

## Green Tree PTO Minutes

Tuesday October 16, 2018 @ 3:35PM

### **In Attendance**

*Kim Porter, Kendra Fritz, Wendy Kimmel, Jennifer Starkey, Cindy Schweiss, Jamie Day, Anna Kuhns, Nicole Usry, Cynthia Madden, Ellie Igo, Donna Clark, Julie Albertson, Stephanie Aroldi, Wendy Helton, Char Wagemann, Jenn Bagin, Ann Muench*

Wendy Helton Called the meeting to order at 3:40pm

### **Motion:**

Wendy Kimmel motioned to approve meeting minutes from September. Kim Porter Seconded.

**The request was unanimously approved**

### **Treasurer Report**

The treasurer's report was given by Kim Porter. Current balance is \$43,138.81. Budget is attached to these notes.

### **Membership Report**

The membership report was given by Jennifer Starkey. 204 families, 325 parents, 300 students. 2 grandparents, 2 high school volunteers. The Buzz Book has been completed and will only be available to the parents who signed up in it. Only participants can see the book. A to Z will email the books out to those participants. You can sign up for membership of the PTO at the A to Z website at any point during the year and access the directory, events, lunch schedules and much more at: <https://atozconnect.com/>

### **Fundraising Report**

-Walk-A-Thon all money has been received. Still awaiting one last corporate check for matching.

### **Principal's Report**

Mrs. Bagin, thanks everyone for the support for the walk a thon, and appreciates the families donating so that we don't have to sell items for our fundraisers. Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Igo attended the meeting to discuss a positive change. For 6 years GTE has been a Title School, meaning our free and reduced lunch program has been higher, so we get government money to help those students. The title money could only be used for those students. This year we announce that title schools are now getting school wide funding, so these funds can reach all students, not just the title students that are in need. This will help to boost the entire student population. We can now track the student body that will help all readers with this funding and not just the at need students.

## **Old Business**

-School Supply Boxes. Wendy Kimmel is heading it up and handling this project.

-Trunk or Treat 2018 will be on October 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm,

-Wendy Helton discussed Skate Night. Skate Night was crazy because we did not separate the kids by grade, so there were 6<sup>th</sup> graders with Tiny hinny's kindergarteners, and it caused some accidents on the rink between more experienced and less experienced skaters. So, it has been decided that there will be two nights of skate nights going forward. K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade is on October 30<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> will be November 1. Look for more information to come as we get closer to the event. The nights will be split by beginner intermediate skaters the first night and more experienced skaters the second night, so that parents can determine which night best suits their family.

-National Walk to school Day was October 11<sup>th</sup> walking from Blvd Park to Green Tree.

## **New Business**

-Gator Clean up. James Cody has wonderfully offered to handle the Gator Hut Clean up. We met with Officer Ochs to determine what could be done about the hut. She will be in charge of having troops and other groups clean up landscaping and helping to keep it cleared of undesirable items.

-Trunk or Treat 10/19 at 5:30pm. We have 40 trunks for the event. We have 306 trick or treaters as of Friday, more have come in and an email will go out with the exact number of treaters. Weather is supposed to be okay with only a light rain, however it has been approved through the school that if the weather is inclement we will move everything indoors. There will be a dance party in the gym and trick or treating in the cafeteria. Food trucks will still be available if there is a rain out, they will just move up to the roundabout blacktop. To date we have 25,984 pieces of candy to pass out that night!

-Wendy Helton discussed Skate Nights on 10/30 & 11/1, There will be two events to help people pick the date that is more feasible for them. However, the older kiddos are going to one and the littles to the other one. An email will go out to let parents know which event they can choose to go to, offering one night for novice and intermediate skaters and one night for more advanced skaters. Parents can determine which night works best for their children.

-Wendy Helton discussed the need for the Conferences PTO Provided meals. Wednesday Night we will need meals, we will set invites to bring items on A to Z as well as Sign Up Genius. Be sure to Label your dishes or pans that you want returned to you to avoid confusion in the returning process. The theme will be Soups and Sammies, or you can bring Salads. The food is often time reused and reheated for Thursday since the teachers are there all-day Thursday as well.

