

PTO General Meeting November 8, 2022, 6:10pm

The following board members were present:

Lindsey G- president

Lindsey M - secretary

Holly Cunningham - fundraising

Dr. Merhar - principal

Lindsey Manring passes out a copy of the minutes from our last general meeting. Holly C. approves minutes from our last PTO meeting and Lindsey G. seconds.

Lindsey gives a President's Report - A huge thank you to everyone for their help and support so far this school year. Thank you for your generosity helping those in need due to Hurricane Ian. We did four runs of donations to Shadowlawn Elementary School and Avalon Elementary School. We also did a separate Halloween costume donation drop off to Shadowlawn Elementary School. Thanks to a private donor we were able to buy specific things that were needed on their lists too. What a wonderful community we are a part of. Thank you for your flexibility in dates changing because of Hurricane Ian. All students received a half-sheet list of upcoming dates for our school events. Our biggest change is that our Walk-a-thon date will be moved to the Spring. This gives us the chance to focus on Spirit Week and Book Fair and Holiday House that are all happening currently. Volunteer needs and sign-ups are always listed in our newsletter and on the PTO website. If you have any questions or want to know how you can help, please don't hesitate to email us at the PTO email and ask me anytime. A question from a parent came up about spirit wear. She asked if she can still order spirit wear but the next order will not be until the spring. But Lindsey G reassures her that there are some leftover sizes that were not sold and she will check sizes in the front office for her.

Treasurer's Report - Jamie Print, absent, report given by Lindsey G - you can see on the expense sheet what has been spent and the budget balance is at the bottom. Everything is right on target. One bigger change is that Market at the Marsh sales were more than we expected. Yay! If you have an expense and need to write a check the process/system we have in place is working great. Any questions please ask me. This is the last week that teachers are submitting in their receipts for the allotted teacher stipends. The teachers weighed in how thankful they are! One parent notices our budget shows a negative for the spirit wear line on the budget. This is because we are missing the check from the most recent spirit wear sale and prior to the sale we purchased a bulk order of spirit wear to sell ahead of time.

Dr. Merhar gives a Principal's Report - she just came from the SAC meeting with four new parents. We had many things to vote on. We voted on how the A+ funds will be distributed for our school. We had a great proposal from our house coordinators and we are excited to send two staff members to a Leader in Me conference. Then they can come back to train the rest of our staff. We just had a school-wide virtual training that was very useful too. I am looking for someone in the community who would like to be a Principal for a day and shadow me during a regular school day. This is a great way to spotlight our school and give the opportunity for a community members/supporter to come see how our school runs. Please let me know if you think of anyone, maybe even a sponsor or supporter of our school. We WILL have school as of now on Thursday. If the wind speeds change due to the latest hurricane projections we will be in touch.

Volunteer Report - Monique Frost absent, report given by Lindsey G - Everyone has been so great at updating their volunteer status and it's very quick to get processed. Thanks to Robin for

her help in the front office. Once you are a registered volunteer you can wear your old badge and use your driver's license to sign in. Thank you volunteers! Sign up genius links have been working and volunteer needs are being met. If anyone has any volunteer questions or thoughts please don't hesitate to let me know. Tomorrow afternoon we will be helping Mr. Davis with the Nutcracker costumes. Please let me know if you would like to help. Also our technology teacher is doing an entrepreneurship project with the fifth graders that is very exciting. We are looking if you are interested in helping to be a mentor for a fifth grade small group. (You choose the same day for consecutive weeks in December/ during their related art times in the afternoon.) Also they are looking for parents to be on the entrepreneurial Pitch team in January to judge the team projects. A parent asks a question about where to sign up to help with regular staff appreciation needs. The next one will be the Souper bowl so please look for the sign-up genius link that will go home.

School spirit committee has been formed. If you would like to join please let Lindsey G know. As a thank you for participating in spirit week the committee is going to pass out a basket with a cookie for each student that will be delivered to each class by the end of the week. Wohooo! Spirit wear purchases will be in next week and we can begin emphasizing Friday spirit wear days beginning next week.

We have two kindness clubs that will be making thank you cards for emergency workers and hurricane helpers to go out to our community.

Enrichment report - Heather Adams is absent, report given by Lindsey G - two heads of lettuce came out of our school garden, yay! Third graders are working now and 2nd graders will go in the spring to the garden. When it comes to field trips we are happy to assist teachers. Our new PTO liaisons will help communicate information as we plan and execute field trips.

Grade level liaisons have met and are organizing ways to better assist the teachers. They are working on getting a Remind app set up for each grade level to get information out to parents. We can talk about how the new grade level liaisons will meet with their grade level teacher. Dr. Merhar recommends creating a grade-level calendar. Dr. Merhar wants to know if liaisons can come to the Team Leader meeting, November 17th at 7:45am. Lindsey will make sure liaisons are available and solidify the date with Dr. Merhar.

Fundraising - Holly Cunningham - we are working hard with our amazing school sponsors. Tonight we sold PME holiday ornaments for \$10 and we are excited to sell more at the Holiday House. Holiday House will be held December 5-9 and will take place during the school day. The ornaments were donated and thank you to Natalie Norris for creating the design and assembling them. If anyone would like to help decorate for Holiday House please let Holly know. Very excited about how our first Market at the Marsh sales went.

School Liaison- Amanda Masino absent, report given by Lindsey G - tonight was our first time trying a nighttime Book Fair sale. Students are shopping at the book fair during the school day as well. Our website will have the events and minutes updated for everyone to use.

Hospitality Report - Christy Ullo absent, report given by Lindsey G - we are excited about a December coffee morning for teachers. Holiday restaurant night at Green Tree is in the initial planning stages but we know this is a busy time of year.

New Business: A parent recommended setting up an Amazon Smile connection for our school. Once you sign up for Amazon Smile you choose PME as your charity. Every item you purchase

if its Amazon Smile eligible then .5 % of the sale goes to Pelican Marsh Elementary School. Let's figure out how/where the money is going and how to communicate this to parents. 5th grade committee meeting scheduled for this Monday at 8:00am and this information will be posted on the website.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20pm.