

Pines Lake Elementary School
Regular PTO Meeting
April 4, 2022 7:30 PM via Zoom

1. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order by President Katie McEwan at 7:35 PM

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

- Motion to waive by Maria Vlahos and Allison Tyler.

3. Motion to Accept Prior Minutes

- Motion to accept by Laura Winters and Julia Hillje Dardia.

4. Officer Reports

- President

- Katie led the Pledge of Allegiance. She welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked all who joined the call.
- She said that the next meeting will be May 2. The following meeting was pushed out to 6/20. This is because we need to vote on excess funds at the June meeting and we are going to have some expenditures and some income at the very end of the school year.
- Katie said thank you to the staff for an amazing talent show. She thanked Ms. Christein, Ms. Sosnov, and Ms. Bellairs for running the show. She thanked Laura and all of the parent volunteers for helping out.
- Katie thanked Vivian Mike-Mayer and Danielle Fry for running Kids' Night Out. She said the children had a blast.
- Katie reported that the PTO Council Thrift Shop only needs clothing right now. Clothing can be placed in the big white bin in front of the building located to the left of SCMS's (Schuyler-Colfax Middle School) driveway. All of the proceeds go to scholarships for students in the Wayne Public Schools.
- Katie thanked the Pines Lake PTO board members for all of their participation.
- Katie thanked the Student Council Advisors, the Student Council, and Mrs. Olaya for taking our suggestion and bringing attention to Ukraine as well as other parts of the world that are experiencing violence and war.

- Vice President

- Maria/Allison Tyler-no report

- Treasurer

- Laura/Teresa Ziegler- Laura reported that we paid out for the assembly, the holiday shop, the license for the school play, school store supplies, 3 talent show teachers, school play teachers, obstacle course for Field Day, and DJ and photo booth for Kids' Night Out.
- Laura reported that the following deposits were received: spirit wear, school store, fall plant sale, and school play. Teresa added that two more school store deposits will be going through tomorrow.

- Secretary

- Joanne Bakas/Meredith Snider- No report

5. Principal's Report

- Mr. Celis said it has been an exciting month at Pines Lake School as we continue to return to normalcy.
- Talent show- Mr. Celis said that this event is a highlight for him. It shows how we as a community recognize one another. It helps improve self-efficacy and self-esteem. He said that participating in the show (via performing or attending in the audience) is an overall positive experience. He thanked the PTO for all of their efforts to make this event happen. He noted that there were some bumps in the road early on due to COVID, but he is glad we were able to pull it off.
- Mr. Celis said he is looking forward to the Lion King Jr. school musical.
- He reported that we started holding some more live shows at school. We recently had a 4th grade show in person outdoors.
- Student Council/ World Central Kitchen- Mr. Celis said thank you to the community for their generosity. The fundraiser for the World Central Kitchen was a huge success. The student council exceeded their fundraising goals. He thanked the PTO for the conversation held at the previous meeting regarding how the school can support Ukraine as well as how to recognize other parts of the world that are experiencing war and violence. This conversation helped to inform the decision to support World Central Kitchen which does good work globally.
- March Madness Reading Challenge- Today was the last day of March Madness. Mr. Celis said this event is a highlight for him. When we added up all of the minutes, the children read a total of 7 months-worth of time. This year, it went well and was a lot of fun. He wants to make sure that the students feel that school is exciting and fun and that learning is a life-long passion.

6. Teacher Report

- Mrs. Olaya reported that the staff said thank you to the parents for their support for the talent show. It felt so normal to be able to see this show in school again. It was great to see parents volunteering in the school building.

7. Committee Reports

- Talent Show- The talent show was held March 30, 2022. Laura reported that the children were so supportive of one another and it was heartwarming to watch. She noted that the teachers were amazing to work with. She also thanked the following parent volunteers: Maria, Meredith, Heather B., Tracey B., and Amanda S. She said it was an awesome night. Katie reported that we sold 277 tickets. PTO will see a profit of \$1900.
- Kids Night Out- Katie reported that this event was held April 1, 2022. She said the children had a blast. This event was free for all Pines Lake students thanks to all of the fundraising efforts of the Pines Lake PTO.
- Restaurant- Katie reported that Jersey Mike's Fundraiser is April 20. Novelli Parents' Night Out is May 26. A Hometown Creamery event is going to be happening at some point.
- Scholastic Book Fair- Katie reported that our in-school book fair is scheduled for 4/26-4/28. It will be held in the gym. There will be a late evening shopping night. She asked

everyone to please remember to read the newsletter for the most up-to-date information on the book fair and all other events.

