

PTA minutes  
Howe Elementary School Auditorium  
January 8, 2025  
Google Meet virtual meeting concurrent

Present: Emily Balestreire, Roxana Colaiaco, Aimee Danley, Liz Longo, Jordan Backstrom, Jess Robertson, Jennie Rahimzadeh, Jess Spitznagel, Jen Webler, Amy Grella  
Virtual: Cassandra Glevicky, Kalie Tomiczek, Amy Zierath, Janet Slagel

Called to order 6:08 pm

Emily read the president's report in Greg's absence, asked people to join the District Focus Group. More information can be found in the district emails.

### Old Business

#### **No Treasurer's Update**

#### **Howes About a Gift:**

Jen Webler shares it was a wild success and made \$400 from vendor items and over \$2,600 from handmade items. There are leftover handmade gifts that will be stored for next year.

#### **Spirit Wear:**

Jennie Rahimzadeh shares that less than \$1,000 was made by the sale, falling short of our goal. She recommends changing the timing of the order – making plans to have it ready for 2025 Sunny Funny Fair. Will order more items to sell at Bingo Night and also sell leftover stickers. Has plans to bring back the This is Howe We Do It design, and will incorporate that into a tote bag to sell at Bingo and other future PTA events.

### New Business

- Emily Balestreire requests funds not to exceed \$400 to purchase two Sidewalk Boards for use out front of school. APPROVED

- Liz Longo requests funds not to exceed \$200 to purchase a new classroom carpet for Mrs Matthis. APPROVED

- Roxana Colaiaco requests funding no to exceed \$125 to purchase medals and a celebratory breakfast for participants in Reflections. APPROVED

#### **International Night:**

Roxana Colaiaco introduces International Night, a potluck family event for the Howe Community to happen in late spring.

#### **Standing Rules Subcommittee**

A new subcommittee will need to be formed to review and update existing Howe PTA Standing Rules. Greg Engle and Liz Longo will lead. Amy Grella and Jordan Backstrom volunteer to join.

### Committee Reports

### **Lunch Clubs**

Report given by Cassondra Glevicky. Signups for session 2 will go live at 6pm on Feb 11. Session will begin February 24. It is suggested that a “catalog” of available clubs be shared prior to signups for family information.

### **Spelling Bee**

Report from Sally Berry Pratt read by Emily Balestreire. Requesting assistance with signup forms and teacher contact information. The Bee is scheduled for Jan 22 and 23 with a final on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **Bingo Night**

Report shared by Emily Balestreire. Family Bingo Night is February 28 and will tie in with Readathon. The event will be free for the Howe community. Families can RSVP and preorder pizza. Will have free popcorn and sell other snacks. Prizes will be books and coupons for the Scholastic Book Fair. There will also be raffles. Will need bingo callers and volunteers.

### **STEAM Fair**

Report shared by Jess Robertson. Fair is March 27, working on getting a sensory friendly room set up.

### **Talent Show**

Report given by Janet Slagel. Signups start the week of Jan 13. Will need parent volunteers. Will be held at Mellon on Feb 21.

### **Fifth Grade Committee**

Report from Marissa Johnston read by Emily Balestreire. Primantis dinner fundraiser made \$103. Save the date for Pitaland dinner on January 21. Working on a community service project at an animal shelter with a presentation to the class from staff and a corresponding supply drive.

### **Read-A-Thon**

Report given by Jen Webler. Will use same fundraising platform as last year.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 by Emily Balestreire.