

Independence PTO Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 10, 2025

Attendance: Kaye Fischer, Courtney Rinkenberger, Emily Gerde, Lora Stebleton, Anna Wischer, Maria Edelman, Lisa Kullo, William Wischer, Sergio d'Alessandro, Danielle Trowbridge, Alyssa Erickson, Amanda Johnson

Meeting was called to order by Courtney Rinkenberger at 7:00pm.

Motion to approve January meeting minutes Anna W.; Emily G. seconded.

Meeting Timeline

Introductions

Cari-Ann Nostrum from WF Voice Committee

- Spoke about upcoming Bond Referendum
- Voting takes place Monday, Feb. 17th

Kaye Fischer - Principal

- Kindness week is this week! Fun dress up days linked with a kind gesture
- Monthly assemblies are still going over well
- No school Monday Feb. 17th. Day to be at home with families - no school work
- Yearbook covers
 - Need to reach out to the Art Teacher
 - Voting typically takes place March/April so we need to get going on that
- March conferences are coming up, which means we are $\frac{2}{3}$ through the school year already!
- Dismissal Procedures - Extreme Weather and regular
 - continually trying to finesse the procedure
 - finally starting to feel smooth
 - open to any suggestions
- STAR test scores should be going out to parents soon

Lora Stebleton - President

- Currently working with Mrs. Bloom/Acapulco for our March 13th Bingo night
- Move the Time of Bingo to 6:30p - 7:30p
 - No pizza this time, just candy concessions

Courtney Rinkenberger - Vice President

- PTO Survey Results are in
 - only 11 people took the survey
 - Most who filled out the form said they were interested in attending a meeting
 - Schedules seem to be the biggest factor keeping people away
 - Most who filled out the form said they also attend the school events
 - Most popular suggestion of how to get more people to attend was going virtual
 - Aiming towards trying a virtual meeting in April.
 - Contemplating doing a physical meeting at the same time. Basically streaming the meeting for those that want to attend virtually can join
 - A lot of parents who filled out said they would most be interested in helping with the End of the Year Event

Anna Wischer - Treasurer

- Ski Trip money has been taken out except for bus fare
- Game One contact has set up our apparel store

- 24/7 online store selling everything from shirts to hats with our logo
- Parents can choose colors and styles and order whenever they want, not just at the start or end of the year
- 10% kickback goes to PTO; no fees for us
- Skate City check came in, still waiting on SkyZone

Emily Gerde - Secretary

- Dine to Donate with Slim Chickens has been confirmed for Tuesday, April 8th from 5p-7p
 - 50% kickback to PTO
- New ideas from another school PTO friend
 - Walk a Thon being an afterschool event (5p-7p) vs during specials
 - Less chaotic for teachers and students
 - More families can attend because it's after work hours
 - Offering Hot Dog/Burger Baskets instead of pizza
 - Kids can draw on the sidewalk with chalk the week leading up to Walk a Thon for a fun run!
 - Dunk Tank Fundraising
 - Charging for Dunk tank throws
 - \$5 for 5 throws or \$20 to go right up and push the button
 - Teacher Volunteers for dunk tank and a week or two prior to event set up a little fundraising/voting station in the office for kids to vote via money for the teacher to be dunked
 - Less is more for events
 - Concentrating on the main event rather than bringing too much more in.
 - Reduces the need for volunteers as well as organization and cost
 - Eliminating Pizza for dinner at events and sticking to concession candy for purchase
 - What doesn't sell can be stored for the next event instead of going to waste
 - Prizes
 - Changing the way we do Walk a thon prizes to simplify
 - Different prize ideas
 - Sonic Slushies
 - Sandy's Donuts for the Class
 - Principle for the Day

New Business

- Funds Request
 - Kindergarten Teachers
 - Request \$175 for Planting Seeds activity across all classes
 - Pots, dirt, and seeds
 - Motion to approve up to \$200 by Lora S./Courtney R. seconded. **MOTION PASSED.**
 - Teachers still need to fill out form and hand in for reimbursement
- Kindergarten Spotlight
 - Looking forward to T3
 - Science will be focusing on plants
 - Kids will get to plant a seed and take of of it; bringing it home at the end of the year
 - Mother's Day pots
- Skate Night and Lunde Dine to Donate set for February 25, 2025
- Conference Meals for March
 - NO Mexican requested
 - Grab and Go/Sandwiches seem to be best

Popcorn Party Drawing:

- Amanda Johnson - Mrs. Chaput's 1st Grade Class
- Owen Gerde - Mrs. Trowbridge Kindergarten Class

Adjourned at 7:53 pm.

Motion to adjourn by Emily Gerde; Courtney Rinkenberger seconded

