

PTO Meeting Minutes from Monday, January 3

Presidents Report (Monica Janiczek & Mallory Reyes)

- All PTO Presidents met over Zoom to discuss being on the same page and trying to work together more.
- Great things happen at each school, and collaborating would be helpful for everyone.
- Ideally, this would happen over the summer or at the beginning of the school year since most of this year has already happened/already been planned.
- Fairview does a Back to School picnic, and it seems like something that all the schools could do.
- Fairview does supply pick up the same day as the Back to School picnic, but Lions Park would not.
- Information was sent over information about Chicago Wolves fundraiser game.
- Families would purchase tickets for a discounted price if they wanted to attend.
- Hesitant to share a large indoor event, like Wolves game, especially since vaccines are required to attend for children over 5.
- Would this be a school-based or District 57 Wolves game? Unsure, at this point.
- Mallory can send to Dr. Gorr, and reach back out to Jamie to get more information.
- If it is going to be communicated District wise, it would need to go through Dr. Gorr. If it is school-based, it would just go through each school.
- Katie K. reminded us we are slowly lifting mitigations, but that at this moment, with cases rising, she advises we continue to be cautious.
- Prioritizing kids in school should be most important, and extra activities should be lower on the list.
- Katie K. is in support of consistency across the schools, but she thinks it should be mapped out and that we won't necessarily host the same exact events.

Ed Foundation Report (Mallory Reyes)

- ED Foundation is in the middle of the grant cycle, but Mallory was unable to attend the last meeting.

Teachers Report (Mr. Vlaming)

- Matt Wilhelm was a huge success! Everybody loved it.
- Patty Kennedy really appreciated the donations for the Book Fair.
- Knots of Love Blanket Kits donations were also hugely appreciated.
- Huge thanks for projector from Steve. It's a great addition to PE program!

Board Report pushed back to later in the meeting.

Treasury Report (Jackie Foley)

- Expenses: Roar and Run bags, Turkey Shot prizes, Teacher Conference dinner, hot chocolate (big success!)
- Donations: Pepsico, Amazon Smiles, membership
- Ending Balance: 35,205.01
- Mallory reported that the Sing-Along was really great, and it might continue in the same format since it went so well.

Teacher Wish List (Katie Kelly Mr. Vlaming) | Topic for Discussion

- Katie Kelly reported Teachers are focused on simply continuing instruction during difficult times.
- Abe Lincoln impersonater would fit in with 5th social studies unit, the prices vary based on format. Katie K. did something similar when she was in Park Ridge, and it was a successful way to bring history to life. PTO agreed to look into this.
- Purchasing F& P Benchmark Kits. The District isn't in need, but it could be helpful to have extra kits for each grade level to reduce disruptions to the classroom.
- PTO agreed Katie Kelly should price out the kits.
- It was suggested over the summer would be a better time to think about what teachers might need.
- As Katie K. organizes guided reading titles, she might have additional requests for shelving, etc.
- Katie K. is also not receiving many grant requests for the Ed Foundation.
- ESSER funds money has also helped offset some of the typical needs for funds.
- Jackie wants to confirm there aren't any big requests before we start spending a little bit here, a little bit there.
- Mallory suggested we set aside some money for the summer when teachers have more time to think about needs. Jackie said we typically try to spend money within the school year, and that it would be hard do this differently.
- Katie K. said something might come up at Data Days.

VP Report (Patty Susmarski & Sarah Deitch)

- McTeacher Night is still on hold.
- No chairs for Pawlooza yet, but we will probably want to discuss more later in regards to Covid guidance, etc.
- CDC gave new guidance, but none from IDPH, at this point.
- Not seeing spread in school, at this point.
- Mallory said we should continue to plan for Pawlooza, knowing the format might change, but we still want to move forward with planning and getting volunteers involved.
- Flyer will be made and sent out
- 5th Grade Chairs at Fairview were sent flyer so all chairs can start talking about 5th Grade Activities.
- At Lincoln, the 7th Grade Activities did Art Station Student, and do we want to consider this for 2 - 4 grade after school?

- Pawpoolza in March or May
- Fine Arts Night for May 11, tentatively planned

Topics for Discussion:

A. Spring Fling (Fun Fair/Winter Dance)

- A mashup outdoor event of the Winter Dance and Fun Fair, but no planning has happened yet.
- Confirm chairs for Winter Dance and Fun Fair.
- Donna said that we will need to think about logistics (bounce houses, wall hangings, etc).
- Need to find a DJ, and would likely need less games if an event also includes dance.
- Combining events made sense there is such a tight frame to offer these events.
- Cost is usually tied to inflatables.
- We will have to decide if we want it on a school night (no custodial cost) or weekend (pay custodian).
- It will be hard to keep the community away, especially if it is outside.
- A place to spend some money and worry less about making money because we have a large budget.
- Set dollar amount, instead of paying for tickets.

B. Pawlooza (will discuss at end of meeting)

Principal Report (Katie Kelly)

- Shared thank you's with PTO.
- Winter benchmarking is starting in 2022; kickoff with reading fluency and then MAP testing.
- Followed up with shorter, computerized tests.
- Data Days coming up.
- Two authors visits in the coming months.

Board Report (Kevin Bull)

- December 16 last meeting, two public hearings.
- Tax levy and budget approved.
- E-learning plan proposal also approved on amendment .
- ESSR funds discussed to be applied for learning loss, identifying students in need of additional support.
- The fiscal year 2021 audit presentation.

Follow-up Topics for Discussion

- A. Special Lunch

- Still on hold.
- Volunteers have been hard to secure.
- Consider doing Special Lunch for one day? Getting monthly volunteers is usually where we run into problems.
- Have someone looking into a company who will do the meal. Patty will send an email to Alice and see if she can do this. Choose a restaurant that has multiple options, instead of one choice.
- Could consider doing outdoor lunch, but would need the flexibility/vaccination proof in the event it rains.
- Select a date for lunch in beginning of May, ideally. Note: May 13 is half day.

B. Pawloza

- Plan for before spring break or April, instead of February date.
- Acts will need to be scheduled by grade level because of Covid restrictions. Can consider streaming acts into classrooms/multi-purpose room.
- Consider week of April 21.

Next meeting is on Monday, February 7 on Zoom