

Board Members: Jennifer Thorndyke, President; Marcy Saniuk, President Elect; Jon Warren, Treasurer; Molly Warren Secretary

Welcome and call to order at 6:31pm

Introductions: Board members and meeting attendees.

Principal's Report:

- Dancing Classrooms will start Thursday, January 13th.
- Kindness Retreat: Dr. Chaussee is still waiting to hear communication on this.
- Meredith Schneider was hired to be the new principal at Abbott. She is an Admin Intern (3 years experience) and is currently at Ackerman.
- Mask Mandate will be put in place on 1/12/22
 - masks will not be required during P.E.
 - lunch protocols will remain the same for now but can adjust accordingly

Treasurer's Report:

- Balance
- Still waiting for receipts for teacher grants from: Schulte, Dobler, and Broesche
- PTO today membership
 - membership fee is typically \$700
 - we have to have this for the insurance (activities)
 - contact district liaison for additional questions
 - Jon will renew the membership
- Donation from Benevity \$400
- MPS Foundation Scholarship has been donated

Secretary Report:

- The PTO Quarterly Newsletter was sent out for Quarter 2. The 3rd quarter letter will be sent out in February/March.

Committee Updates:

- **Movie Nights (David Falke):**
 - No movie nights currently
- **Walk-A-Thon (Erika Rooney):**
 - Finalizing last invoices and Walk A Thon 2021 will be all finished.
 - Looking for someone to take over for Erika next year so she can train them to take over with her still at Grace Abbott.
- **Fifth Grade Farewell:**
 - We have secured the Kiewit Middle school for 5th grade farewell on Thursday, May 19th 2022. We had the 5th graders vote on a theme and I believe it is Space. Now they will design t-shirts and vote on that soon.
 - We have a good number of volunteers now so that helps.

- **Yearbook (Jackie Ryba):**
 - Working on classroom pages and finalizing page layouts.
 - We could use more photos from school activities, music programs or students hanging out together
- **Cash Rewards/Incentive Programs (Robin Matthes):**
 - Box tops checks have been mailed and we received it 1/10/2022.
- **Social/Welcome Committee (Marcy, Molly):**
 - We were looking at exploring other Social Committee events such as a Turkey Trot, etc. in the future.
 - Looking for someone to take over the Social Committee.
 - Leprechaun Breakfast Cancelled
- **Bricks:**
 - Parents/Families can pay \$40 to have your name inscribed on a brick with your name on it at Abbott.
 - Have a graphic for Gator Tales and possible flyer ready to go and sent to Cindy
 - NEXT STEPS: Need to know from Jon what he needs to put a link to purchase bricks on the PTO website (the old paper form with character # limit? Anything else?)
 - Once the form is up, I'll insert it into the graphic and Cindy will include in Gator Tales
- **Buzz Book (Kim Parker and Julie Calvin (help)): Fun night (Holli Vessley):**
 - All Buzz Books have been distributed.
 - Negative balance but not a major concern.
 - Sending out newsletters via the website in the future and include the Buzz Book link.
- **Dancing Classrooms:** see Principal Report for update
- **Original artwork (Debbie Smith):** we will not participate in Original Artwork for the 21-22 school year. We will revisit this next school year.
- **Classroom Party Volunteer Coordinator (Kristy Gotschall):**
 - I need to communicate with room parents by the end of the week about Valentine's Day parties. Do we know if they will be teacher or parent run, and if/what PTO will be providing for the parties?
 - Snack and Drink will be provided by the school
- **Hospitality (Marta Thomas and Sarah Ruttle):**
 - Marta distributed Teacher Appreciation gift cards on professional recognition days through Dec. 31. Next date is 2/7 (1 person has their gift card already), followed by classroom teachers March 1 (27) and 8 others in April and May. Need 35 \$25 Target gift cards please for the 27 teachers + 8 others so can prep and include with cards.

- o Have there been any staffing changes since mid-October? Don't want to miss anyone
- o Upcoming: Food for Spring Conferences (Feb. 16-18) NEED to know which meals committee is responsible for:
 - Conferences Meals needed for 2/10 (Thursday) and 2/15 (Tuesday)
- o Teacher Appreciation Week (May 2-6)
- **Volunteer Recruitment and Recognition Committee (Jocelyn Nickerson):**
- **Educational Grant and Scholarship Committee (Elena Nieto):** Elena is looking for volunteers to help with this committee to review scholarships.
 - Molly will put this in the Quarter 3 PTO Newsletter and will communicate via Facebook
- **Carnival (Kristy G.)**
 - o I have not done anything for carnival, not knowing whether or not there will be gatherings allowed. It's a lot of work to put into an event that may or may not happen. Also, I most likely will not be available on the Friday that carnival is currently scheduled. I think we could throw together a school social night with food trucks and a few bounce houses fairly quickly if gatherings are allowed in the spring.

Announcements: None

New Business: None

Adjournment: 7:20 pm

Next Meeting is Tuesday, February 1st @ 6:30pm