

PTO Meeting Minutes

April 16, 2025

Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm by Stacie Brown.

Rosa Lopez-Washington motioned and Aimee Briggs seconded, to approve the meeting minutes from the March meeting.

Attendance

Stacie Brown: President	Suha Dimon: Art Awareness Co-Chair
Aimee Briggs: Vice President - ES	Monica Trent: Yearbook Chair (ES)
Elisabeth Reigle: Vice President - IS	Catherine Glidden: Membership Toolkit Chair
Rosa Lopez-Washington: Vice President - MS	Caitlin Kramer: Special Days
Yoon Chung: Vice President - Lincoln	Guests:
Latoya Conners Gray: Parent Liaison	Nilam Patel
Katie Taylor-Couturiaux: Communications	Michael Briggs
Jennifer Knop: Secretary & Interim Treasurer	Aileen Veldhuizen
Dana Gallup: ES Teacher Representative	Veronika Weppler
Amanda Monico: MS Teacher Representative	Michelle Denton
Gina Ney: MS Teacher Representative	Jill Maksymec
Trisha Kocanda; Superintendent	Danielle Coug
Stefan Ladenburger; IS Principal	

Reports:

President's Report:

Stacie Brown reported. Excited to report that for the first time in eight years, we have an actual election tonight for PTO positions. Thank you to all those that have and will volunteer. Teacher Appreciation Week, we are finalizing food and surprises for teachers. Back to School Night is scheduled for Friday, August 22. Currently working on finalizing the date for a Volunteer Thank You event at Barefoot Bay. March Madness update - we were going to use funds for inflatables for Field Day; however the Intermediate School Student Council will cover both schools' field day inflatables. Instead, the proceeds will be going to a teacher that recently lost everything in a house fire. Last meeting of the year is May 13 at 6:00 pm. Location tbd.

Vice Presidents' Reports:

Lincoln School: Yoon Chung reported. Just had a Parent Involvement at the Fremont Library that included a story time and scavenger hunt. This event was well-attended and a lot of fun. It was really nice to meet other parents.

Elementary School: Aimee Briggs reported. Bingo Night flyers went home today. Please register if you plan to attend. We have lots of teachers signed up to help.

Intermediate School: Elisabeth Reigle reported. We are in the second week of sales for School Supply Kits. So far we are on track with previous years.

Middle School: No report.

Treasurer's Report: Jen Knop reported. Overall, the PTO is in good shape.

Mundelein Comm. Checking Balance as of 3/31/25	16,103.25
Mundelein Comm. Savings Balance as of 3/31/25	36,085.98
Republic Bank Checking Balance as of 3/31/25	19,341.92
Republic Bank Money Market Balance as of 3/31/25	14,815.89
Less: Committed Funds	55,292.74
Uncommitted Funds as of 3/31/25	31,054.30
Balance available for 2024/2025:	31,054.30

Parent Liaison - Latoya Conners Gray reported. Parent/guardian/son night will be May 10, from 4-6 pm. There is a limit of 120 people. Event includes one hour of bowling and one hour of arcade play with food. Latoya officially resigns from PTO tonight as she is now a member of the school board.

Communications - No report.

Principal's Report: Stefan Ladenburger reported.

Lincoln: Our last preschool screening was April 11th. There is a parent coffee on May 2 for parents of children entering kindergarten.

ES: Zumba and Multicultural events were fun. Kindergarten Sings went very well and families loved seeing them perform! Book Fair is next week.

IS: On April 17, fifth graders will learn about the related studies options that are offered in middle school. In May, fifth graders will get a tour of the middle school and will take home their locks for the summer.

Student Focus groups were held discussing PAWs assemblies and committee, Jr. Hope Squad, and many other topics. Overall, third graders were clear that they want more opportunities to be involved.

Fourth grade classrooms will be going to The Grove for a field trip. Fifth graders will be going to a Chicago Dogs game May 13 and will then have a picnic on May 27.

MS: Thank you for supporting the MS Musical! Sixth graders will be going bowling on May 29. Seventh graders that are not going to Springfield will go to the Civil War Museum in Kenosha. All seventh graders will be going to the Boomers game to support the band and choir. Eighth graders will be going to Brookfield Zoo. The 8th grade dance will be May 21 from 6-8 pm. And the graduation ceremony plans are underway. Graduation will be held at CLC on May 28 at 6:30 pm.

District and School Board Report:

The next School Board meeting is Monday, April 21. Honoring the wrestlers that made it to State, as well as Maria Simoncelli, who is stepping down from the school board. This will be a transitional meeting for new board members. There will also be a presentation on Ivanhoe Village and additional items.

Trisha Kocanda reported for the District. Future Quest is an opportunity for middle school students to visit the Tech Campus at CLC. About 75 students attended this year. The Middle School Musical was impressive. The Kindergarten Sing was a success. Multicultural night was well attended.

