

Longfellow Middle School PTO Meeting Minutes

October 21, 2019

Attendees: Kathy Heiderscheit, Deb Hoskins, Tammy Larson, Lori Potkay, Stephanie Thornton, Jonathan Ticku, and Principal Matt Kitzerow.

Meeting was called to order by President Kathy Heiderscheit at 6:33 pm. Introductions were made by those not present at the last meeting.

Secretary's Report – Tammy Larson

- Review of minutes. **Motion** to approve the September 19 meeting minutes by Lori Potkay. Motion 2nd by Stephanie Thornton. Resolved: Motion carried.
- Kathy mentioned that the bylaws need to be updated to reflect the change in the reserve amount and that we will allow for consumables to be funded. Tammy will retype them so that we have an electronic version.

Treasurer's Report –Stephanie Thornton

- Current checkbook balance is \$34,485.38. We have \$540 in approved spending that has not been paid yet and \$1,000 in reserves, so total available is \$32,935.38. Items to be paid yet include \$300 for the African drumming experience (event took place – need to be invoiced); and \$240 for fence tiles (approved and ready to order). Deposits include interest of \$.39 and Pinnacle fundraiser of \$32,135.40. Checks paid include \$25.50 to renew our raffle license.
- Total Pinnacle sales to date are \$42,301.40. Of that, \$32,135.40 was checks and \$10,166 in cash. Pinnacle takes the cash with them to help offset the costs of purchasing the products. The total does not include any online sales. Magazine sales are expected to be between \$3,000-\$4,000. PTO will get 40% of those sales.
- **Motion** to approve the Treasurer's report by Tammy Larson. Motion 2nd by Jonathan Ticku. Resolved: Motion carried.

Staff Requests

- Mr. Kitzerow requested funds to help with PBIS initiatives. He would like to recognize students on a quarterly basis for their academic and good behavior. These would include items such as Jimmy John's gift cards, school store gift cards, etc. His initial proposal would recognize only one student from each grade each quarter. PTO suggested that he try to recognize more students. **Motion** to approve \$700 in funding for this purpose by Lori Potkay. Motion 2nd by Deb Hoskins. Resolved: Motion carried.
- At the last meeting Mr. Kitzerow indicated that the Explorer Pod may be requesting some funds to purchase additional materials for their classrooms. Once LDI has moved out of the building, Explorer will move to the basement and they may need additional equipment, etc. The timeline has been pushed back to April 1 as to the expected date that LDI will be vacating the basement. We don't expect any requests until the spring.

District Wide Parent Meeting Report – Lori Potkay/Jonathan Ticku

- Meeting was held at Hogan Administration Building on October 8. The following topics were discussed:
 - New administrators were introduced.
 - New social studies curriculum is being developed for the district.

- The 2020/2021 school calendar was presented and will be approved at the next school board meeting. School is scheduled to start September 1 next year, which is before Labor Day.
- Enrollment is down for this year, due to a few factors. The 2019 Central graduating class was larger than normal and there were less kindergartners coming into the district. Plus there are more and more students taking online classes instead of the traditional in-school classes. There wasn't any noticeable difference in the students who opted to open enroll.
- David Stoeffler from LPEF talked about the new podcasts that are available to view. Eight teachers were tapped into making videos about how LPEF has helped the district. The videos can be viewed on YouTube.
- Draft district budget was preliminarily approved. Final approval will be conducted at the next school board meeting.

Old Business – Kathy Heiderscheit

- Still looking for a VP for the PTO
- Pinnacle fundraiser was successful. Attribute the increase in sales to bump in items needed from 12 to 13. Prize fest will be held in May.
- Thank you to those that provided meals for parent/teacher conferences.
- Jill Emerich, Literacy Specialist, needs help to cover new books. If you are interested please reach out to her at jemerich@lacrossesd.org.
- Still have not received funds for DQ nights held last year. We are not scheduling any new fundraiser nights with them until we receive the funds.
- Family Bingo Night is scheduled for Tuesday, October 22. Mr. Kitzerow sent out numerous reminders and had to reiterate that everything was free. Many responses back asking how much. About 20 teachers signed up to help out that night and parents to help serve pizza.

New Business – Kathy Heiderscheit

- The Box Tops for Education program is moving away from the paper box tops to electronic versions. The paper ones are being phased out and no longer being part of the product box. They will still accept the paper ones if they aren't expired. Going forward you will need to submit them electronically by scanning your receipt to an app on your phone.

Principal/Associate Principal's Report

- Working on increasing communication with parents and having more of a social media presence

Joys & Concerns

- None

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 by Kathy Heiderscheit.

Respectfully submitted by Tammy Larson, Secretary