

## OES PTO Minutes

Date: 09/10/25

Begin Time: 6:05 pm

### Attendance:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                       |                          |
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| Kaitlyn Guilmette<br>Adrienne Berry<br>Leanne Lovell<br>Craig Newton<br>Darlene Goldthwaite<br>Theresa Gould<br>India Eadie<br>Erika Gleason<br>India Eadie<br>Ruth Isaac<br>Johnathan Velez<br>Will Johnson<br>Miranda Rowe<br>Jonathon Eaton<br>Emily DeCarolis | Karen Perkins<br>Brigitte Richards<br>Amber Dupell<br>Stephanie Lupien<br>Amber Houle | 11 online<br>1 in person |
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### Welcome

- Reviewed thumbs up icon on Zoom or putting in Chat "Yes" or "no" to vote
- Please raise hands online so we can call on you if you have a question
- New board - Members: Amber Dupell (treasurer), Brigitte Richards (vice president), Amber Houle (secretary), Stephanie Lupien (fundraising chair), Karen Perkins (president)
- The Secretary's report is here as well as online.

Two votes - one from secretary report and treasurer report from May of 2025.

- **Secretary report:**
  - Jon made a motion, Amber Dupell seconded. All in favor - 4 online
  - Motion passed
- **Treasurer Report:**
  - Jon made a motion, Brigitte seconded. All in favor - 6 online
  - Motion passed

### School news:

- Half day of school next Wednesday the 17th.
  - Dismissal will be at 11:30. PreK dismisses at 11.
  - Lunch will be served before dismissal.
  - BMX bullying assembly - tomorrow (September 11).

- Two different assemblies.
  - All kids received a silicone bracelet to make a stand that Fisher Hill doesn't do bullying.
  - Ask your kids tomorrow how they liked it. He is local!
- Afterschool program - starts on September 15th.
  - Kids will be creating a gaga pit, lots of exciting things happening.
  - Only available for 3rd - 6th grades
  - Hispanic Heritage month - September 15 - October 15.
    - Next week there is Salsa dancing as well as a Latin Band coming in to play for the kids.
- Kindergarten and Prek started this week.
  - Still in the honeymoon phase of learning rules.
  - Watched two classrooms come through, there were straighter and quieter lines than our 5th graders, and they were smiling ear to ear!
- Our classes could always use:
  - Tissues
  - Real, White paper towels (not the brown ones)
  - Sanitizer
  - Disinfectant wipes
- School Pictures - September 26th.
  - You will be getting flyers sent home next week, also will be alerted through email.
- From the Front Office:
  - Please send in your paperwork.

**No funds requested right now.**

### **PTO Fundraisers**

- Meadows Farms catalog
  - We don't have to separate and give to kids, there is no pick up. It is delivered right to the purchaser.
  - Sales will be from October 1st - October 29th.
- Cash Calendar
  - Sales will be from November 21st - December 19th.
- Harlem Wizards
  - We will have the event at Mahar
  - We are struggling to find a date.
    - They are available when we have Basketball season and that is the only time that we are not allowed to have the event.
    - We are working on it and are positive that we will make it work!
- Read-a-thon
  - Will be in March

**Pause for questions:**

- Clarification about Gaga ball
  - if they are in Kindergarten and Prek, they aren't allowed to play yet, but Ms. Murphy runs it for a week once a year during her gym classes and they love it!
- Stephanie asked if meeting dates were posted?
  - Karen will post the calendar of events and meeting dates, as well as Hat Day fundraiser, and will send a copy of the flyers home.
- Miranda asked about Dance Club - is it open to all grades?
  - Brigitte believes that it is 2nd - 6th grades.
  - Karen will confirm and will post it on our page.
  - It begins on September 29th.

