

PTO Meeting Minutes

September 23, 2026

Meeting called to order at 6:04 pm by Catherine Glidden.

Elisabeth Reigle motioned and Stacie Brown seconded, to approve the meeting minutes from the August meeting.

Attendance

Catherine Glidden: President	Mounica Lakku
Brittany Ricci: Vice President - Lincoln	Claudia Romer
Elisabeth Reigle: Vice President - IS	Aileen Veldhuizen
Stacie Brown: Vice President - MS	Jerald William
Danielle Coughlin: Treasurer	Kurian Joseph
Jennifer Knop: Secretary	Bonnee Echales
Trisha Kocanda: Superintendent	Kristin Graham
Stefan Ladenburger: IS Principal	Susan Katz
Courtney Billittier: School Board Representative	Kate Kamin
Aimee Briggs: Communications	Lexi Baldino
Chloe Erkman: ES Teacher Representative	Elysa Whitaker
Gina Ney: MS Teacher Representative	Ellen Wichman
Amanda Masters: Membership Toolkit	Michael Wolf
Monica Trent: Yearbook	Brynnan Foster
	Hannah Jane Churchill
	Vanessa Sanchez
Guests:	Stephanie Berger
Greg Wideman	Brittanya Bryant
Veronika Weppeler	

Reports:

President's Report: Catherine Glidden reported. Thank you to everyone for attending tonight! The Room Parent meeting will follow this general meeting. Looking for one more room parent for Mrs. Bade's class in the IS and for six classes at Lincoln. The School Store is all set for Thursday at the ES and Friday at the IS. Volunteers will deliver purchases to teacher mailboxes for distribution by teachers. Picture day went great, despite a few issues at the IS. Retake signup went out this afternoon to admins.

Vice Presidents' Reports:

Lincoln School: Brittany Ricci reported. First parent involvement day at Kamins Farm went really well.

Elementary School: Yoon Chung reported. Picture day went great.

Intermediate School: Elisabeth Reigle reported. Halloween party sign up closes on Sunday.

Middle School: Stacie Brown reported. Picture day was fantastic.

Treasurer's Report: Danielle Coughlin reported. We are always in the negative this time of year until the district membership checks are distributed.

Mundelein Comm. Checking Balance as of 9/22/26	13,881.39
Mundelein Comm. Savings Balance as of 7/31/26	48,154.76
Less: Committed Funds	72,893.41
Uncommitted Funds as of 7/31/2026	(10,857.26)
Balance available for 2026/2027:	(10,857.26)

Principal's Report: Ladenburger reported.

The Back to School Bash was awesome and it grows every year.

Lincoln - Thank you for your work in helping find room parents. We are still looking for more. We appreciate your help with Picture Day. We had a great turnout at our Curriculum Night and at our Parent Involvement Event at Kamin's Farm. We are also looking forward to Halloween parties and Trunk or Treat!

Elementary and Intermediate - We are grateful for all the hard work the PTO put into finding room parents for all of our classrooms. Thank you also for a smooth Picture Day. We look forward to retakes on 10/22. We are also looking forward to Halloween parties on 10/30 and Trunk or Treat on 10/17.

District and School Board Report:

Trisha Kocanda reported for the District. Great turnout - thank you all for coming tonight!

Official RULER rollout with our students has started; classrooms all created individual charters. The Transportation also created one too. Everyone wants a kind, safe, loving environment. Students have mood meters in their rooms - to help with naming and understanding their emotions. Excited to help students develop their skills.

Emphasis on safety at school this year includes bus drills, and fire drills; with standard response protocols posted in various locations. The next Parent University will address this among other safety topics on September 30.

Fall MAP testing has finished. The district is no longer testing kindergarten or first graders.

Lake County Election on November 3 will include a sales tax ballot question. The question is whether a 1% sales tax should be allowed to be added to a number of items (clothes, shoes, etc) with revenue going to schools (on a per student basis)

The next School Board meeting is Monday night. This year's budget will be profiled. There will be a presentation on student growth and achievement.

School Board: Courtney Billitier reported. As of our last meeting, we are excited to announce FSD has been accepted into the Innovative Schools national network of districts connecting leaders of education.

We have recently accepted a donation from Meadows Family Dentistry and are grateful for their generosity. We have also approved our Annual Plan.

Teacher Reports:

ES: Chloe Erkman reported. We really enjoyed the Back to School Bash and are looking forward to Trunk or Treat!

IS: No report.

MS: Gina Ney reported. Picture Day went smoothly!

Committee Reports:

Art Awareness – Yoon Chung reported. An email has gone out to everyone that volunteered on the google form. Currently working on a library of projects for the year and just getting the year started for Art Awareness.

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

Book Fair - Jen Knop reported. MS Book Fair is good to go. K5 Book Fair planning is also underway.

Communication - Aimee Briggs reported. The next PTO email will be October 7.

Social media - Catherine Glidden reported. Everyday we get new members.

Fundraising – Elisabeth Reigle reported. Mums sales were lower this year, but we raised more than \$750. Holiday Boutique is coming up November 7 - we are still looking for a few vendors. Fremont Pride Blankets are down to a only a few left. Charleston wrap is starting the first week of October. It'll be in the next email and there will be posts on social media.

Jen Knop reported. We finished up the Box Tops raffle promotion just one person short of our goal. However, our earnings this year (since July) are \$155.10. Considering last year we earned a total of \$305.30, we're off to a great start! The blanket winner will be notified today.

Hospitality – Nothing to report

Picture Day and Yearbook - Monica Trent reported. 10% discount goes until October 31.

Room Parents - Catherine Glidden reported. Meeting tonight immediately following the PTO meeting.

Special Events – Yoon Chung reported. Back to School Bash had a great turnout with a full playground. Had a couple of community vendors and fewer food vendors. This seemed to be a good mix.

Brittany Ricci reported. Trunk or Treat donations are rolling in from the community. There are still a few openings for those to host a trunk. It will be held on October 17 from 10-noon. Anyone can sign up for a trunk (parent, business, grandparent, etc).

Stacie Brown reported. March Madness will be held Saturday, March 6 at MHS.

Spirit Wear - Stacie Brown reported. The first sale has wrapped up with 287 total orders, which is more than last year. 178 staff members have signed up for PTO swag as well.

Old Business: none.

New Business: Claudia Romer asked about the process for adding events to the PTO calendar - specifically a fall festival. Discussion around the idea of bouncy houses and obstacle course with pumpkins and face painting vendors. Similar events have been held at area schools. We'd need a committee and PTO members to move forward with the idea. Too late for this year, but could be a great point for next year.

Question also raised regarding sign up timeline for students for Student Council/PAWS/Hope Squad. IS Student Council starts in October; Hope Squad nominations are being reviewed now. PAWS student committee will start soon.

Funding requests: none.

Adjournment: 6:32 p.m. Motion made to adjourn PTO meeting by Danielle Coughlin, seconded by Stacie Brown. Room Parent meeting followed immediately after.

PTO minutes submitted by: Jen Knop