

PTA Minutes – November 1, 2016

About 14 parents were in attendance with Dr. Varlack representing the staff. We started the meeting with celebrations.

President's Report – 465 tickets were sold for the Halloween Dance.

*Our audit was completed and turned in.

*Kid Stuff books were quite successful. We made 2,900 profit on this fundraiser. We kept 25 to sell at the Bazaar.

*Glitch – Friday a week ago, one of the teachers from Mad Science did not show up. We have a plan in place for what to do if that happens again.

1. Parent volunteer will contact the after school vendor.
2. Parent volunteer will Contact Tangie.
3. Tangie will Make sure we have contact list available for all the children involved as well as the vender and give that list to the parent volunteer of the class.
5. Parent volunteer will keep children in classroom and make sure all parents are contacted including the ones who have children in aftercare.

Minutes from October meeting were approved after 2 corrections were made.

The original minutes misleadingly read, "*We had \$18,107 income mainly from memberships.*" Memberships only made \$2800. Most of the money in the bank was from the playground fund.

Also, under the treasurer's report, it mentioned that a non-fundraising event earning up to \$300 was allowed. Jennifer contacted PTAC after our meeting to research this, and discovered that it is true for any family event that makes more than expected, it is NOT considered a fundraiser.

Treasurers Report:

*\$1,858 was taken in for the Halloween Dance with an expense of \$1,485.

*Movie night earned \$349 in concessions and ticket sales while we spent \$296 for concessions. A discussion was had about why this movie night was less attended than last year. We did an online order and wonder if this made the difference. It was much easier for the organizers though and cut down on the hassle of getting out all the tickets. The online option also cuts down on the expense of printing tickets. We thought perhaps it was a busy weekend as well. We will try to do the online ordering again for the December movie night.

*Skate Night earned \$503.

*Dad's Club paid out \$230 to the Washington Wizards, but it was to the wrong person and we are waiting on word from them to rewrite the check directly to the Wizards.

*We paid for the playground overhang and the check was cashed – we should be getting it in the next 3 weeks.

*Signage was a little over budget – perhaps we can place this cost under the event for which she makes the signs. – She does use the signs from year to year. The new signs cost more. The Bazaar sign cost a little more as it was bigger and needed

extra hardware from Home Depot especially with the hardware. Several members mentioned how much they appreciate the signs and what a difference it makes seeing them in our school.

*Everyone was advised that we can spend money for the necessities of running our events, but we do not have a big cushion this year.

Principal's Report – IEQ is a new committee for our school. It is the Indoor Environmental Air Quality Team. It's first meeting was last week. They are following a checklist to look at our building closely. The custodial staff meets regularly since they are the first ones to see anything of concern, but the IEQ's goal is to broaden our eyesight around the building. - Are vents covered? Windows opened? - We have one of the oldest HVAC systems in the county. We will have an official walkthrough on the 9th. We are looking forward to it. Jen is on that team so ask her questions.

*Flooding happened here this summer. We had diffusers come in. We had outside cleaners come in as well. A report has been written that the problem has been resolved.

*Thursday – Family Fit Night – Get our kids to move more! Data from PE is showing that our students need to become more active. We already enjoyed the walk to school day. We encourage the PTA come to promote fitness.

*Chorus is starting tomorrow. The county wants students to be in chorus, but only if it is their choice. FRES chorus for 4th and 5th grades will meet on Wednesday afternoons for a half an hour. Students who opt out will be in strategy groups with interventionists and teachers.

*Conferences – Teachers can offer conferences on Monday and Tuesday nights until 8PM. Related Arts will offer open slots and community slots to just drop in. Some teachers may opt out of night conferences and have them on Wednesday.

*PTA will provide teachers will a meal on Monday night of conferences. The theme will be comfort foods like casseroles. (Teachers will be very appreciative of this meal!)

*YOJO is an assembly coming on Friday to promote kids not to bully.

*PTA closet needs to be cleaned up.

*New Staff Member starting –Marci Spence will take over the half time Media Specialist position. She comes to us from Florida. We are very thankful for Mrs. Ojo who has been our long term sub. Also, the 4th grade para educator and special educator para positions have been filled.

*American Ed Week – Parents are welcome to come in this week.

PTA County Delegate Report – Meeting is conflicting so no report.

Membership – 311 members. Mrs. Walquist's class is in the lead. We have to figure out the prizes for the classes with the most memberships.

Playground Update – Shade has been bought and should be here in 3 weeks. It does need to be installed. As of now there is about \$3500 left over from the playground fund. We need to keep some as our cushion in the budget to have for repairs. We are

thinking we will go with the woodchips. They are free and approved. We are not legally allowed to do anything else. We will not be using concrete under the shade.

Sales Fundraiser: We should be profiting \$4,300 from the Be Very Merry fundraiser. Items will be delivered around November 28.

After School Activities – School House Theater Arts will put on one show on December 16th at 7PM.

Gingerbread Night – December 8 – for Kindergarten students and their families.

McDonalds – We earned \$269.

Caba Grill – November 9th – 6-10PM

Sweet Frog – November 17 – 3PM to close

Skate Night – November 11,

Spiritwear – sold almost 200 pieces. They are still trickling in. It will be sent in on Friday with hopes of handing items out before Thanksgiving.

Movie Night – December 9 – kids will vote on movie in Technology classes.

Reflections – forms were given to Ms. Murray. The older kids are very excited. They are due November 11. Look for poster by the PTA board. 9 categories can be done including composition, artwork, video, and music composition. All grades kindergarten through 5th grade can do it. The theme is “What is My Story?” - - Forms are on the PTA website. Ask Ms. Murray as well.

Halloween Dance – was a big success and everyone had a great time! Officers were here greeting which was good and middle schoolers stepped in to help. The lights on the Haunted Hallway guides made a difference.

We need to make sure we have volunteers for the second shift. Perhaps we should make the dance free for all volunteers. Some suggestions for next year include giving walkies to key people, covering the climbing stuff in the gym, and writing on the flyer in big print, “FOR FRES Students ONLY.”

Holiday Bazaar - November 12th, 10AM – 2PM - 22 vendors for sure. In contact with 10 more. Flyer with logos on it will be sent out. Greek on the Street will be here for food and they have a great following of people from Baltimore. We need to be heavy on promotions. Main Street stores are going to advertise for us.

*We will have a DJ with music and hourly raffle drawings. Swag bags for first 100 people. We will need volunteers for set up

Holiday Shop – This is for the kids to shop for gifts. It will run December 2 – 9th. Envelopes will get sent home in advance. Kids get to shop for parents and others. Jen and Penny are running it. (We are very thankful for you!)

Yearbook – Amelia Ventura and Colleen Z. are taking charge of the yearbook.

Box Tops – Deadline was today. We will get the check for December. Total number for this fall is 5,253 box tops. The check will be for \$1300. This money will be given to Dr. Varlack. We are hoping to find out how the money is used by the school. Winners will be announced soon.

December 10 – Wizard's Game = \$23 Dad's Club event for the whole family!

Food Drive - Jen Gifford is working with Ms. Schwartz and Mrs. Coppi. Each grade is bringing a certain food item. The winning grade is going to get extra recess. We may ask for a PTA Volunteer. Student leaders are the ones who are in charge of this.

New Business – Scholastic Bookfair – is coming up soon. November 14 – 22nd. Family Night is November 18th. 5PM – 7:30PM. All profits go to the media center. We will need many parent volunteers for this event.

Next meeting is December 6th.