

Independence PTO Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 4, 2024

Attendance: Kaye Fischer, Courtney Rinkenberger, Emily Gerde, Lora Stebleton, Anna Wischer, and Jill Glienke

Meeting was called to order by Lora Stebleton at 7:02pm.

Motion to approve October meeting minutes Lora S.; Courtney R. seconded.

Meeting Timeline

Lora Stebleton - President

- Pizza party and popcorn party was the same day; Oct. 11
 - Day felt overwhelming; too many parties going on in the same day. Popcorn was being popped for 4 hours
 - For future, look into going back to large bowls for popcorn for each classroom. Teachers will dish out to students from there.
- Dip 'n' Dots party was on Oct. 16
 - Got a bit chaotic and cumbersome
 - A poll of flavors was taken beforehand, but somehow numbers got off and not all kids got the flavor they requested.
 - Look into just ordering all one flavor for the future
 - Cost seemed higher? We spent about \$1000 for Dip 'n' Dots @ \$1.75 each. Discussed whether it was worth it or not.
 - Kids seemed to love it and were excited. Maybe we look into ice cream bars for future?
- Messages regarding PTO events don't seem to be sent out from all teachers to remind families
 - Text messages from Kaye seem the best way to get the messages out, so we want to keep doing that
- Conference Meal Review
 - LOTS of Mexican Village leftovers
 - Mexican Village seemed a little harder to eat
 - Sandwiches and chips seems to be favored; faster and easier to grab and go
 - Lora is working on a spreadsheet to keep track of all previous orders for the years and how things go for future references
- Thanks to Caitlin, the little bone stickers on the Leader of the Pack magnets worked!
 - Motion to approve a \$25 Gift Card for Caitlin to thank her for her time and materials by Courtney R.; Anna W. seconded. **MOTION PASSED**
- PTO Meeting Minutes updated to site - Kaye will speak to Jennifer

Courtney Rinkenberger - Vice President

- Family Dance night was a HUGE success.
 - Well over 100 people
 - All candy was sold and most of the pizza. 5 boxes of cheese left
 - At least one teacher per grade was there
 - Glow items were sold out
 - Ran out of hair dye
 - For the future...
 - More one dollar bills
 - More water
 - Separate into two concession stands; One of just food and water and the other the glow items and candy.
 - Add Pirates Booty?
 - Photobooth was expensive; about \$1 per photo. Perhaps we do more of a selfie wall/area with props for parents to just use their phones to take photos instead. It may relieve an area where we need a volunteer and be cheaper?

- Remove Cake Walk? Again, relieve the need for more volunteers and the station seemed a little chaotic
- Change time to 6:00p-7:30p
- Reach out to more groups for volunteers
 - WF Dance Team Coach
 - 5th graders possibly be required to help volunteer since a lot of the money raised goes towards their end of year ski trip

Anna Wischer - Treasurer

- Budget has been set
 - Made some tweaks to different categories to lower some of the numbers and give us a bigger start
 - Motion to approve the budget by Courtney R.; Emily G. seconded. **MOTION PASSED**
- PTO has put out a request that class field trips should be more educational as we've lowered funds. For example, no Sky Zone

Kaye Fischer - Principal

- Student Council would like to partner with PTO for Turkey Bingo
 - Food Pantry and possible add Snack Donations
 - Student Council can pack the bags for the families
 - Separate Snack Drive?
- Few years ago 3rd Graders did a Food Drive the week up to Turkey Bingo. We added the donations of those to donations from Bingo Night. Talked about doing that again this year?
 - Teachers can provide kids that bring in early donations special coupons to bring to Turkey Bingo so they don't have to donate twice.
 - This will hopefully raise the amount we receive as those that can't or don't attend Turkey Bingo will still have a chance to donate to our school families in need.
- Concessions
 - The usual pizza, candy, chips, and water
- Turkeys and Pumpkin Pies for the winners
- Gift Card prizes as well
 - Previous year was Scheels. Talked about doing Hornbachers instead?
- List of recommended food donations on flyer
- Make sure to push that parents/families need to bring CASH for Bingo Dabbers and concessions
- Lora will reach out to NHS volunteers a little sooner as it seemed the last event the signup sheet didn't get out to everyone?
 - Dance team
 - NDSU Girls Basketball Team
- Doors open @ 6:00p and Bingo starts @ 6:30p
- Keep it to 1 turkey per family even if they have multiple winners

Emily Gerde - Secretary

- Nothing to report

New Business

- Funds Request
 - Mrs. Glienke
 - Mr. Sketch Markers (Mrs. Glienke only)
 - Boxcar Children Books - Set of Six (Mrs. Glienke only)
 - Eyeglass Wipes (Mrs. Glienke only)
 - Mother's/Father's Day gift supplies (all 3rd grade classrooms)
 - Personalized photo coasters
 - Coasters, Modge Podge, Brushes, backing
 - Pop Bottle People (all 3rd grade classrooms)
 - Project where kids make a historic person out of pop bottle
 - Googly eyes and foam balls
 - Mini Clip Boards (all 3rd grade classrooms)
 - 20 boards for schedules, tasks, etc
 - Motion to approve up to \$100 for Mrs. Glienke personal classroom requests by Lora S.; Anna W. seconded. **MOTION PASSED**

- Motion to approve up to \$275 for 3rd Grade Room supplies request by Lora S; Anna W. seconded. **MOTION PASSED**
- Third Grade Teachers Spotlight and presentation (only Mrs. Glienke present)
 - New reading/writing program - 95 Phonics
 - Individual workbooks focusing on listening, morphology, word parts, etc.
 - Every child is in this for 30 minutes despite other programs
 - Working on personal narrative
 - writing, edit, and tagging
 - Move onto to Compare and Contrast next
 - Math
 - Multiplication working through lots of different strategies
 - Economy
 - Market Day coming up before Thanksgiving
 - Focuses on community, supply/demand, responsibility
- Spring Events
 - Jan - SkyZone
 - Feb - Skating at "The Lights"
 - Meadowlark join?
 - March - Spring Bingo Night
 - April - Skate City
 - May - End of Year party
- Cards have been ordered for 1st Grade teachers and Kindergarten
- Email request from 1st Grade teachers was for:
 - 6 learning stools (\$389.28)
 - 2 sets of Stadium Chairs (\$240)
 - Total of \$629.28
 - Each grade has about \$1000 budgeted for supplies, so this would be the fund for 1st grade.
 - Motion to approve up to \$700 for stools and chairs by Courtney R.; Anna W. seconded. **MOTION PASSED**

Popcorn Party Drawing:

- Aubrey Rinkenberger - Miss Heise 3rd Grade class
- Owen Gerde - Mrs. Trowbridge Kindergarten class
- Kensington Wischer - Mrs. Urbach 1st Grade class
- Eva Stebleton - Mrs. Reinking 5th Grade class

Adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Motion to adjourn by Kaye Fischer; Anna Wischer seconded

ECG