



# Memorial PTO Meeting

January 11, 2023

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Principal's Report – Missy Bilsborough
  - a. January is always very busy and a great time to get momentum with some projects
  - b. There is some testing/checking student skills right now to know where support is needed.
  - c. Benchmark assessments will be next.
  - d. We are excited about our first Hero Day coming up Friday. Missy read a story and sent a recording to all the teachers to share with their classrooms.
    - i. There will be an assembly Friday to talk about heroes and Martin Luther King and some of the first graders will be asked to read about their hero.
    - ii. Missy would love feedback on whether the concept is too much or the dressing up is too much.
  - e. The theme for the month is Courage
  - f. There is a math pilot program going on currently and they have been seeing some great things. They will be making recommendations and in the fall hopefully starting with a better program.
  - g. Kindergarten pre registration has already happened (180 already plus probably at least 20 more). Pre School pre registration is also already started and there is now an additional classroom which will be over at Wheelock because there is no space here.
    - i. We may get some modulars at Memorial for upcoming years.
3. Important Dates
  - a. Town Wide PTO Meeting - Jan 25, 7 PM, Blake Middle School Library
  - b. Valentine's Day Party - Feb 14<sup>th</sup>, party in a bag structure with games
  - c. Read Across America: First week of March March 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>)
    - i. Chairs: Jenna Schwirtz and Julie Monaghan
    - ii. Taped "Special Guests" for teachers to show on their own schedule
4. Treasurer's Report: Katherine Weisse
  - a. We're in a good financial position and have had many fundraisers both passively and actively.
  - b. We have an almost \$24,000 balance and are looking to use it verses hold it.
    - i. None of the teachers have asked for any grants at this time.
    - ii. Potentially bringing in someone from outside to host a fundraiser or enrichment.
    - iii. Maybe the specialist teachers may need something or the teachers need a common item across the board like tissues or playdough etc.
    - iv. Grant a "Fresh Start" fund for the teachers coming back into the new year and needing to replenish their supplies.

- v. Depending on our balance at the end of the year, if there is extra, some could be donated to the playground fund at that time.

## 5. President's Report – Danielle Tata/ Kelly Behbehani

- a. Cookie Fundraiser-
  - a. It was successful but it is a lot to pay for the cookies and work on our part to put the kits together. Something to consider going forward, although it is an activity the kids enjoy.
- b. Acton Discovery Museum – set for Spring (May 31, June 6, June 7)
- c. Kindergarten t-shirts – Ali Spidalieri
  - a. Last year they were one for \$14 and two for \$24 (kid size or kid + adult size)
  - b. Target to order the end of March
- d. Playground Update – Amy Gilmore/ Rachel Grof
  - a. [Revised Playground Strategic Plan](#)
    - i. Replacing the playground piece by piece
    - ii. There are too many questions about the future of Dale so this will help create a new playground while making it moveable if need be while also making annual improvements that each class can enjoy.
    - iii. We have not been hearing back from the guy who is supposed to head this up so we may have a new playground guy going forward.
    - iv. DPW has committed to putting in ramps.
  - b. Walsh Team Gingerbread Houses - \$630
  - c. Minted: \$683.92 so far this year. This will continue for any print needs through Minted.
  - d. PixieLane: Hopefully we can have an in-person event this spring so people can look see and touch.
    - i. The woman would bring rolling racks, we could set a two hour time with apps and beverages, we just need a venue.
    - ii. A house would be ideal so we can serve wine. Maybe a spring refresh event.
    - iii. Jenna Schwartz may be able to host. TBD.
  - e. We should tap into the corporate aspect of things, like Wegmans.
    - i. They would want planned designs, measurements, there is a long application and they would be looking to donate towards a whole playground being built at once.
  - f. Once we get in touch with or find a new person who is heading up the playground we will have the information we need to reach out to different potential sponsors or businesses to move forward with more funding.

## 6. Upcoming Fundraisers/ Events:

- i. Paint Night with Patti Allen/ Studio 109 (a Friday in Feb?)
  - 1. Hopefully that will get buttoned down by tomorrow
  - 2. It is a parent and child night
  - 3. Targeting Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- ii. Movie Night 2 (March?)
  - 1. A big success and fun but a lot of work and expensive.
  - 2. We paid for a year license to see any movie through this year so we want to take advantage.
  - 3. Does anyone have any ideas for a movie screen? FunFlix is too expensive. (\$700)
    - a. The last one was an 18 foot screen and it almost didn't fit.
  - 4. It should be capped at 200 people or less.
  - 5. There should be a physical jar WITH the QR code so people can also donate.
  - 6. Should we split the grades and do two nights, one for K and one for 1?

7. Kat Schipani has someone she knows that may donate their equipment and time to host a movie night.
  8. Looking to do the second or third week in March and have the kids pick between two 90 minute movies.
- iii. Mr. Grace Stay and Play, part deux (April?)
  - iv. Passive Fundraising
    1. Already in progress: Minted, Pixie Lane
    2. Mabel's Labels – set up in May for camp and keep running throughout the summer
      - a. They have labels for different items and clothing and 20% would go back to the school
    3. Gift card fundraiser – Scrips
      - a. There would be a list of stores where if you bought a gift card then a percentage of that would go back to the school.
      - b. These would be from national/approved vendors like Target or Amazon.
      - c. A parent friend did this at their school and it was very successful.
  - v. Memorial Art Show/ Food Trucks – June 1
    1. Combining the art show by adding some food trucks and raffles while people are already at the school.
    2. Potentially hot dog vender, Ribpublic.... Chubbs ice cream truck is confirmed.
    3. Would any local businesses donate food or water?
    4. Coal fired pizza pop up would want tickets pre sold so he would know supplies ahead of time and there would be minimal risk for him.
    5. Outsource the mains and we could supply the drinks and sides to sell.
  - vi. The Bubble Man – Kelly B.
    1. He is a 45min show focused on bubbles with some science. Appropriate for ages 2-8. They could do two shows back to back or morning and afternoon.
    2. Needs to be indoors
    3. \$1,100 for two shows, \$600 for one show.
    4. It would displace PE for the day so doing it in May so PE would be taking place outside anyway.

NEXT MEETING: March 1 AT 7PM over Zoom