-Wendy Helton discussed the Veteran's Day event and that help is needed for breakfasts. Wendy Helton discussed that the event is 11/9. 8:30-9:15 3rd grade students will be singing in the recital. Wendy Kimmel is helping to do the board that shows pictures of all the veterans. We are doing pancakes, sausage and eggs. Lisa Barnhard is the in charge of the food and will be setting up a Sign-Up Genius to get help with the breakfasts, PTO will be buying the food items. Ann Muench mentioned that we reach out to the school board requesting we use the school's food, and just have the district use their breakfasts. Wendy Helton will speak with Tami Sanker to see what the cost would be to have them make the breakfast instead of reaching out to the PTO members to cook the foods. There was discussion

about using PTO funds for new Veterans Day decorations, as some of the ones we have used in the past are old, falling apart or missing. Ann Muench mentioned something regarding a Vista Print Banner for the hallway, she is working with someone within the district who is very good at it. But if it doesn't work out she will be using Vista Print, to make the banner it would be \$50 for this banner and it can be re-used for years and years. Would PTO pay for the \$50 Vista Print Banner that will hang in the front entry hallway welcoming the veterans to the school? The teachers will send out the flyers to the students this week regarding this upcoming event.

-Wendy Kimmel brought up the discussion of the Winter Party for the school on 12/20. We are looking for someone to head up that event and manage it. Sign-ups will be managed by the event group. We will be looking for volunteers to help run the winter party that is a one-day event. December 20<sup>th</sup> will be the party day for the entire school. We will send an email out looking for a committee of parents who are willing to help spearhead this event.

### **Upcoming Events and Dates**

#### **Teacher Updates**

-Julie Albertson discussed the sound system at the school needing to be replaced, our current system is about 15 years old. It is time to upgrade it. There is some crackling going on, and the sound system cuts out. 8 years ago, we had some components replaced, which helped us get to this point, but the entire system needs and overhaul. The gym teachers are also on board now that the sixth graders are here, because they can use it on a daily basis during gym class. This sound system will work on a daily basis as well as during programs. The person that Julie works with and recommends is someone who has worked closely with the school before, and also did a number of the other schools. Cost for a total rebuild is \$10,448.00. We can do some now and some later, but the cost may change slightly as it will need to be requoted. If we do the main system pieces, it is a \$6000 bid. This system will be built into the walls and will be state of the art helping not only the gym teachers but also during programs and recital. We are one of the only schools in the district who do NOT have a sound system for teachers to use in these classes. Ms. Wagemann says her voice hurts and this would be a really great way for her to teach without having to yell at her students. Jen Bagin discussed that this sound system project could be used with current fundraiser money from the PTO, or if it cannot be done this year that maybe the fundraiser next year state that this is what the money would go to, in order to drive excitement for the new fundraiser.

-4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teachers would like to attend a conference called: Get Your Learn On in Orlando, Fl. It increases students desires to actually come to school and love school. The program teaches teachers how to make school fun again. It changes not only the teaching but the curriculum to be more fun and engaging. 4<sup>th</sup> grade is the final time that students can catch up on reading and change their end of school outcome. They can still catch up but by the end of 4<sup>th</sup> grade the stats are deplorable. The plan is to split up at the conference so that they can maximize the learning there and integrate it on a K-6 platform. The course is to help change the school climate and make it a place where kids want to be and want to learn and stay engaged. The hope is that they would be able to create learning labs, and PD to not only the other teachers but teachers throughout the district. Would only need one day of subs for this conference because of the Presidents Day holiday. The 4 members on the board would need \$2,373.36 for the entire event. Hotel rooms would be shared. James Povich, Vicky Barron, Kristin Patti and Coley Usry would be attending. Airfare: \$1351.84, Hotel \$651.52 and Subs \$500. Stephanie Aroldi would also like to attend she would need airfare and sub. Costing an additional \$337.96 airfare, \$100 for

sub. The 4<sup>th</sup> Grade teachers and Stephanie Airoidi are asking for the PTO to pay for some or all of the required funds needed for this event, totaling \$2,811.32. The PTO has \$1500 for Teacher Development but it is for all teachers for the year. The full board was not in attendance to take a vote, so the power point presentation will be available for a vote with the board.

### **Open Forum, Discussion & Questions**

Wendy Kimmel has set up an event coming up with the Wentzville Pottery Group. There will be 80 slots available and the students will be doing an ornament. It will be a link to sign up, and reserve your spot, you pay at the door for this event. This is a family fun night where families can spend some quality time together and get a keepsake.

-Wendy Helton looked around the Kindergarten area looking for where to plant Mr. Mel's tree. She needs to know how much soil is required for the Kindergarten planters. We will have someone, possibly Jamie Cody who is heading up the Gator Clean-up to come in and tell us what is needed.

**The meeting was adjourned at 4:48pm**

Thank you to all who attended.

Next PTO meeting: Tuesday, November 13th at 3:35. We hope to see you there!

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the PTO Board at [greentrepto@hotmail.com](mailto:greentrepto@hotmail.com).