#### **New business:**

- New plan for raising funds for field trips. Wanting each grade to have accountability and pride in what they are able to raise in a school year.
  - We have our 3 fundraising events.
  - Read a thon is an enrichment event but does bring us in a little bit of money.
  - These will allow us to pay each grade \$1500.
  - Most of the time it costs \$3000 to send a grade out of the school for a field trip, because the buses are really expensive.
  - We didn't get the funds in that we needed last year.
  - We are going to give \$1500.
    - If that grade wants someone to come in, they can spend the \$1500 and that's it.
    - They can also go out and spend the \$1500 on an out of school field trip.
    - They can run their own fundraiser that is admin approved and we will match their funds up to \$1500 dollars.
  - If you are in Kindergarten and your student's class raises say \$6000. They pay \$3000 for their field trip. That left over \$3000 will move with them through their school years. It will follow them to 6th grade. In 6th grade, the students get to go on a larger field trip, as a graduation thing and a thank you for doing everything that they did in school.
    - Knowing that, if your kindergarten class raises that extra money, they may dip in to it in their first grade year. It will carry over every year. If they have money left over at the end of 6th grade year, it will go back into our fund.
      - It won't go to Mahar with them.
      - It most likely will all end up being used in that last 6th grade year.
  - PreK only gets \$1000 because they don't go anywhere. They use those funds for graduation, and purchasing things like sand tables, etc.

Jon asked a question - each grade gets \$1500, and they want a field trip that costs \$3000. If they raise \$1500, they will then be matched so they will have \$4500. The extra \$1500 will then travel with them to the next year?

- Yes, that is how that will work. We just want some effort put forth by the grades.

## **Hat Day fundraiser**

- \$1 to wear a hat for the day.
- If you have further questions, email your child's teacher and they can answer your questions.
- The last Friday of every month
- Staff and Students will be able to pay \$1 to wear a hat.
- The funds will stay in the grade. For example, If it's a 4th grade student, that money will stay in the 4th grade class.
  - The teachers for those students, their money will go to their class.
  - The money from the extra staff in the building will be pooled and then divided by 7 to contribute to each grade level. 7 because Prek doesn't go out of the building for a field trip. We have seen some money coming in for Hat Day, which is super exciting.

Jon asked a question - do people know they can bring their money in any time during the month?

- Karen clarified, the money will be collected all month long.
- The first one is the 26th.
- If your money isn't in by the 25th then you do not get to wear a hat.
- If you bring it in on the 26th, then it will cover for the following month, but not that day.
- We really want the kids to have some ownership and accountability.
- If you aren't sure if you're going to remember each month, you can bring in \$10 for the 10 months for the school year and your child will be set for the year!
- Hat day is scheduled for picture day.
  - Suggested to email your child's teacher if you want to make sure that your child removes their hat off for their picture.

## **Two votes that we need to have.**

1. We need to transfer some money from one of our accounts into the checking account. \$4000.82 in a PayPal account that is our savings account - we want to transfer \$4000 from PayPal into our checking account. We need a motion to do that.
  - Jon motion to transfer from the PayPal account to the Checking account. Stephanie seconded. Put to a vote. All in favor - 11 online, 1 in person.
  - Motion passes.
2. We were approached to do Original Works. It's called Fundraising With A Purpose.
  - Kindergarten - 6th grade has gone on an art field trip in addition to our field trips. The art teacher has been struggling to make it work for this year since buses are expensive. The vote would be to do
  - Fundraising With A Purpose.
    - Kids get specialized paper.
    - It will be done in art class during their art special
    - It has a theme to it.
    - One week they will practice it

- The next week they will use the special paper.
- The kids do the paper, we scan it in, parents can then go online and get copies of their kids artwork.
  - They will make calendars, mugs, beach towels, there are at least 25-30 things that they can create.
- Not a fundraiser for us, but for the art teacher. It would filter through us, even though it would not involve us.
- Everything is done online
- Funds will come through us so they can order buses.

**Special Note: THIS IS NOT A PTO FUNDRAISER.** We are just helping to facilitate it and get the word out.

- Motion for the fundraising for a purpose fundraiser. Seconded by Jon. All in favor - 12 online, 1 in person.
- Motion passed.

### **Final Thoughts**

- Next meeting is Wednesday November 12th
- Last meeting is in May for the board. We really want participation at all of our meetings, but that one is the most important to please come to.

No questions. Message Karen or the facebook page any time if you think of questions.

Motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded. All in favor - 9 online.

**End Time: 6:41pm**

### **To Do:**

- ☐ Karen will post the calendar of events and meeting dates, as well as Hat Day fundraiser, and will send a copy of the flyers home.
- ☐ Karen will confirm ages/grades of Dance Club and will post it on our Facebook page.