Pittsfield Elementary PTO Meeting Agenda

Meeting Date: Wednesday, November 14th, 2018 6pm

Meeting Location: PES Learning Commons

Present: Melissa Babcock, Sabrina Smith, Kathy LeMay, Katie Nikas, Jillian Gauthier, Liz Erickson

1. Call to Order @ 6:05

2. Motion to accept October 10, 2018 meeting minutes made by Katie Nikas and seconded by Jill Gauthier.

3. Officers’ Reports-

President’s report- none at this time

Vice President’s report- none at this time

Secretary’s report-none at this time

Treasurer’s report- A note from our treasurer and a financial summary were passed around at meeting. A copy of the financial summary is available through the office with Mr. Hamilton.

Note from PTO Treasurer Cara Marston;

re: having too much “Money in the Bank” as a non-profit

As far as fundraising goes, the PTO’s mission is “to aid in the healthy development of the children of our community”. I believe that the current and former PTO officers have met that goal, wholeheartedly.

If we had the fortune of having over $50,000 in gross receipts annually we would have to file a different tax return with the IRS.

Annually, I file a report with the IRS and Secretary of State, certifying our financial activity and that we meet our goal as stated in our articles of agreement.

If there was a question posed as to our fundraising efforts being overzealous, I feel confident we can substantiate the great lengths you have gone to, to revamp and re-energize the PTO.

The Financial Summary was approved by Jill Gauthier and seconded by Katie Nikas.

4. Committee Reports

a. Trunk or Treat- Thank you to Jillian Gauthier for chairing Trunk or Treat and all the parents who donated their time to make this another successful year. We hope to display more pumpkins from the community next year on the scaffold, which was a great hit!

b. Fundraising/Raffle- The chairperson, Melissa Babcock, says things are going well. We have displayed the baskets at local businesses and tickets are being sold through the businesses too.

`c. Scholastic Book Fair- nothing at this time

d. Breakfast with Santa- Melissa Babcock is chair.

e. Special Events- Father’s / Mother’s Day/ Teacher Appreciation: Still looking for a chairperson and volunteers.

5. Administrative Leadership Team- Kathy LeMay talked about Early Childhood Consortium, making PES Head start and Blueberry connections for a smooth transition to school. Early Childhood Consortium will be setting up a table at Breakfast with Santa this year with family resources and packets of activities supporting this year’s goals of Social/Emotional Learning and Fine Motor Skills.

6. Teacher/Faculty Input- Liz Erickson introduced the idea of having a Spirit Day for school wide morning meetings. Different monthly themes tossed around were crazy hair day, pajama day, etc.

Liz has also offered to post our PTO meeting minutes in the teachers’ lounge.

7. Unfinished (old) Business

a. Anti-Bullying Program—A memo was passed around from Derek Hamilton as follows:

I noticed anti-bullying was an old business item; I wanted to share an update on the Look for the Good Project. The formation of the Student Council happened a little more slowly than we anticipated. Once we pulled together last year’s group and had elections for this year, we’ve only met three times to date. The Student Council has developed a sub-committee to promote the Look for the Good Campaign. This past week we set our roll-out assembly date as January 4. We considered having it earlier but it is a ten-day campaign and we didn’t want to build momentum and positivity only to lose some of it between Thanksgiving and the Holiday Breaks. The kids will be creating posters, daily announcements, and planning the assembly between now and then.

Liz Erickson also pointed out that Look for the Good Project was more interactive with smaller children, K-1st grade, which is wonderful.

b. Basket Fundraiser – So far the basket fundraiser this year is going well. There are more tickets in the office for sales. It was noted that many parents prefer to concentrate on selling tickets with their children rather than donating to the baskets. Liz Erickson said she would bring it up at the next Teacher Faculty meeting to get more input.

c. Harvest Fest/Trunk or Treat- Harvest Fest and Trunk or Treat were a success this year. The idea was brought up to have teachers join in next year taking pictures and acting as official judges in the costume/carved pumpkin contests. Warm apple cider was a hit this year!

d. Fall Family Dance—Katie Nikas is the chair.

e. School Store “Fundraiser” – none at this time

f. Fall Book Fair-All for Books- All for Books is a program with Scholastic Book Fair that gives the PTO an opportunity to raise money in the community so that a child that would otherwise not be able to afford a book can experience the book fair and take a book home. This year we were able to raise a total of $375.78 from the All for Books donation boxes we set up at local businesses here in town. Thank you to all the people in town who donated this year and the local businesses that participated in making that happen: Bell Brothers, Mike’s Meats, Maxfield’s Hardware, Danis, Jacks Pizza and the Town Hall. We would also like to thank Joy Church for your very generous donation of $200 bringing our total money raised to help the children in our community to $575.78!

g. All School Morning Meetings—Now that the temperature outside is colder, we are looking for a better way to greet parents with coffee and snacks before the meeting starts.

h. Color Run Fundraiser—no updates at this time.

8. New Business

a. Fund Requests- An email was sent to teachers as a reminder to request funds through Mr. Hamilton before the end of December.

b. Breakfast with Santa- Melissa is chairperson. We have a few volunteers that will be playing music in the hallway this year while people are waiting for the Santa Shop. So far we have a few talented young musicians that will be playing piano, violin, and flute. If anyone else would like to donate their musical talents, we would be happy to have you!

c. School Board Meeting 11/15- Jill Gauthier will start bringing the school board meeting minutes to our PTO meeting to share with us.

d. Our next PTO meeting on December 12th at 4:00 pm will be a PTO Appreciation meeting. We will have a parent and teacher raffle and enjoy coffee/goodies. Make sure you wear your Ugly Sweater!

e. Literacy Event this year will be Pirate themed with possibly middle school volunteers as the judges. We are working on having a children’s author there as well.

9. Announcements-Nothing new at this time.

10. Adjournment- Meeting adjourned at 8:33 pm.