

## **Liberty Pines Academy PTO Minutes**

### **October 10, 2019**

1. **Welcome/Call To Order:** Melissa Woody called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. Everyone present introduced themselves and shared their role in the PTO this year.
  
2. **Attendance:** Bre Willman, Erin Gulden, Heather Gilbert, Stephanie Cross, Robyn Cebulko, Melissa Woody, Traci Hemingway, Marty Kondal, Rachael Bunnell, Erin Bragg, Gayle Cormier, Melinda Howell, Angela Raines, Miranda Quinones, Brandy McWilliams, Elaina Sinner, Kathleen Billet, Kate Walsh, Danna Bicknell, Christy Beebe, Melissa Ochoa, Jennifer Lemieux, and Shannon Valentine.
  
3. **Approval of minutes:** Bre Willman motioned to approve the September PTO meeting minutes. Melinda Howell seconded the motion and all present were in favor.
  
4. **Sunshine Chair:** Stephanie Cross reported that she has a few nominations for “of the month” recognition. With respect to the student nomination, Stephanie has a nomination for the five children who set up a stand to raise money for LPA penny wars. All five children will get a gift card. With respect to the staff nomination, Stephanie has a nomination for the entire cafetorium staff for their help with LPA penny wars. Stephanie will reward each of them with a candy bar and a thank you note. With respect to the volunteer nomination, Stephanie has nominations for Heather Gilbert for her hard work as hospitality chairman and for Danna Bicknell for her hard work as business partner liaison. All present decided that there would be no vote on the volunteer nominations; instead, Heather and Danna will each share the volunteer award over the next two months. Stephanie will ask to have the “of the month” program discussed on the morning announcements in case students wish to make nominations. Stephanie’s quote for this month is: “Kindness is always beautiful.”
  
5. **Principal and Officer’s reports**
  - a. **Principal’s report** – Mrs. Hemingway reported the following:
    - A SAC meeting was held on Tuesday at which there was a discussion about the need to educate students regarding social media. There are big issues in middle school and also in 5<sup>th</sup> grade regarding the improper use of social media. Mrs. Hemingway would like to provide an engaging, impactful assembly for the kids (and their parents) on this topic. Mrs. Hemingway has charged SAC with the responsibility of finding a person or group who could provide the students with an engaging assembly but would also like to charge the PTO with the same responsibility. Mrs. Thayer did a program called Screenagers.

Parents and kids came together to watch. It costs \$250 but Mrs. Hemingway would be willing to spend that amount. Kids don't realize the digital footprint that they're leaving. They need someone that will relate to them to speak on this topic. Mrs. Hemingway would like an assembly for the students during the day and also one for parents in the evening. She thinks the assembly should be held for 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students.

- b. **President** – Melissa Woody reported on the following:
  - With respect to the “volunteers of year,” Melissa has turned the nominations over to Mrs. Hemingway who has access to volunteer hours. Melissa will let us know who is chosen.
  - Melissa proposed that the PTO amend its budget to include \$100 for coffee and donuts for national “dads take your kids to school day.”
  - The November PTO meeting is an evening meeting (6pm). Based on attendance, we will see if we should do one evening meeting per semester. We will vote in the budget at this meeting which is going to be a general meeting. It will be in the LPA cafeteria.
  
- c. **1<sup>st</sup> VP Fundraising** – Bre Willman reported on the following:
  - Bre reminded everyone that the first carnival planning meeting is the 29<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. Please RSVP to bcwillman@gmail.com.
  - Bre shared that there will be a break in fundraising activity starting in December. PTO will start back with fundraising in February. She appreciates everyone's contributions.
  
- d. **2<sup>nd</sup> VP Membership** – Stephanie Cross reported on the following:
  - We are up to \$7,680 for PTO membership as of now.
  - We are in need of 3 more volunteers for health screenings. Sign up via Sign up genius.
  
- e. **Treasurer** – Robyn Cebulko distributed the State of the Bank as of October 10, 2019. She reported on the following. The PTO Vystar account balance as of 9/12/19 was \$32,600.50. PTO has taken in income/donations of \$20,917.51. Expenses have been \$3,673.21. The PTO balance as of today is \$49,844.80.
  
- f. **Secretary** – Shannon Valentine had no report.

