Fort Zeller Elementary School PTO
March Meeting Minutes
Wednesday March 4th, 2026 @ 6:30PM

In Attendance: Kirsten Wenger, Anna Shanaman, Haley Wanner, Jessica Bankus, Mrs. Houck, Lindsay Hoffman, Bethany Snyder, Callie Salem, Lydia Eberly, Trisha Rabold, Sabrina Tracey, Nicole Longenecker, Becky Rizzo, Lauren Panza

Principal's Report PTO – 3/4/26

1. Thank you for the treats on conference day. Everyone LOVED it!
2. NED Assembly – Thank you!
3. Math/STEM Night – February 24 from 5:00-6:30 pm – Thank you to everyone who came out!
4. Read Across America – March 2-6
5. Kindergarten Parent Night/Orientation – Had a great turnout on March 3
6. March 17 – Two Hour Late Start
7. March 27 – End of 3rd Marking Period
    a. Report cards will go home 4/2/2026 due to recent snow days
8. Committee Meeting for playground will be meeting 3/5/2026 with Jim Frantz, director of maintenance to discuss Kindergarten and 2nd grade playground

<u>R.E.A.C.H. Lessons</u>
This month, Kindergarteners met a Little Spot of Anger. We talked about what can happen when our Anger spot gets too big – it can explode, like a balloon!

1st grade students read the story Extra Yarn by Mac Barnett and talked about compassion!

And our 2nd grade friends read the story Finding Your Spot in the World: A Story About Diversity and talked about the things that make us unique. We played a guessing game to see if we could learn anything new about each other, even after being together all year!

<u>PBIS</u>
February's Character Trait: Honesty
March's Character Trait: Compassion

Our students filled 781 Bee Cards this month (Feb)! Which brings the total for the year so far to 3,645 Bee Cards! They are doing such a great job being Respectful, Responsible, and Ready

Career Day

Career Day is Friday, May 1st. If you would like to volunteer to come in to talk to students about your job, please reach out to Mrs. Brosius! Papers were sent home last week.

Title 1 Report: Mrs. Houck

1. Last week we celebrated Read Across America Week. We recognized five books that won the Theodor Seuss Geisel Award. Some of our second-grade students were recorded reading these books and those videos were played to our classes.

2. Reading Challenge – March – Students are encouraged to read or listen to 20 books and/or chapters in books. If your child fills the entire reading log sheet, they will receive a prize and get their name entered into a raffle to win a free book. The class that reads the most will receive a cupcake party. Reading logs are due Thursday, April 2nd.
3. Book Swap – Students are asked to bring in one gently used book to donate on Friday, March 6th. The book swap will take place on Friday, March 20th.
4. Battle of the Books – The author and also illustrator that we will be celebrating is the dynamic duo Jonath Stutzman and Heather Fox.
5. Mark your calendar- Thursday, April 23rd is our annual Elementary Family Literacy Night. The event will take place at the Middle School from 5:30-7:30. More details to come.

Teacher's Report:

- Nacho bar was greatly appreciated for conferences

Secretary's Report: Jessica Bankus

- Motion for adoption of February meeting minutes
    - Anna Shanaman was first to adopt, Haley Wanner was second to approve

Treasurer's Report: Haley Wanner

- Motion for adoption of the February treasurer's report

    - Jessica Bankus was first to adopt, Lindsay Hoffman was second to approve

Assemblies: Committee Chair, Trisha Rabold

1. We had a great Assembly in February from the NED Yo-yo group.
2. March's assembly is on the 13th, Jim Basketball Jones. The presenter Corey will arrive at 9am, and the presentation will begin at 9:30am.
3. Ag Lab is on April 8,9,10th
    - I will finalize details with them and arrange for the vehicle drop off. We may need $30-$50 to refill the gas for the generator.

Rewards Program: Committee Chair, Kirsten Wenger

- Rewards Program -We earned $9.90 for January boxtops.

