

Pines Lake Elementary School PTO Meeting
October 4, 2021-In Person in the LMC also via Zoom

1. Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order by President Julia Hillje Dardia at 7:36 PM

2. Welcome

- President Katie Scheidt welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked all for their participation

3. Introduction of the Board

- Katie introduced the board to the group
 - Co-Presidents- Julia Hillje Dardia and Katie Scheidt
 - Co-Vice Presidents- Maria Vlahos and Allison Tyler
 - Co-Treasurers-Teresa Ziegler and Laura Winters
 - Assistant Treasurer-Jill Carbone
 - Corresponding Secretary-Joanne Bakas
 - Recording Secretary- Meredith Snider

4. Reading of the Prior Meeting Minutes or Motion to Waive Reading

- Motion to waive by Allison Tyler and Joanne Bakas

5. Motion to Accept Prior Minutes

- Motion to accept by Jill Carbone and Teresa Ziegler

6. Officers Reports

- President:
 - Katie said thank you to all who have been working hard on fundraising and projects. Thank you to Maria Vlahos for a successful picture day, to Allison Tyler and Jill Carbone for the mums sale, to Isanna Shpungin for a successful book fair, to Taryn Buglione and Adriana Farley for beautification and to Meredith Snider and Vivian Mike-Mayer for spirit wear.
 - Dunk Tank- This event happened on Friday 10/1. Students who completed their summer reading were rewarded by getting an opportunity to dunk Principal Celis. Julia and Katie were present for the event and helped by handing out balls to the students. The Pines Lake PTO paid \$275 to rent the dunk tank for the day and also supplied pencils for the media teacher to give to each student who participated in summer reading (\$50-\$60).
 - Candidate Night- October 19th is Candidate Night at Wayne Valley High School. If you have any questions for the candidates running for the Wayne Board of Education please submit them to Julia and Katie (pineslakepto@gmail.com) All are encouraged to watch or attend this event. It is important to be as informed as possible.

- Browse and Shop- This is the thrift store located near Schuyler Colfax Middle School. You can donate items there and they will sell them. Proceeds go to scholarships.
- Vice President-Maria/Allison no report
- Treasurer-Laura went over expenses for the month. She said checks went to the farm for the mums, Scholastic for the book fair, we paid for the dunk tank, the ice cream social, and Scholastic News. Teresa went over deposits: We had membership dues, book fair profit, spirit wear, mum sale profit, and opt out.
- Secretary-Meredith/Joanne no report

7. Principal Report-Mr. Celis was not able to attend but he sent the following report via email:

- We are excited that our students were able to enjoy the book fair, picture day, and the summer reading celebration.
- We are grateful for the strong partnership we have with our PTO!
- We are looking forward to the assembly that is planned and to have Kerry Margo meet with our 4th and 5th graders to discuss autism and inclusion.
- We are also really excited to celebrate Halloween. I'll be sharing more information this week about our parades and class parties.
- There has been, what seems like, a lot of testing. This information will help us plan group and individual instruction as we review student results. We will share student reports when they become available.
- Finally, I hope everyone found teacher presentations at our virtual back-to-school night informative. I'll be sharing more information shortly with our community.
- Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

8. Teacher Report-Mrs. Olaya was not able to attend the meeting but she sent the following:

- Teachers continue to express their gratitude for the "Adopt a Teacher" initiative PTO sponsored
- Thanks to everyone for the many supplies that have been donated to the classrooms.
- Thank you for being able to make some of our typical events happen because the students enjoyed them so much: the outdoor book fair and the dunk tank! These -not so little- things matter greatly.

9. Committee Report:

- Spirit Wear-Meredith and Vivian reported that we are just waiting for a couple of hoodies to get here and our job will be complete. The representative from Game Day said the order should be here any day. We had a total of 91 orders. Total profit is \$1,012.00.
- School Photos-Maria said it was a great day. The weather held out and allowed for outdoor photos to happen. Sibling photos took place. Maria will let everyone know when the link is live and photos are ready to order.

