

Huntington School PTO

May 10, 2018

Board members present

Leeann Wiess
Meghan Vitale
Ann Yarka
Emily Pascale

Staff: Ms. Stroman, Ms. Lazzaro

Administrators: Mrs. Harlow

Parents: three parents

Board Member Reports

Leeann reported that karate just had last test of the year. Everything went well. Pizza party and trophy ceremony coming up. It was a great year with no issues. Shihan is still planning to come back next year, and he has a special rate for the kids over the summer. We'll distribute a flier before the year ends. He closed the dojo in Shoppintown but reopened in a new location near Lyndon Corners.

Emily reported that we just got a Box Tops check for \$90.50. Two most-recent classes with most Box Tops were Mrs. D'Hollander and Mrs. Brigati. The class with the most Box Tops wins a party, it will probably be freeze pops.

We finally got the check from the Five Below fundraiser! We made \$62.00.

We participated in the Earth Day Clean up with Girl Scouts. There was a very large crowd this year. Cleaned the school grounds all around, and the skate park. Also cleaned-up at Cummings Field.

New Business and Upcoming Events

Middle-school semi-formal dance is scheduled for Friday, June 1. Meghan will get a copy of the flier to post on Facebook. Leeann pointed out that the flier is missing info about photos and refreshments, so there will need to be another flier. PTO will take care of the second flier. Rhonda will do pictures again. Yellow and silver theme. Jeff will DJ; Meghan will confirm with him.

There was a discussion about the back-to-school event for next year. School will start Thursday after Labor Day for students. Ms. Stroman stated that feedback last fall from the teachers was positive, except for the date. Teachers do not want to have the BBQ before school starts; it is too stressful with all of the Professional Development and set-up that needs to happen in the first days that the teachers return. They would like to move it later, possibly the first full week of school. Parents expressed concern that students in the early grades - especially grades 1 and 2 - still need some sort of orientation

(Kindergarten gets their own orientation); knowing where their classroom is located and who their teacher is removes a lot of the anxiety about the first day of school. Orientation would be valuable to students starting middle school, too, since there are so many changes. Meghan stated that other districts do provide students a time to come into the building before the first day to find their classroom, find their locker, and drop off supplies – this simplifies the first day for everyone. Ms. Stroman stated that teachers will probably have to report Tuesday and Wednesday, but the calendar has not been finalized yet. Ms. Stroman will email the teachers and see what they would prefer (she will include the concerns from parents regarding the desire for an orientation before the first day). Ms. Stroman also suggested that classes could visit the next grade (i.e. kindergarten visit 1st grade rooms) before the end of this school year; everyone thought this was a great idea and something that should be done no matter what is decided about the BBQ/orientation.

Funding request review and vote

The 5th grade is requesting up to \$245 for end-of-year trip to Jamesville Beach (for one bus). Ms. Stroman explained that they tried to fundraise for a trip to Seabreeze, but they did not raise enough. They will be using money in their account for T-shirts for their Olympics and for their test-incentive trip to The Wild. They are requesting a contribution from families for Jamesville Beach, so the “up to \$245” is intended to cover the difference assuming some students are not able to contribute. Jenn motioned to approve and Ann seconded. No objections and no abstentions; the motion passed.

Ms. Lazzaro presented the fund request from 2nd grade. They are asking for \$1000 to cover a variety of activities including: a baseball game, Jamesville Beach trip, walking trip to The Palace and Fifis, and field days with a bouncy house. They have \$324 in their account now. Pavilion at Jamesville Beach and bounce house together are \$325, so that will use up the money in their account. They are thinking about asking for \$15 per family to cover all of the events. Ms. Lazzaro pointed out that the 2nd grade depleted their account at the end of last year – per the request of PTO – by buying a variety of classroom supplies. They just did a carnation sale, and made about \$200 profit (final numbers still pending). They are thinking about doing a Father’s Day fundraiser as well – maybe rubber bracelets with appropriate slogans. The baseball trip is the biggest expense, at about \$1400. Mrs. Harlow pointed out that she recently sent emails to staff stating that she had some extra money available for buses – why didn’t 2nd grade request any of that money? Ms. Lazzaro stated that the team had assumed that money was only available for educational trips. The bounce house is \$200, the Palace is \$400, and Fifi’s is \$200. All present suggested that the 2nd grade was trying to do too many trips, and they would need to cut back. It was suggested that they could either do the baseball trip only, or do all the other things except baseball. Ms. Lazzaro said she will take that suggestion to the team and they will decide together. Jenn made a motion to approve up to \$500 for whatever combination of activities the team decides on, Ms. Stroman seconded. No objections and no abstentions; the motion passed.

The fund request for the semi-formal dance (\$300) was rescinded. This is not necessary because the semi formal has its own account.

The PTO Board is requesting \$1,250 for the teacher luncheon. Leeann asked Wegmans for up to \$1,500 for this purpose, but they only gave us \$150. Emily pointed out that we can move garden money to

general fund. There was a suggestion to move money from the karate fund to general fund, since the karate money is a hold-over from many years ago, but there were objections to this and it was decided that the karate money should stay in its own account. The motion to fund the luncheon passed unanimously.

Election of 2018-2019 PTO Board

Slate of officers for next year is: Meghan Vitale for president, Ann Yarka for vice-president (remaining in current position), Emily Pascale for treasurer (remaining in current position), and Erin Mallory for secretary. Motion to elect the slate of officers passed unanimously.

Administrative Reports

No administrative report. Mrs. Harlow thanked Leeann and Angie for all their work on the PTO over the years; they will be missed by all and we wish them good luck in high school!

Added agenda items

No added items.