

PTO Meeting Minutes

August 19, 2026

Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm by Catherine Glidden.

Elisabeth Reigle motioned and Danielle Coughlin seconded, to approve the meeting minutes from the May meeting.

Attendance

Catherine Glidden: President
Brittany Ricci: Vice President - Lincoln
Elisabeth Reigle: Vice President - IS
Stacie Brown: Vice President - MS
Danielle Coughlin: Treasurer
Jennifer Knop: Secretary
Trisha Kocanda: Superintendent
Aga Macoch: School Board Representative
Courtney Billittier: School Board
Representative
Aimee Briggs: Communications

Lindsey Maslov: IS Teacher Representative
Guests:
Alexis Reichert
Haley Chastain
Kara Snegnowski
Ha Pham
Brynnan Foster
Ellen Wichman
Kristin Graham

Reports:

President's Report: Catherine Glidden reported. Thank you to everyone for attending tonight - so happy to see some new faces as well! Our Volunteer Appreciation event was held at Barefoot Bay with a great turnout despite having to utilize the rain date. More than 500 people signed up with 400 people attending despite the iffy weather.

Kindergarten Night also had a great turnout and the Kona Ice Truck was a huge hit. The Volunteer Signup form went out by email today and it was also out at Supply Drop-Off/Meet the Teacher earlier today. We already have several responses! The signup will close on Sept 5 to allow time for room parents to be assigned before the next PTO meeting (with volunteer training to follow). The Favorite Things form will be distributed soon by the school admins to teachers and staff in all buildings. Looking ahead, our PTO meeting for April will be pushed later by a week due to Passover.

On a positive note, a teacher that is new to our district mentioned that they were blown away by how much Fremont's PTO does in comparison to their last district. Thank you to everyone for your hard work - it's compliments like these that make us realize that we do make a difference.

Vice Presidents' Reports:

Lincoln School: Brittany Ricci reported that the Lincoln Meet the Teacher is tomorrow and everyone is excited for that!

Elementary School: Yoon Chung reported via email. Looking forward to the Back to School Bash on Friday!

Intermediate School: No report.

Middle School: No report.

Treasurer's Report: Danielle Coughlin reported. Year end report is still being finalized. We will have that finalized later.

Mundelein Comm. Checking Balance as of 7/31/26	12,227.87
Mundelein Comm. Savings Balance as of 7/31/26	48,150.67
Less: Committed Funds	45,658.22
Uncommitted Funds as of 7/31/2026	14,810.32
Balance available for 2026/2027:	14,810.32

Principal's Report: No reports this month.

District and School Board Report:

Trisha Kocanda reported for the District. We are all busy preparing for tomorrow. Thank you for supporting our new teacher orientation and for the swag and spiritwear. Opening Day with staff was yesterday. This year's theme is Better Together/Building Together. We are emphasizing how to keep everything connected but also build for the future.

Thank you for cheering as the teachers and staff walked in yesterday for the Institute Day before the school year starts. There was a presentation from the new Security Officer that we share with Diamond Lake School. Multiple agencies were present for the two-hour training she provided. K-9 was here for introductions so that staff are familiar if they visit during the school year.

This year we will be using the RULER framework. Everyone from bus drivers to board members were trained on this method last year. This will roll out for emotional regulation to parents as well over the course of the school year.

Construction is ongoing - the new STEM lab with new curriculum and hands on stations will be adjacent to the Den. This space will be done after winter break. There is a new broadcast studio as well (videos/morning announcements, etc). The Cafeteria will be ready for students to use tomorrow. The expansion is still coming, but the space has been lightened up and more efficient food lines have been created. Vestibules have been upgraded at all the schools. There is a new teller-window style opening to keep the front office separate from the school. The Elementary School playground is now all turf - it will not be open tomorrow, but it will be open on Friday, due to the weather. No more wood chips! The smaller playground on the Elementary side that is still wood chips will be converted to turf

too. The Intermediate School playground conversion will happen next summer. The new parking lot exit is now open at the Intermediate School. This should help relieve congestion. Also there are new apps to promote efficiency - a Parent Pick Up app at Elementary School has been working well. It will be rolled out to the Intermediate School in the next couple of weeks. The Bus Tracking app is now up and running. Please be aware that the GPS system is not perfect - you'll still want to allow a couple of minutes on either side of the times listed.

School Board: Aga Macoch, a 10-year veteran of the school board will be working with new board member, Courtney Billitier this year.

Summer construction projects are going well. Cafeteria/STEM and security vestibules are being updated. Intermediate School roof repair is ongoing. Finishing touches for tech installations for students to arrive tomorrow. Really excited to see the community support for our schools - Meadows Family Dentistry donated \$5,000 to support the STEM lab at the Middle School.

Teacher Reports:

ES: No report

IS: Lindsey Maslov reported. Excited to be back to school! Looking forward to having the students back tomorrow and for the Back to School Bash on Friday. Thank you for the new Spiritwear too.

MS: reported via email: Thank you for the teacher lunch yesterday!

Committee Reports:

Art Awareness – No report.

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

Communications - No report

Social media - Catherine Glidden reported. We had a few people join Facebook in the last few days.

Fundraising – Elisabeth Reigle reported. Dine in Nights are being scheduled. Jimano's will be on Monday from 4-8. Mums fundraiser starting on Friday next week. Results from the First Day School Supply Kit sales was about \$1200. Charleston wrap will be held from October 7-November 16.

Box Tops - Trying to up participation in this program by encouraging parents to download the app and show a PTO member. Those that do are entered into a raffle to win a Fremont throw blanket.

Hospitality – Stacie Brown reported. We had a lovely lunch yesterday with the teachers. There was enough food, and everyone seemed happy.

Membership Toolkit - Catherine Glidden reported. Going great as far as memberships, although it is a little glitchy. Issues could be related to Teacherease, but this is our last year with that program, so next year should be better with Infinite Campus.

Picture Day and Yearbook - Monica Trent reported via email. Yearbooks available to order with a 10% discount until 10/31. We were working on picking out themes. Picture day is September 9 at all schools. Volunteer signup link is in the main signup form.

Room Parents - No report.

Special Events – Catherine Glidden reported.

Back to School Bash - Flyers are printed, and will be going home with students tomorrow. Vendors are locked in and have all been emailed.

Trunk or Treat will be held on October 17 from 10-noon. Working on raffle donations and food trucks.

Spirit Wear - Stacie Brown reported. The first Spiritwear sale will run August 28-Sept 11. Flyers will be going home. More items will be for sale at the Back to School Bash. These are items that the printing company misprinted - so we sold them at the volunteer event at a discount - (to be clear, it was the right design but on the wrong item, so nothing is technically wrong with them). We also sold a few items at the Kindergarten Night.

Old Business: none.

New Business: none.

Funding requests: none.

Adjournment: 6:31 p.m. Motion made to adjourn meeting by Elisabeth Reigle, seconded by Stacie Brown..

PTO minutes submitted by: Jen Knop