

Liberty Pines Academy PTO Meeting Minutes

October 3, 2017

1. **Welcome** President Melisa Kramer called meeting to order at 10am

2. **In attendance:** Stephanie Cross, Erin Gulden, Cathy Richter, Melissa Woody, Edja Graunke, Janine Bowker, Robyn Cebulko, Mrs. Hemingway, Melissa Kramer, Shannon Anderson, Michelle O'Halloran, Rachael Bunnell, Bre Willman, Caitlin DiBenedetto, Kelly Hite, Melinda Howell, Christy Beebe, Erin Bragg

3. **Motion to approve minutes.** Robyn Cebulko approved September's meeting minutes, Janine Bowker seconded the motion and everyone voted Yah!

4. **Sunshine Chair** Kelly Hite talked about ...of the month nominees. There were 3 staff nominees, Kelly read the letters submitted for Ms. Bell in 1st grade, Stacy Raya in 1st grade, as well as our principal Mrs. Hemingway. All in attendance voted and Mrs. Hemingway won. Cathy Richter was voted at volunteer of the month for her work on the book fair and spirit wear.

5. Principal and officer reports

a. **Principal** Mrs. Hemingway talked about the School Improvement Plan. The achievement levels for 3rd-8th grade has gradually gone up. ELA was at 80% in 2014/15 and 82% in 2016/17.

Math was 87% in 2014/15 and was 90% in 2016/17. She discussed how it is difficult for our high achievers to maintain 4's and 5's as they get older. As well as the challenge of moving our low achievers up.

She talked about PLC (Professional Learning Communities). At the elementary level this is grouped by grade level, at the middle school level this is grouped by subject area. The purpose of this is that every other Wednesday Staff meets in the PLC groups to plan, thus insuring that no matter who is teaching a subject the content is the same.

Wonderful Wednesday is no longer due to safety concerns with so many students. It has been replaced with HOWL (How Our Wolves Learn) hour. This is a power hour on Wednesday mornings where students will go to different classes based on their needs. Each PLC will have a designated week, for instance the first Wednesday might be math, second ELA, etc. Teachers will give students a stamp if they need to attend a specific subject for extra help. If no students may attend any class including art and drama. The Fifth week will be an open week so that students who always need extra help will still have a week to choose a fun period. Using this time students who need to retake a test or makeup work or test may do so eliminating the need to come before school.

At this time all grade levels are using AVID strategies. We are the only K-8 avid school in St Johns County. It is our Decade of Learning, 10 yrs. since we opened our doors.

b. **President** Melissa Kramer said that our business partnerships are doing awesome and just need to be maintained. Access Church just joined as Silver Wolf so that they could hang their banner our front since they use our facilities for their services.

Of the Year volunteers were nominated, these are volunteers from last school year. Melissa read letters nominating Carolyn Haynes, and Melissa Woody who received 3 nominations & was voted volunteer of the year. We did not have a student volunteer of the year nominated. Our senior volunteer of the year was Sheliah Drewienkowski.

c. VP Fundraising Melissa Woody talked about Boosterthon. We are at 70*% of our \$40,000 goal. If 60% of students in K-5 get a pledge they will get a fun hat day. If we meet our \$40,000 goal the students will receive a PJ day. There is a cool map feature that shows where all the donations are coming in from around the world. The run will take place Friday Oct 6th and Monday will be our rain date.

d. VP Membership Robyn reported she has met her membership goal. Currently at \$7,024.65 and still has lots of teachers joining PTO.

e. Treasurer Janine reported our current balance is 16,839.92. We received a total of \$7,049.46 in donations and we spent \$26,829.28 this month. Please see attached statement for specifics.

f. Secretary Erin had nothing new to report.

6. Committee Chair Reports

a. Blessing in a backpack Michelle reported that funding is available for @25 students. No funds have been spent thus far due to donations from a local church. Every Friday food is packed in a backpack and sent home with students who may not have enough to eat. PTO was concerned about what happens if we have more than 25 students. PTO decided they would fund additional students. After looking into this it was determined that at this time we do not have more than 25 students in need of this service.

b. Liberty Parade Christy Beebe reported that it will take place on Thursday Nov 9th. Breakfast is being moved to the media center where it will not only be more comfortable but can accommodate more veterans. Only concert band students will perform this year due to late hiring of band teacher.

c. Mini Grants, Caitlin DeBenedetto reports all requests have been submitted waiting on 3 orders and most orders have been received.

d. Room Parents Melissa Kramer reported for Jennifer that the room parent meeting went well.

e. Taxslayer Bowl Edja Graunke says we are signed up, once we get the forms they will be distributed.

f. Wrapping paper Erin Gulden has the new catalogs, the fundraiser will take place the week of Oct 20-27. Should be delivered on Dec 11 or 12 in time to be handed out at Night of the Arts.

7. Old business Our Box Tops chair shared that she is struggling with her job due to not a smooth turn over from previous chair. Other members present offered to help her figure out the process.

All AVID T's have been passed out with the exception of 5th and 8th grade who should be receiving theirs next week.

8. New business none

9. Next Meeting November 7th at 10 am

10. Adjourned by Melissa Kramer at 11:05am