

PTO Meeting Minutes

August 20, 2025

Meeting called to order at 6:07 pm by Catherin Glidden.

Elisabeth Reigle motioned and Yoon Chung seconded, to approve the meeting minutes from the May meeting.

Attendance

Catherine Glidden: President	Latoya Conners Gray: School Board
Elisabeth Reigle: Vice President - IS	Stacie Brown: Special Events Chair
Katie Taylor-Couturiaux: Vice President - ES	April Huckstadt: Membership Toolkit
Yoon Chung: Vice President - Preschool	Caitlin Kramer: Back to School Bash Chair
Jennifer Knop: Secretary	Guests:
Danielle Coughlin: Treasurer	Kara Sniegowski
Lindsey Maslov: IS Teacher Representative	Maria Todd
Amanda Monico: MS Teacher Representative	Ha Pham
Trisha Kocanda: Superintendent	Courtney Billittier
Stefan Ladenburger: IS Principal	

Reports:

President's Report: Stacie Brown reported. Transitioning the role slowly but surely over to Catherine.

The volunteer sign up form has been distributed for room parents and committee positions. We will be creating a "Favorite Things" form shortly for the Specials teachers, and will be including bus drivers this year. The staff membership registration form will be coming soon.

Vice Presidents' Reports:

Lincoln School: Yoon Chung reported. Tomorrow is the Meet and Greet/Supply Drop Off and Practice Bus Ride for Lincoln; the first day will be Friday.

Elementary School: No report.

Intermediate School: Elisabeth Reigle reported. The teacher luncheon went super smooth this year.

Middle School: No report.

Treasurer's Report: Jen Knop reported. Next month Danielle will be providing this update. We are still transitioning over the role and training on some of the tasks. While it looks like we are in a deficit, that is only because the school year has just started and membership/registration income has not come in yet.

Mundelein Comm. Checking Balance as of 7/31/25	10,277.09
Mundelein Comm. Savings Balance as of 7/31/25	26,101.07
Republic Bank Checking Balance as of 7/31/25	19,253.92
Republic Bank Money Market Balance as of 7/31/25	14,973.20
Less: Committed Funds	73,037.66
Uncommitted Funds as of 7/31/25	(2,432.38)
Balance available for 2025/2026:	(2,432.38)

Principal's Report: Stefan Ladenburger reported. New this year, all schools will have the option of using an online absence form. You are still able to call in if you'd prefer. Thank you for the staff luncheon - it was fabulous.

- **Lincoln:** Meet and Greet will be Aug 21 at 9:00 for AM families and 1:15 for PM families. Curriculum night will be Sept 18 from 6:30-7:30.
- **Elementary School:** Curriculum Night will be August 26 from 6:15-7:45. MAP testing will be held Sept 8 and 9.
- **Intermediate School:** Curriculum Night will be Sept 4 from 6:30-7:30. MAP testing will be held Sept 8 and 9.
- **Middle School:** Curriculum Night will be Aug 28 from 6:30-8:00. There will be optional family meetings to learn about trips to Washington DC (8th grade) and Springfield (7th grade) at 6:00. MAP testing will be Sept 4 and 5. Thank you for your support of the first-ever 6th Grade and New Student Launch event. We had well over 200 students and their families attend each session. Parents and their students had a great time learning about the school through a scavenger hunt, and will be awarded the PTO prizes.

District and School Board Report:

Latoya Conners Gray reported. Welcome to everyone, the school year is off to a great start. New student orientation was fantastic. She will be sharing the board liaison role with Aga Macoch moving forward. The 2026 Budget is healthy and has been approved. We are working on planning several health and safety projects - parking lots, HVAC, and building enhancements. The Mundelein Village Board meeting will be August 25. So that Fremont Board members are able to attend that meeting, the Fremont School Board meeting has been moved this month to August 27. Everyone is welcome to attend both meetings.

Trisha Kocanda reported. Great run up to the year. The weather was perfect today. Opening day was fabulous and thanks for cheering on the staff as they entered. This year's theme is "Everyone Matters".

