MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PTO COUNCIL FOR

GLENRIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Thursday October 28, 2021

A meeting of the PTO Council for Glenridge Elementary School was held, as scheduled pursuant to due

The following members of the Board were present at the meeting: Lynn Courter, Co-President; Lilly Scharff, Co-President; Kathryn Yorg, Vice-President; Sarah Boyce, Secretary; Jamie Beyer, Treasury; Denise Stouffer, Teacher-Representative; Beth Scott, Principal; Jenny Abeles, PTO Council Rep.

Joanna Dinsmore

The following ex-Officio Advisors and members were present:  Vincenza Cifarelli, Biyun Zhang, Was there one more person on an iphone?

**Call to Order & Introductions:  Lynn Courter & Lilly Scharff**

**Principal’s Report: Beth Scott**

Looking forward to cozy costume day tomorrow. We will do the parade walk if it’s minor drizzle, will announce by email tonight. Heather the nurse gave Beth some info on Covid. She met with the board and we’ll be announcing a Sat date for district wide vaccinations Nov 13, there will also be a booster clinic for faculty. Heather speaks every other week with county health. Clayton is doing an amazing job keeping our Covid numbers low, mitigating factors such as the mask mandate (indoor and outdoor except for eating) is keeping Clayton numbers low. 7 in the district are out from Covid. Glendridge opted to quarantine one class because there were a lot of symptoms in the class that week but only one case. Currently have one student out with a case.

Lilly mentioned that masks aren’t always worn correctly. The school has a good supply of masks. Beth will reiterate importance with faculty and have the nurse go classroom to classroom for mask education. Let’s be more proactive on the masks with a refresher. Everyone has mask fatigue. We’re excited to have class volunteers (2/class) in the classrooms tomorrow. Food is going to be provided, the liaisons would typically work with volunteers to get the food distributed. Stacey Hoffman is currently handling, food for the party which will be distributed in the cafeteria. Lilly said we’ve tried to iron out the process to cut down on the influx of people at once. Stacey has the volunteer name list. Chartwells is supposed to be dividing up the food by class. Lilly and Lynn have checked in with all of the liaisons to see if they need any help. Have Stacey reach out to Lynn and Lilly if people have issues. We’ve reiterated that no additional food should be brought in for eating.

**Teacher Representative Report:  Denise Stouffer**

Conference night dinner for teachers and staff was amazing and much appreciated. All of the food was in the library. Picture retake is next week. Tracy Goldberg is handling and needs another volunteer. Lilly suggested Denise talk to teachers on the masking issues and how we can help. Gators aren’t acceptable.

**Presidents’ Report: Lynn Courter & Lilly Scharff**

Working with volunteers and liaisons on the Halloween party. People are super excited, classes were over subscribed with volunteers. The Halloween parade will be inside if it’s raining too hard and then parents cannot attend.

**Vice-President’s Report: Kathryn Yorg**

Class parties are good to go. Lilly asked if there are positions still to fill. Yes – school supply volunteer needs to be filled and Kathryn will do it. Joanna mentioned that we have to sign a contract for school supplies early. Kathryn will look at it today or tomorrow. Once Intersate takes the retake picture they’ll ask us to sign the contract for next year. They all tend to increase their pricing the same. If parents aren’t satisfied or there’s an issue then we can discuss. Interstate had great customer service and was run by a local company but some of that has changed since Covid. Does anyone have issues with the photos? None on this call.

**Treasurer’s Report: Jamie Beyer**

We’ve had more funds for excellence come in. Now we have $1500 vs $2k budget. PTO dues are at $3,375 (have gotten 4 more donations since then), this is still behind budget. We did great with the Read a Thon which will help with the funds for excellence and PTO dues shortfall. Budget was $5k and we came in way over. We had cut from areas not knowing what was coming in. When should we reconsider putting money back in for the specials teachers and school supplies. Let’s discuss in the next meeting. Denise has some ideas that she’ll discuss with Beth and run through central office.

Lilly said if there are on-off expenses and things we’ve taken out of the budget we can discuss in the next meeting.

Beth mentioned we’ve been on hold for the plaque on the 5th grade gifts, Shelly is processing the PO for the new plaques that we’ll attach to the soccer goals. We’ll have a ribbon cutting at some point and will bring back prior PTO presidents since this has been ongoing for ten years.

The new family donation button was removed from the website since we made all of these purchases. New Family (refugee family from Afghanistan) donations were $4,890. We made a check for $2500 for a car purchase, $500 at Home Depot, and $1,890 for Walmart. The family is very grateful.

**PTO Council Update: Jenny Abeles**

Food and essential drive started this past Monday and goes through Nov 5. Donations have been coming in online and food has been coming in. The facilities team finished the pantry so we can accommodate the food coming in. If Glenridge doesn’t have something we can source from the other schools. The school had posters to hang. Clayton Coalition is hosting the documentary Like, about how to navigate social media with your kids. There is an Amazon smile for the district that gets divided between the schools. There is only one tax exempt number and the money then gets evenly distributed. The donation is .05%. Let’s push this in the next principally speaking with a direct link on how to sign up.

**Other Business:**

Read a Thon – Joanna $13,410 was raised, last year was $5k. The goal was always around $10k based on preCovid years. Joanna will write up notes for whoever will take this on next year. We push for 100% participation but it’s usually only 1 class that gets it. Most classes are 60-70% range. Maybe we could let people read in class. Lots of kids didn’t chose gift cards so Target was the default, less choices for Clementines and Barnes n Noble. The local places are so happy to be included. Going forward let’s encourage a flat amount instead of an amount per minutes read.

Joanna reminded everyone that parent volunteers and chairs should write up notes and send them to Joanna. Check in with the new parents on the Halloween parties to see if there are things they wish they knew ahead of time. Shout out to Joanna that she’s great at sourcing info and documents.

Beth is working with the other elementary principals to set a theme for black history month in February. Beth needs another parent to assist. Amika is the chair.

**Upcoming events**

Hispanic Heritage month

Halloween parties

Food and Essential Drive

School social worker has asked if we can have a Glenridge Gives drive Nov 8

Movie Night – we still can’t intermingle between grades. Maybe outside in the spring.

Barnes n Noble holiday book event – book fair on the weekend and the PTO gets a % of the profit. Beth mentioned the years that it worked well it when the early release was aligned with the book fair. There isn’t an early release in Dec. We’ll table it and discuss for next year.

**Conclusion**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:11am. Next meeting is November 18.

Respectfully submitted,

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