

PTO Minutes
Dec. 14, 2021

Attendees:

Alicia Gillespie	Amy Quinn	Gwyneth Cliver	Kelsey Fischer
Michelle Craig	Emily Moody	Mohammed Umar	Elizabeth Constance
Emily Natal	Melanie McFarland	Abbey Jackson	Rachel Cole
Karen Borchert	Dan Stockmann	Michelle Kiel	Jessica Hunt
Ann Hilger	Marianne Goodwin	Rachel Pierce	

Presidents' Report: Rachel Cole and Abbey Jackson

- We will move to a consent agenda. All new committee information will be submitted ahead of time and sent out in a consent agenda in the meeting reminder.

Principal's Report: Mrs. Gillespie

- K-6 grade level radios are in, with a radio in each classroom to follow. Mrs. Gillespie will pull from other budgets to cover the rest. They are \$256/radio. PTO can cover the remainder if necessary.
- Mrs. Natal has been working with a group of 5th and 6th graders with robotics.
- Mrs. Pierce will be coaching boys basketball in late January.
- We have a new part-time nurse on Tuesday, Thursday, and every other Friday.
- We have a new night custodian.
- We have gained 10 new students this year
- The three free trees were approved by OPS, but will wait to plant until spring.
- Covid recovery covers the cost of lunch and breakfast for an additional 3 years.
- We can consider switching to a winter music program in the future.

Teacher Reports

- Ms. Hunt (5th grade): Formal letter writing, Sending to Omaha Historical Society.
- Ms. Hilger (5th grade): Relearning social norms.
- Mrs. Goodwin (3rd grade): Plays, dramas, division.
- Mrs. Pierce (6th grade): Algebra, converting fractions, essays, getting ready for middle school. Analyzing text. Science: baby chick hatching. How to reach out to teachers.

Fundraising Report: Melanie McFarland

- Fall fundraiser almost wrapped up with deliveries.
- \$6,000+ in sales from fall fundraiser.
- Will decide by spring if we will take advantage of the savings by using this company again for the fall fundraiser.

Upcoming Events: Abbey Jackson

- No Jan. meeting.
- Jan. 11 and 27: brainstorming sessions at Pageturners
- Skating party, Skate City, Jan. 7, 5-7pm
- Ice skating, Motto McLean rink, Feb. 4, 2-4pm
- Family bowling night, ICC Bowlatorium, March 3, 6-8pm

New Business: Karen Borchert

- Karen built “Alpaca Packs” app to donate money subscription-style to Washington’s teachers, hoping it will grow to other schools.
- To cover expenses teachers often pay out-of-pocket
- Subscribe to a school of your choosing, and teachers will be surveyed for most requested items.
- alpacapacks.com
- Money will split between teachers evenly.
- More can be provided by buying in bulk.
- Right now Karen is putting the packs together herself.
- All money donated will go toward the purchase of items for teachers.
- A donor offered to match monetary contributions with matched funds going toward JP Lord School.
- Information will be added to site.
- PTO could subscribe to offer monthly donations.

Thank Yous

- To Abbey Jackson for helping with the directory
- To Jamie Williams for organizing the conference dinner
- To Lisa Oliveto for volunteer dinner
- To Emily Natal for helping with the fall fundraiser

Spirit Wear Coordinator’s Report: Emily Moody

- More spirit wear is on order, to arrive soon.
- Discussed donating spirit wear to all students. Perhaps a separate event like a skating party could fund this? Perhaps we could get a sponsor?
- Gwenyth Cliver suggested moving to suggested donations for events like Boo Bash.

Treasurer’s Report: Dan Stockmann

- We have a \$24,714 balance.
- Carnival is the only major event left, which usually breaks even.
- Ample room in budget to do lots of things.
- Mrs. Gillespie suggested rugs for the front entry and a kiosk.
- Discussed setting a minimum balance and spending down surplus each year.
- Mrs. Natal asked how field trips had been sponsored by PTO in the past.

Adjourned