

Millennium PTO Meeting Minutes

Date: February 7, 2024

Attendees: Anne Lasecki, Tiffany Hamill, Juli Cosentino, Melanie Wetmore, Nicole O'Connell, Tracy Blake, Bridget Adu, Amy Sentich, Beth Farr, Alia Shalabi, Kristin McElroy, Robyn Ryan, Kaprii Grady, Robyn Ryan, Lo Mitchell, Stephanie Pyrzynski, Alice Talerico, Amber Johnson

*Meeting called to order at 7:02pm by Tracy Blake. Motion to approve the last meeting's minute was approved by Anne Lasecki and seconded by Kaprii Grady.

President's Update (Tracy Blake):

Welcome message and overview of volunteer raffle again.

*Book Fair in December was a success. Thank you to all volunteers.

*Saunoris order came in with some issues, but volunteers were able to get things corrected right away for a few orders that didn't match up. Saunoris was low profit this year. Might want to replace Saunoris with another fundraiser next year.

The garbage can cleaning fundraiser only needs a week's notice so we can look at it into April.

Penny Wars will be Mario themed. An intro video was created to share with the students as a kickoff explaining the event and event rules. Teachers liked the idea and Ms. Cosentino said the video could be dropped into a google drive so all teachers can have access to it and have their students watch. Ways to reward the winning group were suggested like shaving foam or silly stringing the principal to be done outside when it gets a little warmer. Ms. Cosentino agreed to be a good sport and help out and thought it would be fun.

Fundraiser Chair (Alia Shalabi): Restaurant kickback night so far have been Avocado Theory, Chipotle, Hillgrove Tap, Panera. Panera did not do as well as expected. Might have been less successful because flyers did not go home. Village Pizza March 7 or Feb 28. Crema Coffee was talked to about doing a school fundraiser with us or even a kickback night. A possible \$5 back per bag to go back to Millennium PTO and every bag could be personalized with a school logo design on the bag. Crema is the new coffee shop business in the Oak Park Ave train station. Orders could be placed online and then PTO could pick up and distribute orders to parents at Millennium.

Ongoing Fundraisers:

*Continue to promote **Market Day** and encourage parents to combine orders to split shipping. Market Day will be available all year long. Free shipping is available with a \$135 purchase so order with a group of friends to save on shipping costs.

***Boxtops for Education:** All app done now. No physical box tops anymore. Download the app to scan in receipts. Current to date Boxtops has brought in \$50.30.

*Current fundraiser- **Valentine's Day pencil grams.** Pencil grams are \$1 each. Parents choosing to sponsor a class or do a full class set for their child's class will get a break and only pay \$18 instead of \$1 per student in the classroom. PTO will supplement pencil grams to ensure ALL students get at least one pencil gram to feel included and special. These are due to the PTO by Friday 2/9/24. PTO will complete and deliver the grams to classrooms to be distributed on Wednesday morning 2/14/24. We are excited with this new fundraiser to allow kids to spread kind words.

Hot Lunch (Kaprii Grady): Hot lunch is still to date the larger of our fundraisers. The hot lunch coordinator, Kaprii, told parents that they are always open to ideas for new vendors or feedback on vendors their children enjoyed and those they did not. Hotdog days this second half of the year are now rotating between hotdogs and pizza to give the kids a break from hotdogs. New families that come to Millennium after the lunch ordering window closes can ask to still order hot lunch, and Kaprii can open the account just for those families to order and feel included. This will be done on a case-by-case basis.

New volunteers need to sign a form in the front office and bring an ID to the front desk the first time they volunteer. That includes even veteran volunteers from previous years on the first day you volunteer in a new school year.

Principal Report (Juli Cosentino): STEAM Night will be returning to Millennium! More info to follow. Families had to already pre-register online if they were interested in attending. Some parents don't remember seeing the flyer that went home or an online interest survey.

PTO is approved to host an International Night for Millennium families. Ms. Cosentino will look into how many tables we actually can obtain before we sign families up.

Treasurer Report (Robyn Ryan): In December the PTO paid for the strings for students in K-5 grades for the String Unit in PE. Strings cost \$488.50. PTO sponsored a dinner on conference night for teachers that cost \$588.18. PTO purchased the refreshments (juice and cookies) for the Kindergarteners and their families at the Kindergarten holiday show. 5th grade field trip with 120 students will receive \$15 per student to contribute to offset the cost per family (\$1800 total). Insurance renewal and accounting fees went up intensely from last year. We need to shop around for someone to help with our tax return because the cost is now around \$1039 which is almost double the previous year's cost. Hot lunch was the highest fundraiser still to date follow by bookfair which brought in around \$3700 (consistent with the profits of the previous bookfair as well).

Upcoming Events (Tracy Blake):

Shaved Ice Treat Day for the students will take place during recess time on May 28, 2024. Kona Ice will replace Ice, Ice Baby Shaved Ice Company used last year.

Field Day will be May 31, 2024. Volunteers are needed. Sign up spots will be posted closer to the date but save the date if you need to request the day off. It was brought up if having Hot lunch on Field Day would be difficult or if we would run into a problem getting volunteers for hot lunch or field day because of the two events taking place simultaneously, but Ms. Cosentino said lunch aides could help and didn't think it would be a problem.

International Night will take place in late April / early May after school hours outside. Date TBD. The school will provide families with tables to showcase their culture and traditions such as costumes, flags, books, food, music, etc. Ms. Cosentino will look into how many tables we can pull together to bring outside. Some families may need to help bring a table. Multiple cultures might be grouped in a similar location together or asked to share a table if space/tables are limited. Alia is going to check out another school's upcoming International Night to get ideas on how to run it or what to expect.

Glow Dance-Glow Dance will take place on Friday April 26, 2024. A planning committee meeting will be taking place on 2/28 at 7pm to get feedback as to what they would like to see at the Glow Dance and help with the planning and volunteering parts of the dance. Anne Lasecki will be in charge of running the planning committee meeting for the Glow Dance. Decreasing the length of the Glow Dance was discussed to give the families enough time to have fun without too much wasted time for kids to get bored and run around. Items such as concession stand food choices, ticket costs, decoration ideas, DJ/entertainment ideas, what glow items to sell and at what cost will all be discussed. Typically the dance went from 6:30 to 8:30pm, but Tracy Blake suggested an earlier start time at 6pm and perhaps ending between 7 and 7:30. Fernway Elementary School shared some ideas on admission prices, dance length of time, food suggestions, and the possibility of pre-selling whole pizzas for families. It was suggested by a parent that we could possibly presell bags of glow gear at a discount and possibly include an exclusive item that you can't get for sale the night of the dance. New decorations will need to be created too as decorations are outdated and not in the best condition.

Teacher Liaison (Tiffany Hamill)-Teacher Appreciation was brought up. Teachers would like to have the PTO provide the lunch they sponsor on the ½ day.

Spirit Wear (Tracy Blake): Continue to shop for spirit wear all year online and have items shipped directly to your home. The option to add products from other elementary and middle schools and combine to save on shipping is a nice perk to working with this company that parents like.

Upcoming Meeting date: April 3, 2024 and it will be the last PTO Meeting of this school year. Glow Dance Planning Committee meeting will take place on 2/28/24 at Millennium. All parents interested in helping to plan the Glow Dance are welcome to attend.

*Meeting adjourned at 8:02pm by Tracy Blake.