

11/15/2023 Minutes

Call to order at 4:01pm

Attendees: Ashley Foreman, Tessa Boyd, Leah Krull, Roo Daniels, Kahly Smith, Sheila Forester, Alice Wellems, Bryan MacLeod, Gwen Billman, Jess Rohacek, Kristin Heverley

Secretary's Report:

Reviewed meeting minutes from September 13, 2023

Motion to approve: Roo Daniels, second: Tessa Boyd

Treasurer's Report:

At the end of October, total income was \$26,344.90 and total expenses were \$19,306.11. There were no unexpected expenses.

As of today, the Walk-a-Thon total is \$18,746.97. This gives us a budgetary shortage of \$3,253. Kristin Heverley proposed that the PTO do a supplementary fundraiser in the new year. Some ideas include a silent auction, donation Bingo, Pie a Teacher, and Parents' Night Out. Further discussion was decided to pursue a silent auction in early 2024.

SchoolStore has launched and currently has 93 participating students, which is 28% of our enrollment. If we reach 40%, the school will be entered into the Book Vending Machine drawing. There have been \$3,770 in gift cards purchased for teachers. PTO should continue to promote SchoolStore as we enter the holiday season since the PTO receives a percentage of all purchases made through their platform. It works like AmazonSmile and can be used at over 400 merchants, including Walmart, Sam's Club, Kohl's, Old Navy, and BestBuy.

A "job description" for the Treasurer position was reviewed. This position is appointed by the board and a new treasurer is needed for the 2024-25 school year.

Motion to accept: Tessa Boyd, second: Alice Wellems

President's Report:

Walk-a-Thon was a success. We hit our event budget, but not our yearly fundraising goal.

Holiday meals were collected. We have enough meals for Thanksgiving break. There will be a few needs for the baskets for winter break.

Tessa Boyd and Ashley Foreman will lead the planning of a school-wide holiday party to be held on Thursday 12/21.

Holiday Teacher appreciation was discussed. Agreed upon to do a “catered” lunch with sandwiches and cookie donation. PTO will ask families to contribute money for this luncheon as in year’s past.

Principal’s Report:

Veteran’s Day assembly went very well and was well received. Veterans and families were grateful. Thank you to Tessa Boyd and the other volunteers who made the event possible.

Mr. MacLeod thanked volunteers for all the work and efforts for Walk-a-Thon and all families who contributed.

Dr. Gildea, our new superintendent, is on board and getting to know the schools in the district. Staff is excited to work with him and get to know him better. Dr. Gildea is a former Elementary teacher and principal and comes with an elementary perspective.

A note from teachers will be going home soon regarding information on snow-days and flexible instruction opportunities.

Teacher’s Report:

Alice Wellems, 3rd Grade, echoed Mr. MacLeod’s comments about staff being excited about Dr. Gildea as the new superintendent.

The new staff at East Hanover has been super and have hit the ground running.

Committee Reports:

Family Fall Fun Fest was a success. Thank you to the volunteers and local face painters.

Santa Shop is to be held on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 9-11am. There will be a sign-up for volunteers for set-up and working the event. High school volunteers may be recruited if we don’t get enough volunteers. There will also be a cookie drive for cookies at the event. The event will feature snacks, possible craft, and letters to Santa. Tessa Boyd checking to see if select choir would like to carol for the event. A last call for vendors will be made for Makers Market (Currently 14 vendors). Makers Market will be held in the gym on Dec. 2 from 9am-1pm.

Mini-Thon: A coffee truck will be at the Santa Store with proceeds going to Mini-THON. There is also a sale of poinsettias and wreaths. These orders are due Monday, Nov. 20 and pick-up will be during the Santa Shop.

New Business:

Tessa Boyd shared her frustration with large class sizes in this year's 5th grade. Her 5th grader is one of 27 as of this meeting.

Next meeting January 10 at 4:00 pm

Motion to adjourn at 4:45: Jess Rohacek, second: Kahly Smith