Excited to announce that we are fully staffed across the board, even bus drivers (at the moment). Advertising in early July for vacancies received a ton of response. The cellphone "Away for the Day" initiative will continue

this year. We are also focusing on Attendance this year. Students that are here 95% of the time have significantly better performance. So we want to encourage all students to have better attendance.

Our calendar will likely be changing for the next two years as 80% of our graduates go to Mundelein High School. Due to construction at MHS, they will be starting after Labor Day. District 75 has decided to align their calendars with the high school. Fremont will be asking for parent feedback on more closely aligning to this different schedule, and will be working to get the calendar done earlier this year so that parents are able to better plan. The current thought is that Fremont would potentially match the high school's school year end date, but would only start one week later than this year (not after Labor Day). However, Fremont's plans are not yet final.

Ivanhoe Village update: Mundelein's new mayor is not showing any signs of changing or revisiting the impact fees. We are asking for the developer to cover our fees despite the new legislation that has been passed. There is a new development in McHenry of only 3,600 homes, and they negotiated for the developer to pay for a new school. We will attend the Village meeting on Monday, and the School Board is also sending a letter to the Village.

Teacher Reports:

IS: Lindsey Maslov reported. Thank you for the amazing PTO lunch!

MS: Amanda Monico reported. Thank you for the Sixth Grade & New Student Launch event. The scavenger hunt was really fun and helped to involve students and parents in learning their way around the school.

ES: No report.

Committee Reports:

Art Awareness – Yoon Chung reported. We are working on creating new projects - and next week we will work on doing a supply inventory at both schools.

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

Book Fairs – Stacie Brown reported. The Fall Dates for the K-5 Book Fair will be November 14-24, 2025. This will include the Friday of the Reading Rally and the Monday of Parent/Teacher Conferences. The location will be changing to the Intermediate School library.

Communications - Katie Taylor-Couturiaux reported. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram. There will likely be some changes coming for newsletters. She is working on loading all the event dates for the school year into our socials. We are looking to create a newsletter that goes out on the opposite weeks of District emails that is solely for PTO information.

Fundraising – Elisabeth Reigle reported. The Mums fundraiser will start next Friday. School Supply Kits raised about \$1500 this year.

Rosa Lopez-Washington reported via email. Our first dine n share restaurant fundraiser will be Portillo's in Vernon Hills next Thursday.

Hospitality – Stacie Brown reported. The Teacher Luncheon went great.

Membership Toolkit – Catherine Glidden reported. We had lots of families sign up during Supply Drop Off and at Kindergarten Kick Off. To make it easier to verify previous payment, we had a printout of everyone that had paid during the registration process. The total onboarding process was much more streamlined this year. We will also be looking to work with the teachers to push out the membership registration information, and are considering some sort of contest.

Picture Day and Yearbook - Monica Trent reported via email. Picture Day is Wednesday, September 10 for all four schools. Yearbooks are available for purchase at the discounted rate through Halloween. There is a sign-up for Picture Day volunteering.

Room Parents - Elisabeth Reigle reported. The sign-up went live this morning.

Special Events – Caitlin Kramer reported. Back to School Bash is ready to go for Friday. Lots of vendors and food/dessert trucks. There will be a DJ as well as Popsicles with the Principals. The PTO is trying something new with offering hot dog kid's meals. All participating vendors will be donating 10-20% back to the PTO. The event will run 5:30-7:30 pm.

Field Days – No report.

Spirit Wear - Stacie Brown reported. The sale will run from August 22 to Friday, September 5. Link will go live this Friday in the Principals' emails.

Old Business: none.

New Business:

Open Positions - We currently have two open chair positions for this year - Laminating and Parent Liaison. Full descriptions can be found on the volunteer form.

Adjournment: 6:52 p.m. Motion made to adjourn meeting by Stacie Brown, seconded by Elisabeth Reigle.

PTO minutes submitted by: Jen Knop