Ivanhoe Village update. Thank you for all the support of the PTO, parents, and community. There is movement, and it all helps. Consultants are working on data analysis now. We are also working with our legislators and they're motivated to represent our community. In May, they expect to approve the Village payment. We are continuing to get media attention and community support. April 28 is the next board meeting for the Village of Mundelein, and the last meeting with the current mayor. May 12 is the swearing in for the new mayor of Mundelein.

Teacher Reports:

MS: Gina Ney reported. Musical was fantastic. Make sure you go next year.

IS: Edie Buehring reported via email. We are looking forward to the upcoming book fair and BINGO night.

ES: no report.

Committee Reports:

Art Awareness – Suha Dimon reported. Everything is good. Closets are fully stocked and parents are signing up and completing projects.

Birthday Board – Christie Johnson reported via email. Everything is good.

Book Fairs – Kristina Tiritilli reported via email. Book Fair is looking for volunteers. We will share her link on Facebook.

Fundraising – Rosa Lopez-Washington reported. Thank you for showing up at City BBQ last week. We raised \$114.21. Next dine and share night will be May 14 at California Pizza Kitchen in Deer Park. Would like to send out a survey for next year to get community feedback on restaurants to use next year. We want to support more local establishments, if possible. Will also plan a night at Culvers at the end of May or beginning of June.

Hospitality – Stacie Brown reported. Teacher Appreciation Week is coming. For the teacher luncheon we will be switching to Julio's Tacos this year.

Membership Toolkit – No report.

Picture Day/Yearbook – Monica Trent reported. In the final crunch for this year. Yearbook goes to print next week and should be delivered around May 16.

Room Parents - No report.

Special Days/8th Grade Dance – Liz McNelly reported via email. Pizza and DJ have been secured. Photos are coming in. The theme this year is Shine.

Caitlin Kramer reported. Back to School night DJ is already booked for August. Looking for suggestions for food trucks/vendors that might be available. Suggestions made: Bry the Fry Guy, Julio's Tacos, Woodfire Pizza, Taquito place from last year, Cheesies truck (grilled cheese variations), Teacher truck again.

Field Days – Latoya Conners Gray reported. Excited about the bouncy houses. May 30th will need a parent lead for the entire block of time for the IS school 8:45 - 1:00. Aimee Briggs and Suha Dimon will volunteer.

Spirit Wear - Melissa Duitsman reported via email. During the Spring sale, we purchased smaller sized (XS-SM) Wildcat gear for incoming Kindergarteners that we will sell during the Kindergarten Registration Night on May 15th from 4:30-8:00. There will be green and pink t-shirts with a basic Wildcat design, as well as hoodies. We had a lot of success selling spirit wear last year during this event (Thank you to Stacie and Elisabeth!!). Please help us spread the word! Any spirit wear not sold at this event will be available for purchase throughout the summer and at Back to School Night.

Multicultural Fair - Jen Knop reported. This was a fun evening that was well-attended. Many teachers were on hand to interact with the families that showcased a variety of foods and drinks from various countries.

Old Business: none.

New Business:

A. Funding requests

1. \$1450 requested by Lisa Schippel for browsing bins and vinyl bags. Book bundles use existing books in the library to create bundles with a theme or topic. Books on a topic would include non fiction, fiction, picture books or biographies. Book bundles would need to be displayed in browsing bins. I would need heavy duty vinyl bags. The bins range in price from \$300 - \$700, depending on the quantity of bins. Motion to approve made by Rosa Lopez-Washington. Seconded by Elisabeth Reigle. Motion passed.
2. \$3000 requested by Lisa Schippel for library of things. Activity bags for students to check out in the library. Bags would be based on a theme, topic or subject. All bags would include an activity and all bags would include books. Motion to approve made by Elisabeth Reigle. Seconded by Rosa Lopez-Washington. Motion passed. [Note: may consider using Scholastic Dollars for the book purchases]

B. Elections

All Fremont PTO members in good standing for at least 30 days are eligible to vote but must be present at the Election Meeting to cast their vote. Ballots will be handed out and collected anonymously.

General meeting Adjourned while ballots are counted at 7:05 pm. Elisabeth Reigle motioned and Rosa Lopez-Washington seconded.

Reconvention and Announcement for those still present on the results for the 2025-2026 Executive Board

President: Catherine Gliddan

Vice President of Elementary School: Katie Taylor-Couturiaux

Vice President of Intermediate School: Elisabeth Reigle

Treasurer: Danielle Coughlin

Secretary: Jen Knop

Positions not voted on:

Vice President of Middle School: Rosa Lopez-Washington

Vice President of Lincoln: Yoon Chung

Adjournment: 7:20 p.m. Motion made to adjourn meeting by Yoon Chung, seconded by Rosa Lopez-Washington.

PTO minutes submitted by: Jen Knop