## 6. Committee Chair Reports

- a. **Charleston Wrap Fundraiser** – Erin Gulden and Marty Kondal reported that as of today, we have sold \$17,671 of wrapping paper. We have also received \$300 in donations. This equates to \$7,815.60 in profit to PTO, which is almost as much profit as the Spring Carnival yields.
- b. **Boosterthon** –Melissa Woody reported for Laura Webb and Lisa Hardy that the dates and times for Boosterthon have been announced. A meeting will occur on November 4<sup>th</sup> and the Fun Run will take place on November 15<sup>th</sup>. The LPA newsletter has the times that the kids will be out at the Fun Run based on their grade. The Boosterthon Pep Rally will take place on November 4<sup>th</sup>.
- c. **Bravoz/Icemen sales update** – Holly Van Wagner reported on the following:
  1. We have sold 28 Bravoz tickets. We started with 100 to sell. The flyer is available on the PTO facebook page. This opportunity is not limited to LPA families. Please share information with friends. Urban Air started a promotion for \$17/month, which has made our fundraiser less appealing. We need to sell the remaining 72 tickets. We will need some community marketing to help sell the tickets. We will also have a table at the movie night to sell these tickets. There are no black out dates and they don't expire.
  2. The LPA Icemen game is the 16<sup>th</sup> of November.
- d. **Hospitality** – Heather Gilbert reported on the following:
  1. For “Dads bring kids to school day,” Heather and Melissa Woody brought a variety of coffee choices as well as donut holes. The morning was a hit. The front office did a great job getting all of the dads checked in. By 8:28 am, 187 dads were all checked in.
  2. The LPA Liberty Parade is coming up in November. Heather has planned out a continental breakfast. Jason's Deli is donating fruit, water and paper goods. Waters will be outside this year because it is usually hot. Heather could use some volunteers: [hgilbert226@gmail.com](mailto:hgilbert226@gmail.com) She will bring tents for shade from the SJGCC swim team.
- e. **Outdoor Movie Night** –Bre reported for Lindsey Waggoner. Relay for life will be selling concessions. Families can bring their own food. Girl scouts will be selling popcorn that Tinseltown is donating and the

Girl Scouts will donate all of the money they make to PTO. This is a free event. Bring blankets and chairs. Chick fil A will also be there beginning at 6:30. Gates open at 6:30 p.m. The movie starts at 7 pm. We will be utilizing volunteers to lead people from the parking lot to the movie area around the construction. If someone wants to volunteer, Bre just needs their name ahead of time.

- f. **Mini-grants** —Melissa Woody reported for Caitlin DiBenedetto. Robyn and Caitlin are working to get mini-grants purchased. Kim Delaney will distribute the grants and have teachers sign that they received them. They will lock the gift cards in the safe at night. Teachers will be signing that they will use the grants only for school purposes. The mini-grant for drama has been distributed already.
  - g. **Book Fair** – Robyn Cebulko and Erin Bragg reported that at the next meeting, we will have something for people to sign up to work at the book fair.
  - h. **School Supplies**--Marty Kondal reported that we earned \$593 for selling the school supplies boxes. We added kindergarten this past year. Marty suggested that we explore supply boxes for middle school; however, Mrs. Hemingway expressed concern about middle school supply kits because kids' classes get changed around after FSA scores are received. Next year, we will add on \$5 convenience fee per box.
7. **SJC School Board Task Force Meeting Update**--Melinda Howell provided a summary from the SJC School Board Task Force Quarterly meeting held on 10/9/19. She went over the summary, which is attached.
8. **Old business**—There is no old business.
9. **New business**—Bre Willman reported that K-5 field trip shirts were distributed. It will cost parents \$5 to replace the shirts if they are lost.
10. **Next meeting** – Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM (please note time change).
11. **Adjournment**--Melissa Woody adjourned the meeting at 11:02 am.

St. John's County School Board Task Force Quarterly meeting:  
10/9/19

INK! – Investing in Kids:

- Has several mini grants and for teacher support available. Deadlines are 10/19 for this year, but they usually open in May if any of our teachers want to apply.
- They have a recognition program called "Make a Mark" for people to nominate teachers and staff to receive money for their classrooms. 1 for Elementary, 1 for Middle, and 1 for High School each month. Submit applications to: <https://ink-stjohns.org>

Legislative Update:

- Legislature is working to clarify and refine school safety policies implemented after the Parkland Shooting
- Allocating additional money for mental health programs
- **Standards Listening Tour at LPA on 10/21 at 5:30!**
  - o The Florida Department of Education will be hosting a meeting to discuss the needs and wants of our county for the curriculum to replace Common Core. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

District News:

- New High School HHH to be built east of Mill Creek to relieve overcrowding at Nease and Bartram
- New K-8 MM to relieve Palm Valley Academy
- Both set to open 2021 provided growth in the county continues
- St. John's County has received approximately \$334,000 from July until now from outside organizations and parent volunteering is up to approximately 1 parent for every 2 students
- The Players has donated \$1million to Flagler Health to support youth and family mental health for more long term needs in the county
- There will be a big increase in required minimum mental health, substance abuse, and child trafficking education for all students in the next year or so. Details being worked out, but will be age appropriate.
- All teachers have and/or will receive training in Youth Mental Health First Aid. High School faculty received 6 hours of training in pre-planning this past summer and K-8 have a different program.
- **On 10/28 at 6:00 pm Kelly Berrera from the School Board will be hosting a Northeast Community Conversations talk at Nease High School.** All are welcome and encouraged to attend.