- Teacher and Staff Appreciation- Katie reported that this will be held 5/2-5/6. She said the committee will be planning some fun things to make our staff feel appreciated.
- Spring Plant Sale- Katie reported that this will be a pre-order sale. Allison reported that plant pick up will be Thursday, 5/5. She said there will be extra baskets to sell "on the fly." Allison added that we will be using Van Wingerden again.
- Lion King Jr. Musical- Katie reported that this show will be held on 5/6. She said that preparations are underway.
- PM@Pines- Katie reported that there will be a late spring PM@Pines session. Registration is now open online. Payment must be sent to the school via check made payable to Pines Lake PTO. Please submit payment with parent and child name in an envelope labeled PM@Pines. Deadline for payment is 4/25. Registrations via web will not be considered complete until payment has been received.
- Field Day-5/26 (Rain Date 6/1) Aly Triolo and Amanda Hahn were not present, but Katie reported that we secured a blow up bouncy house style obstacle course. Ms. Bellairs is coming up with stations. Traditionally, class parents are asked to volunteer. We will let you know if additional volunteers are needed. Because of the Federal Lunch Program, we do not have to pay for the kids' lunches on Field Day this year. They will get a burger (either meat or garden), fruit, milk, and condiments. The PTO will provide water and chips. T-shirt totals have been received. Staff and volunteers will get shirts. PTO will provide food for staff and volunteers. We still need some supplies such as sponges and buckets.
- Fifth Grade Activities- Katie reported that there is a mixer coming up. The 3 feeder schools that go to SCMS will meet on 4/29 to meet their classmates for next year. 6/10 is their pool day.
- Class Parent- Katie asked Mr. Celis about class parties. He reported that end of the year parties are typically the last week of school and that class parents and teachers should plan this out together. Class parents should reach out to the child's teacher to coordinate.
- Fifth Grade Yearbook- No update
- School Store- Committee members were not present but Katie said that they are doing a great job with fundraising. Teresa added that this committee is one of our biggest and most consistent sources of income. Laura reported that the school store has netted \$3,971.
- Spirit Wear- Meredith reported that Vivian picked up the apparel from Game Day Sports on Friday, 3/11. Together, they sorted, labeled, and distributed everything to the people who purchased items. Feedback has been good.
- Wayne Alliance - No update
- SPA/SEPAG- Alexis K. reported that April is Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month. She has a list of great resources (e.g, books and activities) if anyone is interested in perusing it. She reported that 4/6 is Paraprofessionals Day.

8. Old Business

- Meredith said thank you to the staff for the fun way they celebrated 2/2/22. Also, thank you for Read Across America spirit week. She said that these are the types of activities that make school memorable for the children and we are grateful for the creativity and enthusiasm of the staff.

9. New Business

- Candle Fundraiser-Teresa reported that we have a candle fundraiser coming up with Simply Scotti. The sale is Monday 4/18- Friday 4/29. You can order candles for Teacher and Staff Appreciation, Mother's Day, Father's Day, and more. They will personalize the candles and deliver them directly to you. PTO gets 20% of proceeds from this sale. Just make sure to put PLS in the notes.
- Katie reported that we will be providing Pre-Packaged School Supply Kits. We will be sending information out to parents. We will be using First Day School Supplies. There is no minimum requirement and a percentage of sales will be going to the Pines Lake PTO. Mr. Celis has requested that the supplies be shipped directly to the families and not to the school. Participation in this initiative is completely optional. All brand name, high-quality supplies are used.
- Katie said to keep an eye out for nomination committee information.

10. Adjournment meeting was adjourned at 8:18

Minutes recorded by Meredith Snider