

Pines Lake Elementary School  
Regular PTO Meeting  
May 2, 2022 7:30 PM via Zoom

1. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order by President Katie McEwan at 7:33 PM

2. Pledge of Allegiance

- Katie led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

- Motion to waive by Laura Winters and Allison Tyler

4. Motion to Accept Prior Minutes

- Minutes were accepted by Allison and Tracey Byrne.

5. Officer Reports

- President- Julia Hillje Dardia /Katie McEwan
  - Julia said we have been very busy.
  - Julia said thank you to all the chair people.
  - Julia explained that anyone can come forward with ideas on how to spend excess funds.
  - Katie asked everyone to keep a lookout for emails coming from the Pines Lake PTO.
  - First Day School Supplies kits are for sale now. Get in your orders. PTO makes \$5 on each box we sell.
- Vice President- Allison Tyler/Maria Vlahos
  - Allison reported that we are all set in terms of all of the licenses we need.
- Treasurer-Laura Winters/Teresa Ziegler/Jill Carbone
  - Laura reported that we took in the following income: talent show, play, school store, book fair, PM @ Pines, and plant sale.
  - Laura reported the following expenses: transportation for field trips (4<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades), DJ for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade mixer, teacher supplemental payments (Ms. Foord, Ms. Harraka, Ms. Olaya), busing for 5<sup>th</sup> grade Pool Day, play expenses, 1 middle school sweatshirt, Field Day ice cream, school store expenses, book fair expense, 5<sup>th</sup> grade decorations, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Pool Day DJ.
- Secretary-Joanne Bakas/Meredith Snider
  - No report

6. Principal's Report- Mr. Celis reported the following:

- This is a busy and fun part of the school year.
- We had the pleasure of watching the school musical in school today today and it is going to be amazing. The students were fantastic. The directors (Ms. Deming and Ms. Malouf-Potter) are doing a phenomenal job. Scenery and costumes (Ms. McClure and Ms. Jensen) are doing great as well.
- A letter will soon be coming from the district regarding state testing which is coming up next week. 3<sup>rd</sup> grade is the week of May 9<sup>th</sup>. 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades will be the following week (The week of May 16<sup>th</sup>).

- Kindergarten Orientation is scheduled for 5/20. Mr. Celis asked if he can share information regarding this event with the PTO so that we can post it to the website to help spread the word to the community. This is a great opportunity to welcome our incoming Kindergarteners, tell them about our programs, and give them a tour of the school.
- Field Day is scheduled for later on in the month.
- On 5/25 there will be a kite flying activity. Students will build, decorate, and fly kites together.
- He said thank you for all your support
- The staff enjoyed the smoothie bar for Staff Appreciation Week.
- Mr. Celis requested that gaga pit be considered when voting on excess funds
- Thank you for \$5 book fair coupon for every child.

#### 7. Teacher Report – Mrs. Olaya reported the following:

- The teachers said thank you the PTO for giving \$5 to each student toward a book at the book fair. It was very much appreciated.
- From the Lion King staff: “Thank you for all the help that you have given us throughout the Lion King. We could not have done it without you all.”
- Thank you for the Staff Appreciation Week. We are off to a delicious start. Today’s smoothie bar set a nice tone on a Monday.
- Second grade teachers said thank you for the \$5 coupon to the book fair for each child. They also said thank you for the \$5 for each child for their field trip.
- Thank you for \$50 reimbursement for teacher supplementals.
- Thank you for all the support
- Mrs. Olaya is looking forward to play on Friday night at Wayne Hills High School.

#### 8. Committee Reports

- Nomination Committee- Robin Burton- Katie explained Robin’s role as the Nominating Committee Chair. (every year we need volunteers who are not on the PTO board to do our nominations for board positions for the next school year). Katie reported that Robin collected names of anyone who is interested in participating. A google form was published on our Facebook group, was sent in our newsletter, and also was email blasted to the greater population by Mr. Celis. Robin reported that so far she has received 7 responses. Julia added that today’s meeting is where Robin announces the slate and the final meeting of the year is when the swearing in of officers will take place.
- Scholastic Book Fair- (April 26 -28 ) Isanna Shpungin was not present but Katie and Julia reported the following:
  - The fair ran Monday evening, Tuesday from 9AM- 6PM, , 9AM-3PM on Wednesday, and Thursday morning.
  - Class lists were printed up and names were checked off to make sure that every \$5 gift certificate was used.
  - Julia explained how we were able to give each child a \$5 gift certificate. She said that when we hold a book fair, we get 50% of all of our sales back in Scholastic Dollars. With these Scholastic Dollars, we can buy anything from Scholastic or we can trade in the Scholastic Dollars for cash. If we trade for cash, we lose half of

it. This means that at the end of the day we would get 25% of our sales back in cash. From the Fall book fair, under Isanna's guidance we withdrew \$2000 cash to make our budget line and kept rest in Scholastic Dollars which was rolled back to the Pines Lake School students and used for the \$5 coupon for each child. A PTO sticker was placed in every book that was donated.

