
August PTO Meeting Agenda and Minutes

Monday, 08.26.2024

Attendees

We had 20 attendees

Agenda

Last Meeting Follow-up

1. NA

New Business

2. Welcome/Member Introductions **(3-5 min)**
3. Secretary Report/Approve Meeting Minutes from May 2024 **(1-5 min)**

Motion by Valerie, Second by Brooke

4. Treasurers Update **(1-5 min)**

Current balance \$18,185

5. A day in the life of a Kindergartener - Show and Tell **(15-20 min)**

Ms. Nelson and Ms. Martin showed us a Kindergarten classroom and talked about what their day looks like at Kindergarten.

6. General PTO Update **(10-15 min)**

A brief overview was given of what PTO does, and gave examples of what they fund and raise money for (Kayla, Brooke).

- a. Liberty Homecoming week is 9/16/24-9/20/24

- PTO is participating in the parade on 9/20 and will decorate a float.
 - PTO is workshopping an idea to decorate the float with a gator constructed of paper plate scales decorated by students. We're looking for help and welcome any interested volunteers.
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- Homecoming parade planning meetings will take place at Coffee Emporium in North Liberty. Upcoming meeting on 9/14 at 8:30 am.
 - Volunteers will meet at Forevergreen Garden Center the night before the parade (9/17) to decorate the float.
 - PTO is currently taking orders for Garner/Liberty Homecoming t-shirts. Will plan to wear these in the Homecoming parade and/or for student dress-up days during Homecoming week.
 - Mr. Dyer is letting students paint/decorate his vehicle for Homecoming week.
- b. 3rd Annual Fallin' into Fun(FIF) on 10/30/24
- PTO is looking for volunteers to help on the planning committee
 - Committee meetings will be held at Coffee Emporium in North Liberty on the following dates: 9/28/24 (8:30am), 10/19/24 (8:30am). Coffee will be paid for by the PTO!
- c. How can we provide more help to our community? What else can we be thinking about?
- Auction – The status of the auction is to be determined this year. We are thinking about scaling back and doing primarily classroom baskets and teacher "experience" gifts, and we are open to other ideas on how to make the auction most successful. Hailey thinks it is a good idea to keep this fundraiser, as it brings in a lot of money. Since we have seen some new teacher requests for purchasing items already, the income from this fundraiser may be important.
 - Pizza box night – The status of a pizza box fundraiser is also TBD. We are thinking about trying out this fundraiser with Pizza Ranch in North Liberty.
- d. Fundraising- How we doin' Matt?
- Matt is working with Lepic and Kwik Star on donation. Has received donations for the Homecoming parade. Thinks we're good with sponsors for events through Fallin Into Fun.
 - Garner Green direct ask Fundraiser. We discussed how we need to come up with non-food incentives for the winning classes.
 - Ms. Nelson suggested something like the glow stick party we've done in the past. Hailey notes that the implementation of something like the glow stick party can be difficult without asking for too much from the teachers.
 - Ana proposed something like an art project that winners could display at Fallin into Fun. It was determined that the timing won't work with the event schedule.

- Ms. Nelson suggested painting mini pumpkins as a reward. We wondered if we could get these donated from a local business (Colony Acres?).
 - We discussed that due to varied class sizes, we want to be conscious of how we can make this a fair competition. Can we use the average dollar amount collected per student? It was also determined that if we combined PreK and Kindergarten, the classes would be fairly similar in size.
 - Ms. Nelson asked if we would be doing the coin drive fundraiser again this year. The coin drive is planned for the spring. This money is planned to be used to maintain the PBIS system.
7. PTO Board Offices open for this school year
- a. There are openings for Communications coordinator, Volunteer coordinator, and Co-fundraising coordinator. Please let us know if you are interested in any of these positions.
8. Questions/Concerns/Additional orders of business?
- None
9. Meet Principal Dyer- Q/A **(15 min)**
- Mr. Dyer wonders what we would like to hear from him at future meetings?
 - Kayla would be interested to hear about any new initiatives at school, and needs the school has or ways PTO can help.
 - Anna would be interested in hearing about ways or opportunities to volunteer in the school. She knows about recess supervision, lunchroom supervision, and hearing/vision screening. Ms. Nelson shared about opportunities for laminating, etc for teachers, as well as sharing about or teaching a class about something you are knowledgeable about (could be a career, as one example). She suggests reaching out to classroom teacher to discuss these opportunities.
 - Brooke shared that she would like to know farther in advance about field trips in order to plan for chaperoning opportunities.
 - Mr. Dyer mentioned an idea of Garner having a "back to school night" for families to have the opportunity to see the school. Mentioned that they could tie this to the previous literacy night that was held.
 - Mr. Dyer talked about possibly showing us the new PBIS app/system at a future PTO meeting.
 - Mr. Dyer was asked if there will be clubs at Garner this year? PTO has traditionally provided stipends for some clubs, so we wondered if that was a need again this year.

- Mr. Dyer said the following clubs are planned or tentative: Orff percussion club with Mr. Kelley, Girls on the Run, Let Me Run (needs someone to take it on), and writing club wants to start back up
- Should PTO keep a budget for stipends for teachers who run clubs? Mr. Dyer hasn't been approached by anyone looking to start a club that would need a stipend, so this may not be needed in the budget.
- We discussed a potential opportunity for parent volunteers to lead clubs, but noted that the logistics could be tricky regarding supervision, etc.
- We discussed that Garner previously had a Lego club. Noted that PTO has a stash of Lego in the PTO shed, so rather than a Lego club, perhaps we could hold a one-time Lego building night?
- Mr. Dyer was asked how many students are at Garner this year. 348
- Anna asked what Garner is doing with the open rooms due to the 6th grade move to middle school? Mr. Dyer said that one 5th grade room will be kept as a science room space, teachers that had just office space previously have a classroom now, and extra support teachers can use an open room as needed.

10. Mingle!

Action Items

1. The next PTO meeting will be Monday, September 23, 2024 at 6:30pm. Will be held in the Garner library.

Next Meeting Agenda Items

1. Mr. Dyer to demonstrate/share the PBIS app