

Tonawanda PTO Meeting Minutes

February 8, 2018

Call to Order: 9:07am

Present: Spencer Mayhew, Kris Ewig, Anne Hardy, Linda Atkinson, Helena Silva, Natalie Schneider, Lisa Becker, Jayme Radomski, Joe Coffey, Jessica Veazey, Nicole Eull, Heather Anderson, Theresa Westphal, Kristin Olson

PRINCIPAL REPORT- Kristin Olson

Thanked the PTO for the following: Edward Tulane Night PTO bucket donation, Sweethearts Dance, Bus Driver Appreciation, Geography Bee, Box Tops, Battle of the Books, Beer and Bingo Night

39 prospective kindergarten families attended Information Night (compared with 36 last year).

Looking for people to fill the playground and lunchroom aide positions. Let Mrs. Olson know if you are interested.

Mrs. Olson was asked if there was any new information regarding the expansion of the school. She said they are still in the preliminary planning phases, and the earliest that it would be completed is by the 2019/2020 school year.

TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE REPORT - Theresa Westphal

No report

Spencer informed Mrs. Westphal that there is still some grant money left over. He asked her to pass this information on to the other teachers. Mrs. Westphal suggested that he should let Mr. Goffard and Mrs. Benoch know. She also suggested that the grant request process be pushed back to later in the year as the fall is very busy for the teachers.

SECRETARY REPORT - Kris Ewig

Nicole motioned to approve the minutes from the January meeting. Jayme seconded the motion. Minutes approved.

PRESIDENT REPORT - Spencer Mayhew

Thanked the following people:

- Lisa Becker for a great Beer and Bingo night
- All those who donated items to the auction
- Jess Veazey for the Sweethearts Dance
- Joe Coffey for the Monarch Station
- Ben Boldt for offering to maintain the fish tank
- Natalie Schneider for coordinating baked goods for the dance

Spencer asked for volunteers to serve on a Bylaws Steering Committee. They would take the current bylaws and look through meeting minutes to see if any changes have been made. They would also review bylaws from other schools.

An EEF Scholarship Steering Committee also needs to be formed. This committee will create guidelines and criteria for how the scholarship will be given.

The Elm Grove Junior Guild asked the PTO to share information regarding an upcoming fundraising event of theirs. It was determined that PTO members can use their own personal platforms (i.e. facebook) to help promote Guild events, but the PTO will not use its communication platforms to promote Guild events.

TREASURER REPORT – Jayme Radomski

We have just under \$43,000 in the bank.

Discussed whether Goldfish cracker sales are worth it as it seems as though we break even.

Jayme asked that all receipts be emailed to her at TonawandaPTOtreasurer@gmail.com

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Fundraising – Lisa Becker, VP

- **Dine Outs** - Kris reported that the next Dine Out is at Blaze on 2/21. Must show a flyer for school to get credit. Also mark your calendars for the May 9 Dine Out at Parkside 23. \$2,129 has been raised so far this year from Dine Outs, which has surpassed the goal of \$2,000.
- **Bingo and Beer** - Lisa reported that \$5,500 was made from this event. She thanked all those who donated items.
- **Box Tops** - Nicole reported that there is another deadline coming up at the end of this month, so please send in your box tops!

Academic Enrichment – Mary Mayne, VP (Spencer reporting)

- **High Interest Day** - We now have enough presenters, but are still in need of volunteers to help run the day. Please contact Ellen Laubusch if available/interested or sign up on MySchoolAnywhere.

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- **Geography Bee** - Linda reported that the Geography Bee went well. Grant Atkinson won 1st place and Callum Mayne won 2nd place. All grade levels will continue to be included; however, only 4th and 5th graders can take the test.
- **Battle of the Books** - The team of Susie, Maddie, Mellynda, Louis, and Jack won the school BOB competition. They will now compete at the state level on February 20.
- **Science Fair** - Linda reported that the Science Fair will be held on March 8. She has been working closely with Amy Benoch. All grade levels can participate in the fair. High school students will be judging K-2, and other community members will be judging 3-5. Looking for parents to volunteer to judge. If interested contact Amy. Need a new Chair for this committee next year. Linda suggested doubling the budget for this event next year.
- **Literacy Week** - 2/26-3/2 Lisa reported that Seuss Cafe is Friday, March 2. Need volunteers to help decorate Friday, 2/23. Also need help with a.m. shift on the 2nd and tear down after school.
- **Destination Imagination** - DI Tournament is on 2/24 at Muskego HS. Promotional video is being made for next year. Nicole said that more support and supervision is needed for the younger groups and that additional parent volunteers should be considered for next year. Discussed requiring parents to volunteer for at least one meeting. Natalie suggested keeping grade levels together when forming teams.

[School and Family Relations](#) – Nicole Eull, VP

- **Bus Driver Appreciation** - February 15.
- **One Community, One Book** - Very successful first year of doing this.
- **Daily Announcement Headers** - Nicole talked to Mrs. Olson about the headers in the daily announcements and asked why there is frequently no description underneath. Discussed ways to streamline communication with families. MySchoolAnywhere serves as an online directory and allows the PTO to directly email families, but it is not user friendly and has limitations. And there are still many families that have not registered. Discussed having tables set up at events with laptops where the PTO could guide families through the process. Also discussed having room parents help families sign up.

Social Programming – Jessica Veazey, VP

- ***Little Sweethearts Ball*** - Tonight! Jess thanked the Baking Committee for the baked goods.
- ***Boys Event*** - Chairs Maureen Dugan and Lindsey Kacsur looked into a bowling event, but found that it was expensive, so they are opting to do a warm-weather event such as kickball.
- ***4th Grade Square Dance*** - 4/13? Looking for volunteers
- ***Welcome Committee***- Need to create a packet for families that start at Tonawanda mid-year.

OLD BUSINESS

Lisa motioned to move the election process up one month (April ballot, May vote). Joe seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Aquarium expenses- No new expenses, but will be re-evaluating expenses with Ben Boldt.

NEW BUSINESS

High Interest Day Budget- The committee has been working with a tight budget, which we might need to increase.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:42am

****NO EVENING MEETING****