- By hosting a second book fair this year, we got an additional 10 percent kick back.
  - We now have \$4500 in Scholastic Dollars which we will roll over to next year. We will give the \$5 coupon again in the fall.
  - October 10-13 will be the book fair dates for next school year.
  - We Need a Book Fair chair. Please consider signing up to be co-chair with Isanna next year so she can train you for when she leaves the position after next year.
  - Thank you to the parents who volunteered at the book fair.
  - Thank you to Isanna for chairing the book fair.
- Media Center- Lisa Mull is the chairperson for this committee. Per Julia, they are working toward bringing back volunteers to help in the LMC to help check in, check out, and reshelv books. Lori Forbes and Lisa have been doing it alone all year. The library is in need of an inventory and will need lots of hands to help with this. Julia asked everyone to please consider chairing or co-chairing this committee.
  - Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week (5/2-5/6) – Nanci Cohen reported that they tried something different this year and gave them smoothies and acai bowls today. She said that on Wednesday the staff will be given pencil-shaped cookies and a balloon garland. Thursday they will be given Philly Pretzels, and Friday will be lunch from Panera. Nanci asked for feedback so she has a sense of what the staff would like to keep or change for next year.
  - Spring Plant Sale- Allison reported pick up is Wednesday May 4<sup>th</sup> from 1:45-4 PM. It was a preorder sale with the exception of a few baskets and flats. A total of 26 orders were received. If you placed an order, please make sure to come and pick them up; they cannot be sent on the bus with the children. Allison is estimating \$500 in profit. Extra flats will go to school beautification.
  - Lion King Jr. Musical 5/6 at 7 PM. Katie reported that the school performance was today and it was amazing. People can still buy, e tickets on Ticket Leap. We have sold around 200 tickets so far. Eight people have not paid their Lion King Jr. dues. Allison reported that we are looking for 1 or 2 parents to help out behind the scenes on Friday night.
  - Talent Show- Katie reported that 3 people still haven't paid their talent show dues.
  - PM @Pines- Katie reported that this started today. It was only for the Monday classes (because of the Memorial Day holiday) and the rest of the clubs will start next week. We were able to run all clubs except photography with Ms. F. So far, 22 people haven't paid.
  - School Store- Committee members were not present but Katie said that they are doing a great job and raising a lot of funds. Thank you to Karen Pollak, Heather Bandola, and Julia for their work.

- Restaurant- Nanci reported that we made \$175 from the Jersey Mike's Fundraiser. We have a fundraiser coming up with Hometown Creamery on Wednesday, 6/1. This will go all day from 2-10 PM and they will also put an extra donation jar out as well as giving back 20% to the Pines Lake PTO. Novelli Parents Night Out is 5/26.
- Field Day- Aly Triolo reported that this year's theme is American Ninja Warrior. It will be held on 5/26 (6/1 rain date). There will be a bouncy house obstacle course. We don't have to pay for the students' lunches this year. We were able to get an ice cream truck to come (Sweet Ice Queen). T-shirts are ready to be picked up this week. They will get sorted and sent home. Ms. Bellairs is working on stations and will let the committee know what is needed.
- Fifth Grade Activities- Vanessa Freaney reported that they held the 5<sup>th</sup> grade mixer on Friday and it went well. She said that 5<sup>th</sup> grade Pool Day is the next event. She is working on permission slips and orders for Outback Steakhouse since Outback is donating lunch for everyone that day. They will have a DJ and a photo booth. They may need some chaperones for Pool Day. They are working on a balloon arch and lawn signs for graduation. They will have hoodies and T-shirts to give out on Pool Day.
- Fifth Grade Yearbook- no report
- Class Parent- Katie reported that class parents will be included for Field Day. They should make sure to let Aly know if they can or cannot attend. Class parents will be notified about end of the year parties.
- Wayne Alliance-no report
- SPA/SEPAG- no report

8. Old Business- none

9. New Business:

- Nanci asked questions about the Bike to the School event but Mr. Celis had signed off from the meeting so she will email him with her questions.
- Katie said thank you to Alexis K. and Tracey B. for attending all meetings.
- Katie said to please email [pineslakepto@gmail.com](mailto:pineslakepto@gmail.com) with any questions about anything

10. Adjournment- Meeting was adjourned at 8:34 PM.

Minutes recorded by Meredith Snider