- Boo Grams- Karen Pollak sent the form to teachers to go home in the folders. The boo grams are going to be squishy bats for windows The price will be .75 per gram. Parents can order different ones for their child. Bats will be delivered to students in school on 10/29 (which is class party day).
- School Store- Karen reported that the store seems to be doing well outside with the foot traffic.
- Plant Sale- Jill and Allison said that the plant sale was in September and we had a tremendous turnout. The sale earned over \$1900 and cleared over \$700 in profit. 7 mums were donated to Pines Lake School.
- Membership- Julia and Katie reported that over 100 families have joined Pines Lake PTO so far. Per council bylaws, they will be deleting non-members from Facebook. Deadline to join is 11/30. Benefits of being a member are receiving the newsletter, being part of the Facebook group, being able to vote at the meetings, and receiving a directory.
- Opt-Out - We have the ability to opt out of fundraising. Our opt-out program is designed for families who are looking for an alternative to traditional fundraisers. You can still contribute to the PTO's efforts to provide programs and activities to our students. The recommended donation is \$50 per student, but any amount is welcome and appreciated. Please send your check, payable to Pines Lake PTO, along with the form below, in an envelope marked "PTO Opt-Out Program."
- Raise Craze Random Acts of Kindness- Katie explained that this is a new fundraiser we are researching and want to do this school year.
- Movie Night- This event has been postponed. It was decided that holding an event where people are sitting next to each other stagnant for long periods of time is too risky right now with COVID.
- Book Fair- Isanna was not present but Katie and Julia reported that the book fair was a tremendous success. We are choosing to take a mix of the profits as money for the school and also some in "Scholastic Dollars" which we will use to purchase books for all students at the next book fair. Thank you to all who volunteered. The rain held off and the event took place outside (except for the last day). We were able to keep the fair open one evening for parent shopping after school hours.
- Trunk or Treat- Chair people for this event were not present, but Katie and Julia reported that it is currently scheduled for Friday 10/22 (rain date is the 27th). This event is a fundraiser. The cost is \$5 to attend and we are also asking everyone who attends to donate a bag of candy. Our goal is to make \$1000 profit. Admission fee waived for those who decorate trunks. For those decorating trunks, set up is early and you must wait to leave until last person leaves the event. We are currently working on the system to pass out the candy in keeping with COVID precautions. Allergy friendly candy is encouraged but not required. We are hoping for at least 20 trunks. A police officer is now required at this event.
- Fifth Grade Activities- Chair people for this event were not present, but Katie reported the following: There is a Halloween party scheduled for the fifth graders on 10/29. It will be outdoors, lights are being donated, and parents must attend. Allergy friendly, pre-packaged snacks will be provided. There will be music, games, and decorations.

- Fifth Grade Yearbook- Chair people were not present, but Katie reported that yearbook members are starting to plan and interview vendors.
- Class parent- Adriana Farley reported that the class parent names were all selected earlier this afternoon. She will be sending out emails tomorrow to let everyone know. Julia added that in order to be a class parent, dues must be current.
- Cultural enrichment- Chairs for this committee were not present. Katie reported that students will be viewing an outdoor animal assembly on 10/19 titled "Eyes of the Wild." The school will be split into small groups K/1, 2/3, 4/5. There is no rain date but we can cancel with no penalty and reschedule. Also, guest speaker Kerry Magro will talk to the 4th and 5th graders about autism. Thank you to Ms. Fedkenheuer for helping to set this up.
- PM at Pines- Per Katie, this once robust after school clubs program is currently on hold. In light of COVID, there are concerns over space and mixing of classes and grades
- Talent Show/School Play- We need chair people
- Media Center Fund- We need chair people. This is a committee that will direct attention to media center.
- Raffle- We need chair people. We are doing a 50-50 in December. We need tickets printed as soon as possible. Hoping for this event to be quick, easy, and fun. Checks need to be made out to the Wayne Council of PTOs even though it is a Pines Lake PTO fundraiser. This is because Wayne Council of PTOs owns the raffle license.
- Holiday Boutique- We need chair people. Julia explained that a vendor brings stuff to us and we set it out on tables and people can buy items. It was a virtual event last year. It is scheduled to take place between 11/30-12/2.
- Wayne Alliance- Katie has volunteered to be the representative for Pines Lake.
- Beautification- Taryn and Adriana have done a fantastic job making the front of the school look nice with fall decorations.

10. Old Business-none

11. New Business- Alexis asked about SEPAG (Special Education Parent Advisory Group). Everyone agreed that it is very important that Pines Lake has representation with this group.

12. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn: Maria and Adriana
- Meeting adjourned at 8:30

Minutes recorded by Meredith Snider