

Loomis Elementary School PTO Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm, April 11, 2018.

Minutes from the March 2018 meeting reviewed and approved.

Officers' Reports

President's Report:

Thanks to volunteers and committee coordinators of the HEADstrong Muve Dance-A-Thon. The Wednesday folder will continue to be sent by paper, but an email will also be sent. \$400 in gift cards was received from the Campbell's Soup label points. Window decals from Dr. Cary are available tonight.

Cosmetics of the school was brought up at the last meeting. The question was will the district be paying for the change to orange and black and should our funds as a PTO go to this instead of educational material. Dr. Cary is in agreement that PTO money should be going to educational material. There is no immediate plan for these changes and no set dates for renovation.

Emails went out for open PTO positions. March 31st was the deadline. Open positions have been filled. No vote is needed. They are uncontested. Nicole Calamia has accepted the vice president position and April Tyler has accepted the secretary position.

Water stations were brought up at the last meeting. We have the money to support that. TJ worked with the district and got a quote of \$1,030 for each station. They will be filtered. The cost for replacement filter is \$125. Stations will be located near the front office and gym. There was a new price given of \$978 each for two plus tax. The cost will probably be around \$2,100 for two water stations. The district will do the plumbing for both stations. There was a vote on the two water station purchases in the amount of \$2,100 and a \$300 line item for annual water filters which was approved.

Ms. Miller had a suggestion to provide lunch for Field Day volunteers and teachers, 60 volunteers and 40 staff members. This would possibly be a pizza lunch. There will be a vote to use the \$200 popsicle and water line item and \$400 Campbell's Soup label credit. Providing pizza for volunteers on Field Day for this year only was voted on. Majority voted for it. We will move forward with providing pizza.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's report reviewed and approved.

Committee Reports:

- HEADStrong - Dana Chirico - \$7,500 was donated to HEADStrong. Event may be held every other year in the future. Russell won the trophy this year.
- Spring '18 Book Fair - Dana Chirico - May not do a spring book fair next year.
- Big Guy Breakfast is coming up May 11.
- Field Day - Dana Chirico - There is an added option for parents to buy a Field Day shirt. The order form went home today.
- Spirit Wear - Janine Faggiola - Tiger Mom and Dad t-shirts are being sold starting April 11th through 20th. This will be part of a 5th grade fundraiser.

Principal's Report - TJ Gretchen:

Spring break was discussed. No staff was out. There was a PSSA assembly last week. The message to the students was to continue what you have been doing. It was projected that 77% of kids were on grade level, but this spring almost all students were on grade level. 1st and 2nd graders really like the change in schedule due to PSSA testing.

The new evacuation and fire drill procedure was discussed. For the old procedure, students would go out one exit to be at one side of the school. With the new procedure, students leave from their nearest exit. On average it took 1 minute and 50 seconds to evacuate under the old plan. Under the new plan, everyone was out in less than a minute on the first try.

At the last meeting we talked about deleopardization and using PTO funds for academic things for kids. TJ had a discussion with the curriculum office about the elementary STEM program and also reached out to Kate Lang, an educational consultant about purchasing whiteboard tables. Eight have been purchased and there are another 8 to give to a classroom.

TJ would like to purchase more Elmos, which are document cameras. Instead of going up to the board, students can put a document under the Elmo camera. 5th, 4th and 3rd grade teachers have one. Mrs. Meenan has one and Ms. DeLiberty is getting one. The goal is to equip each classroom with an Elmo by the fall of next year.

Teacher's Report (Ms. DeLiberty):

Miss Newton says the kids have been focused and are doing a great job and she is really impressed.

Unfinished (old) Business

Dumpster - Sarah Colucci. New ownership is going through their records and asked if we could bear with them during this process.

New Business

- Wall Ball Anti-Bullying Project - Jen Travaglini - Inspirational art for students was suggested for the wall such as a mural for anti-bullying. A budget of \$300 was suggested. It could be a student art competition. TJ says we have to agree on a design and the school board would have to approve it. From there we can begin to recruit and figure out how we would go about it. Operations director, Jake Gallagher suggested the anti-bullying on the wall ball wall. There was a vote for the anti-bullying wall ball project. \$500 would be used for the mural. This was voted on and approved.
- Padding for the basketball poles was discussed. There is a \$104 quote. TJ says to get a quote. We will put it out for a vote at the next meeting.
- Funding for construction was discussed. There is a proposed 2.4 % tax increase to fund increased expenses. Paxon and Culbertson are where the focus is. From a class size perspective, the district does not see an issue at Loomis.
- Hyacinths and daffodil bulbs were requested for beautification.
- There was a question about projects and goals for the PTO. The cosmetic focus has changed. TJ needs more time to find out if the district will allow STEM. Teachers lists were suggested. There was a suggestion to send out communication to teachers and discuss at the next meeting.
- Covering chains on swings in the playground was suggested. Quotes are needed for the next meeting.

Announcements:

Next PTO Meeting: Wednesday, May 9, 2018, at 7pm in the Loomis cafeteria.

Adjournment: 8:19 p.m.

Attendance: Vicky Adams, Kalli Badalotto, Rebecca Silver, Shameka Smith, TJ Gretchen, Nicole Calamia, Kate Cancelliere, Sarah Colucci, Jen Travaglini, Wendy Fasbinder, Martha Davis, April Tyler, Beth Leach, Melissa Jackson, Michelle Patrick, Janine Faggiola, Stephanie DeLiberty, Christy O'Neill, Dana Chirico, Cathy Forlano, Melonie Petersen, Vicky, Koulas.