same line item but allow for author visit
- Significant conversation over interplay between district/faculty resources, Friends of Library, and Family Reading Night
- Query raised - is there any value in splitting FoL and FRN? Likely not, should be consolidated due to close relationship and partnership with faculty.
- Glowing report from Ms Mader about Book Break program.
- Yearbook
 - **Deadline for pages is April 23**
 - Many families - the kids are building their own
 - Query re adding photos - yes, you can upload your own photos *without* opening them for access to the rest of the yearbook

Unfinished Business

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New Business

Announcements

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Next Meeting
