

November 2025 PTA Meeting Minutes

I. **Principal's Update**

- a. Staffing:
 - i. Added another special ed assistant (SEA) working in setting 3 classroom. Have one staff person out on leave.
 - ii. 0.5 special ed teacher added- Leah Strickland, will start after Thanksgiving break.
- b. Please make sure you are receiving Friday (or last day of the school week) email.
- c. Students go outside for recess as much as possible. Send winter clothes and label them! Use mitten clips. Check Rec Center lost and found too.
- d. Considering traveling safari or petting zoo. Or both.
- e. Mitten/glove and hat donations accepted.

II. **Minneapolis Parks Update**

- a. Boo Nited was a huge success! Over 125 attendees. Community soccer event.
- b. Columbia Park Neighborhood Association food drive for SACA Saturday Nov. 22 10a-12p HiView Park. Looking for donations of food and/or money.
- c. Winter sports registration open for youth teams, closes Dec. 1.
- d. Nov 29 and 30 10-4 Nicollet Island fall market event
- e. Winter Spring preschool program available at Waite Park Rec Center.

III. **Waite Park Community Council**

- a. Waite Park Community Council is neighborhood council for Waite Park. Nonprofit, nonpartisan, civic engagement, serves the community. Close ties to schools. Last Thursday of the month meetings are open to all.

IV. **Treasurer's Update**

- a. Grants: \$1,044 paid out. Still have a lot more.
- b. Flu shot clinic: Scholastic Book Fair \$1,433 raised for school
- c. Bake sale \$1,412 raised for SACA
- d. Staff appreciation: \$410 this month, \$672 total spent so far.
- e. Plan to brighten up the front of the school garden area around the sign with landscaping.

V. **PTA Updates and Events**

- a. Service night coming up Dec. 4: Game night, hot chocolate, food drive, 5:30-6:30p. Request for popcorn. NEMS parent Q&A for fifth grade parents (or whoever).
- b. The Glow Run is our big, only fundraiser. It is March 17-26 (run on the 26th). We will tell you more next time. Right before spring break. SAVE THE DATE March 26!

VI. **Care giver reps and volunteer pool:**

- a. Contact Abi to join the pool or the reps. You can email the PTA email.
- b. Easy and nice way to be connected to the school.
- c. Grant pool dollars are available, and caregiver volunteers can assist teachers in requesting funds.

VII. Q & A

- a. Buses need to park in designated spots for Hayes crossing.
- b. Traffic calming group forming, discussing, in partnership with Pillsbury. Need leadership and participation.
- c. Remote working caregiver strategic placement idea shared. Recess volunteering also possibility for caregiver involvement.