

Mills River Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization

PTO Meeting Minutes
January 19th, 2023; 1:00 p.m.

Meeting Called to Order

Attendance: Amanda Ledbetter, Stacey Klepp, Katherine Dare, Kevin Ensley, Jessica Lucas, Whitney Powell, Betsy Casebolt, Beth Campbell, Tracy Klaes, Amy McKinstry, Autumn Morton, Lauren Klocko, Kacie Tilley, Natasha Sidwell, Emile Householder

President's Welcome

Amanda Ledbetter

Playground update – Still waiting on PSPM to be able to make our decisions.

1st step, PSPM's playground decisions. 2nd step, grading & areal pictures. We still need lots of \$ to build, so we will continue to fundraise for the playground. Mr. Clayton sent his ideas for a rope course & it may be a Leader-In-Me project – to find out.

Valentine Grams

- What we sold before & what will do now? We have 600 kids, we have enough smencils, but we only have 200-ish balloons. We wanted to move away from the balloons & then start something else, what is that something else? Last year profit was \$1,900-\$2,000, but we only had to purchase chocolate, everything else was leftover.
Decision: kisses, smencils, bracelets (All 3 for \$5) – We will ask for donations & purchase the remainder – \$1 for smencil, \$3 with kisses, \$5 with bracelets – We will sell balloons for additional \$1 or save balloons for kids who don't get anything &/or smencils.
Parents can donate \$2 for a kid who may not get something otherwise. We will need a sign up for putting Valentines together & delivery on the 14th (to be sent out by Volunteer Coordinator).

Fast Pass Results – This quarter we made \$620

- Gift cards for Christmas were a huge success, 2 teachers sent thanks you messages, thanks to all who donated & put them together before Christmas
- Kevin fixed/built the buddy bench. It's not dangerous now! Thank you!

Treasurer's Report

Nicole Sweat

- Nicole could not come today.

Vice President's Report

Lauren Klocko

STEAM Night

- April 27th – Do we want to/can we sell Spiritwear? Selling tonight at Literacy Night so... STEAM Night is for parents to interact with their kids so it's hard to get volunteers (the reason we stopped providing dinner for teachers), so no decision yet.

Credit Card Machine – We have to let Larissa know when we need it so it can be charged & for Fast Pass we can't walk into the parking lot too far because it runs off the school's wifi. Our interest fee: if the school uses the card machine, they pay the fee – but mostly we're using it, so we're paying it.

Secretary's Report

Katherine Dare

- Emailed minutes from last meeting. Will send today's out also.

Spiritwear

Autumn Morton & Natasha Sidwell

- Will sell tonight at Literacy Night
- Ms. Lou may want to take care of Spiritwear for us – she may also have another local contact, to ask
- Maybe: Graduation, Book Fair

Volunteer Coordinator

Kacie Tilley & Betsy Casebolt

Read Across America Volunteers week of 3/2 – To ask Ms. McVey

Valentine Gram Volunteers – Discussed above

- Snack Cart is going well again. K, 1, 2 is in one group now and then 3, 4, 5
- Duty Free went well – thanks to all volunteers – Will do it one more time this year – Continue to have hard time filling 5th grade slot & big thanks to those who stayed past their original time or came back to help with that grade's time

Dads Group

Brandon Tilley

- Dads Open Doors is tomorrow
- Beautification coming up in Spring (maybe) (TBD)

School Store

Helen Parris

- Opened up after Christmas. Time to plan party? Only made \$21 last time. Made \$1200 for the year (after expenses?). Teachers usually send email in Feb to ask for volunteers to set up the 5th grade party (not PTO's responsibility, 5th grade parents plan that, we fund with school store less fund retained to start store off for the following year). Schedule for the next few weeks has been sent out.

Fundraising Committee (The Rock & Fast Pass)

Katherine Dare & Emily Householder

- Too much to talk about in this meeting
- Need a planning meeting – when: Friday, January 27th at 9:00 at Breedloves
- Remainder of planning to be done there – 1st will be to take care of shirts, sponsorships, orders & so will need staff & kid sizes
- Lauren will create the letter & we'll all bring the business information to the meeting
- Start of event March 27th, Fun Run is April 4th (so far)

SPAC Meeting

Katherine Dare

- Meeting tonight

Staff Appreciation Committee

Amy McKinstry & Katie Rusert

- Total count: 84
- Ideas to bring next meeting – need under \$10/person for a lunch

New Business

Amanda Ledbetter

Spring Book Fair 4/24 – 4/28th with Yard Sale on 4/29th & Spiritwear if we want
STEAM night 4/27th

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting- In-person: February @ 1:00 @ the Academy

Virtual: none at this time (no availability to run the meeting)

Workshop Meeting: Spring Fundraiser/ Business sponsor search – January 27th, 9:00 a.m., Breedloves Family Restaurant, 316 Chadwick Ave, Hendersonville, NC