Overlook PTO Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2026 @ 6:30 PM in the Overlook Elementary Library
(Attendance: Laura W, Lindsey P, Amber A, Amy P, Amanda R, Sara B, Tony B, Kristen A, Betsy V, Sara D, Jillian G, Brittney M, Haley D, Carina S, Ginger S, Lauren K)

Welcome and Introductions
Meeting Minutes Approval- (Tony B. 1st, Amanda R. 2nd)
Board Reports:
President- Grizzly Garage sale went well, we're thinking about doing it all year long as we get donations. Nothing Bundt cakes @ open house. Willing to work with us again. Usually do order forms. Looking at changing colors for PTO copy paper. Get to know your teacher sheets: We're just getting this ball rolling. Include support staff this year. These will be coming out soon. Book it program: teachers will give out info as it becomes available.
Treasurer- Budget and expense review: NBC raised a chunk of change. $370 for Membership dues. Spirit Sales $330. $71 for Garage Sale.
Vice President- Looking forward to a good year.
Secretary - Trying to fill in the committee openings, Consider these committees.
Principal Report- Thank you so much for all your help so far. Thank you to the Garden committee, the front garden looks great. Some questions for the end maybe?
Teacher Grants- Mrs. Duerr: We've wanted to provide beginning of the year assessments one-on-one this year. More Alike than Different day. $89 for Braille Lego kit, we'd want 2.
Teacher Liaison Report- Mrs. Bennet did not have anything she needed to share. Teachers will be coming to meetings if they want to request money for their classes.

New Business & Upcoming Events

Dine to Donate - Blue Heron: Next Tuesday the 15th. They're offering Take out also for the fundraiser. Will donate 10% of all sales to the school. Chipotle is October 5th before our next meeting.

Skate Night: From Email: This year's event will be Wednesday, October 7, 6-8 p.m. We're returning to the Brunswick Skate Station. Flyers have been created. I'm planning to copy and place the flyers in teacher's mailboxes on Friday morning (9/4) so they can go home with students the week of 9/8. "Thanks!"to Kristen Ashby and Delaney Poetter (and possibly one or two others who've expressed an interest in helping) for taking care of details the evening of the event, as I am unable to attend. There is an optional Halloween costume contest. Prizes will be awarded to students and adults. Judging is done by the Skate Station staff. This event is not a fundraiser, but the $5 entry fee helps cover our rental of the rink and costume contest prizes. The $5 fee is for skaters and non-skaters. This rink does not have "trainers" for beginning skaters to use, but adults can accompany skaters on the rink if they wear clean shoes.

Monsters Hockey Game – From Email: We're planning another Overlook Night at the Monsters Hockey game and have two fan experiences available to us. This school year, our game is scheduled on Monday, December 28. Overlook students can sit in the players' box and watch warm-ups (last year, some players gave our students hockey pucks) with signup. New this year: Taking the large American flag on the ice for the singing the Star Spangled Banner. More details to come, but this will include Overlook adults and students. I plan to distribute flyers for this event and start promoting it in late October/early November (when I get the ticket link from the Monsters).If anyone asks, the past couple of years we've attended a game on Friday evening. The Monsters schedule didn't have a lot of Friday options. Also, by going with the December option, we were able to also get the on-ice experience with the American flag. This opportunity is more difficult to get on Friday evenings.

Ice skating – From Email: We briefly touched on this last school year, but is there an interest in possibly scheduling an open ice skating event for Overlook students and families? I've been looking into Lock 3 in Akron (outdoor) and also at an indoor rink (possibly N. Canton). I can continue to look into it if we don't think we already have "too many" activities scheduled. I would like to consider a date in January or February, based on what dates we land on for other events we usually hold during that time of the year. There is a chance this might be on the weekend.

Outdoor Movie Night: Tony B. Meeting this week to make sure Technology all sets up. Tony can't be here to set up anymore, but we have other volunteers ready to help out. Zootopia 2 is our movie. We've already got quite a few signups for that event!

Class Parties: Started to send out communication to room parents. Received feedback: 4th grade combined parties. For the fall party: Room parents want a little more time to set up for the parties so they don't miss the parade.

Fall Book Fair: Amanda and Sara: October 12-14 are the tentative dates. Will confirm with Scholastic this week. We can set up the day before. It will coincide with Special Person's day. Could we get the Grizzly leaders from the HS to come too? Puzzle, card game, coloring table. Set up will be the 8th. Will do a signup for set up, sale, and tear down.

Turkey Trot: Let's send information about the turkey trot to the Behrenses?

Spirit Wear/School Shirts: From Email: Overlook t shirts - design coming 😁 it seems like Grizzly Sportswear has a much longer lead time than we previously encountered. I am still working with Denise, but if we were looking for something more expedited, I will contact my friend Jenna at A1 as a secondary option.Current timeline is as follows: design approved by last week of September - I will send to board and Mrs Duerr for approval. Google forms sent to families for sizing the first week of October with a 2 week timeframe. We would also put out the ask for donations to offset the cost. $10/shirt is what we asked last year. The shirts cost $8.50. Shirts begin production week 3 of October and delivery around Halloween.

Spirit Wear Sales: I was planning on the website going live the 3rd week of October (when OV t shirt ordering is complete) as to not confuse. Items will be delivered before Christmas and purchaser will be able to select school delivery to go home with student or pick up if it is a Christmas/holiday gift. Notes from last year: Looking for hats/scarves, Bow or embroidered sweatshirt or hoodie, Kids sweatpants and/or plaid pj pants, Socks, Stadium cushion, Stadium blankets, Umbrellas were sold at spring sale and did well, should we offer again? We did golf size.

Committee Updates & Follow-ups

Open Committee Chair Positions for 2026-2027: Penny Wars, Turkey Trot, Confetti Committee, Family Night Out, Magic of Giving, Co-chair for Staff Appreciation Week.

Rubber Ducks Game: It was a success!

Spirit Sale: Kristen A. Thank you to all the volunteers so far! We've raised a bunch of money already. We've introduced a few new ideas. We're also going to have a couple of themed sales this year. September 25th and October 23rd. 9-5 day? For Dolly Parton's charity?

Circle back to Mrs. Duerr: More Alike than Different Day: Tried at other schools with great success, it's a chance for students to explore empathy with those who have physical or mental differences in how they experience the world.

Adjourn: Tony B. 1st, Amanda R. 2nd