Fundraising: Committee Chair, Anna Shanaman

1. Coin Wars – Feb 2nd-Feb 27th
    - Winning Grade was first grade, "snow day" was 3/3/2026 which kids enjoyed
        - 1st grade - $735.52
        - 2nd grade - $697.51
        - Kindergarten - $373.48
        - Total raised = $1,806.51, last year we raised $1,993
2. Perfect Candy Ordering time frame = Feb 25-Mar 10
    - Bags retail for $7, cost to group is $3.15, group makes $3.85 a bag
    - Will pay extra for sorting and delivery
    - Plan to send orders home the week of Mar 23rd
3. Ice cream punch cards? – May timeframe
    - Emailed Twin Kiss, Ice Shack and Pretzel Hut – heard back from Twin Kiss so far, they are open to working with us on a fundraiser. Will wait for others to come back for final decision
    - Will reach out to Chic-Fil-A for dine in day, Dairy Queen or Plum Creek if unable to stay within ELCO district

Book Fair: Committee Chair: Sabrina Tracey

- Delivery window: 3/13/26, 3/16/26 - 3/19/26
- Planning to set up after school on Friday 3/20/2026
- Pickup window: 3/30/26 - 3/31/26, 4/6/26 - 4/8/26 - will need to change dates due to being off for Spring Break
- Preview day 3/23

- Shopping day 3/24
- Open for absent students 3/25 for 1 hour
- Had a phone interview to confirm the order.
- Earn 100 Scholastic dollars by completing 3 of the 4 activities, if we complete all 4 we receive an extra 200 Scholastic Dollars
    a. Host Family Event (which we won't have this time)
    b. Promote E-wallet for teachers
    c. Shop the fair using Scholastic Dollars.
    d. Spend Share the Fair funds.
- Kick off Kit arrived 3/4/2026

Race for Education: Tri-Chairs, Bethany Snyder, Amanda Bashore, Kelly Ulrich
- Scheduled for 10/9/2026 with a rain date of 10/16/2026
- Richland Library will be present to read again this year

Hospitality: Committee Chair, Lydia Eberly
1. February
    - $25.00 gift card was given to Mrs. Brosius for national counselor's week.
    - Nacho bar was during the parent teacher conference on 2/13.

2. Currently working on teacher appreciation week days.
    - Flower Day
    - Luncheon
    - Cinnamon Rolls with Coffee Truck
    - Fox Meadows Ice Cream Bar
    - Will need one last theme
3. Ideas for Admin assistant day in April
    - Notes from teachers and students
    - Making a basket
    - Class cards
4. Paraprofessional day Donuts
    - Count of 15
5. National Principal's Day
    - Gift Card/Basket

Gingerbread Shop: Co-Chairs, Kirsten Wenger & Becky Rizzo
- No new updates

Memory Book: Committee Chair Jazmine Yiengst
- 55 copies have been sold as of 3/2/26.

- Reminder to teachers deadline for pictures is March 16
- Deadline for purchase is 4/6/2026

Fun in the Sun: Committee Chair Erin Horning, Assisting: Lindsey Hoffman

1. Ice Shack Quotes
    - We decided on Five – 3 Gallon tubs of ice.
    - Quote 1: 4 Shack Ice (3-gallon size), 375 spoons, 375 bowls = Total: $292
    - Quote 2: 3 Shack Ice (3-gallon size), 375 spoons, 375 bowls = Total $247
2. Scheduled on 5/8/2026 with a rain date of 5/15/26

Old Business:

- 2nd Grade Gift
    - Poster with pictures and signatures
    - Will need to discuss Scholarship for a Senior with HS Guidance Counselors
        - 1 Male & 1 Female will receive $1,000

New Business:

- Kirsten: Family Event
    - Donuts with Grownups in the Gym before school 8-8:45
        - 2 Adults must pre-register
        - Swiss donations of milk/chocolate milk
        - Buy coffee
        - Dunkin Donuts donations
        - Will work on dates the Gym is available

Next Meeting: April 1st, 2026 at 6:30 in the Fort Zeller Library

Meeting Adjourned at 7:26 pm