

October 7, 2025 PTO Meeting

Call to order: 6:03 called by Melissa, seconded by Kim

Principals' Report: Thank you to the PTO for everything last week during the fall event. Everyone was complimentary, the high school was thankful for us sharing our space with the Warrior Shack. Their sales were really good, our kids here were excited too! They said they would offer it to some of the other school too. We are in the swing of things, settling into our normal.

We had our official lock down drill with the Police Department. They thought all the kids did a great job. The week before, we did our fire drill and the fire chief said what a great job everyone did with that. Everyone got a starbuck for their great job! We had our first star store of the year so we had our first animal riders of the year. Since star store is once a month now we will do that raffle once a month. Oakley is coming in November so we will have 2 kids per grade level to read with Oakley. Oakley has a little brother now, Oliver so we are hoping Oliver comes.

This Friday is our 1st full day teacher institute. The teachers all meet district wide. All specials teachers meet too. We have a session on AI using Magic School, a school version. Professional development on that and talk about our literacy program. Students get Friday and Monday off. Thank you PTO for paying the deposit for the whole school field trip. We needed at least 600 tickets. They will accommodate everyone and we will see Sponge Bob in May!

Treasurer's Report: (Katie)

Financial report sheet:

Income this month: \$14,866.68

This includes raise above fundraiser, spirit wear sales, fall event, charities aid foundation.

Expenses: \$6,885.24.

This included 5th grade challenger field trip (we got a grant for this so expense was much less than previous years), office expenses, fall event costs, assembly down payment (mad scientist), down payment for the spring play, new soccer goals for playground, star store.

Balance in acct: \$29, 674.88

Old Business:

- Our Raise Above fundraiser did really well! Thank you so much to everyone that participated! We received a check for \$13,351.11.
- Thank you to everyone that came to Culver's night and our awesome teachers that served. It was a very busy night! We will receive a check for \$502
- Thank you to everyone that came and volunteered at our fall event, we made approximately \$845 from food tickets and raffle tickets. The pumpkins were amazing! Tomorrow we'll be dropping off prizes to the winning classes.
- We will make sure we give teachers more time next year to plan for their pumpkin.
- Thank you local harvest herbs and produce in Wonder Lake for supplying all of our pumpkins!

New Business:

- 1st trimester assembly will be the MAD Science spectacular science show on October 17th. The cost is \$1200
- Conlon and Thompson Candy buy back will be Nov 3-5. The candy is donated to our troops
- McTeacher's night Tuesday, November 4th. Bear family McDonald's was sold. We are grandfathered in, but going forward we will have to order using the app.
- We will be buying lunch for all of the staff during conferences. Suggestions for lunch options: Mrs. Cohn asked if we could have the lunch on the Monday of conferences, the 24th, because that is the longer day. We were thinking of doing Panera, soups and salads. Olive Garden: soup, salad and breadsticks is another great option and they gave us a great deal last time, which was a few years ago. Tacos el Norte on 120, El Vado on Main St. does create your own taco, etc. El Puerto in Fox Lake. Mexican could also be a good route for teacher appreciation since that is close to cinco de mayo. Fiesta foods in Crystal lake has previously sponsored food for local activities!

Committee Reports:

Events Committee:

- Holiday drive thru Thursday, 12/4
- We have our Santa booked!
- We will set up a scavenger hunt, the food drive, hot cocoa to go, teachers to read books online before bedtime! We will reach out soon. We always do well for the food drive so we will continue doing that.
- One suggestion was caroling at a nursing home. Probably not the same night as the drive through but a great idea.

Box Top report (Kriss):

Currently \$150.60 this year. In the past we have had a battle of the grades. Box tops took away the leader board in the app, makes it more difficult for incentives, We can still do that but we would have to manually enter the earnings per grade. The kids enjoy it, they can win a popcorn party.

Comments:

Amy has been coming up with ideas for an Adults night: Extreme Wheels in Crystal Lake is an idea. Could be done winter or summer. Adult nights there is Saturday from 8–11pm. It would be \$500 flat fee to rent it out.

Other ideas, craft nights, pottery,

Ms. Sollors would like to request funds for more audio books. We sponsored books last year. We gave about \$2000 last year for the books and can probably do that again. The students love these books and they are never on the shelf! They are holding up well and we have a lot of batteries for them. Nothing broken yet!

Mrs. Marnell mentioned that some teachers might be in need of new flags for their classrooms. We could send a survey to see who needs new flags for their classrooms.

We have calm corners in the rooms and hallways. A student asked why we don't have calming corners outside. Ideas for that: a bench with storage to store some of those calming toys. Or all weather adirondack chairs from Home Depot for kids to have a calm moment outside. Lots of ideas on Pinterest as well.

Something we discussed last month was the PTO paying for all field day shirts, makes it easier for everyone, teachers just need to send us their sizes. We could see if the high school could possibly do the shirts. We currently use pro tough in Crystal Lake.

If anyone has any ideas for our winter assembly please let us know.

For spirit days it would be nice to have extra party supplies for teachers to hand out to students who do not have specific things. We try to keep our spirit days simple so everyone can participate. Sports day, grade level colors, Halloween costumes. and we always have costumes here for kids who do not have costumes. We could also email parents about donating costumes after halloween. Our social worker emails teachers and students can go find a costume and also bring them home after school to trick or treat.

Free library out front could use more books. If teachers want to get rid of books or if families have books to donate they can bring them in to replenish the free library!

End of meeting called at 6:44. Called by Melissa, seconded by Kriss.