

# MINUTES

## Marion Walker Elementary PTO

January 8, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Amanda Grindley at 6:30 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance lead by Amanda Grindley

### In attendance

Amanda Grindley	Lindsey Harter	Megan Aberegg	Heather Huntsinger	Karen Krisch
Amanda Fedisson	Rebecca Roos	Nichole Masullo	Jodi Johnston	Danyelle Crouthamel
Beky Strouse	Joey Stewart	Michelle Blackburn	Amanda Pollick	Carrie Giornesto
Molly Hoy	Hanna Burke	Amy Heverly	Maria Posada	Laurie Henry
Verna Schoonover				

### Treasurer's Report

Heather Huntsinger read through all the movement in the budget.

Motion made by Amanda Grindley to approve Treasurer's Report.

Approved by: Colleen DeFonzo

Second: Danyelle Crouthamel

### Secretary's Report

- Discussion was made regarding previous meeting minutes.
  - Tissue Drive - Date was changed to January. A central location to store the tissues was also discussed with Mrs. Krisch.
  - Yearbook Picture Deadline - The deadline for picture submission needs to be changed to February 21st. Pictures are to be sent through Google Drive.

Motion made by Amanda Grindley to approve previous Meeting Minutes

Approved by: Amanda Fedisson

Second: Hanna Burke

### Committee Reports

- Holiday Store:
  - There were so many donations this year, Amanda stopped counting at 6,844 items. There are approximately 2,000 leftover items for next year's store.
  - Several individuals and groups donated as well. Episcopal Church donated \$100, Tina O'Hara donated 400 Boyds bears, and Patty Correll and other retired teachers donated approximately 500 items.
  - There was discussion of how to handle gift certificates for children in need next year.
- Membership:
  - Currently working on certificates to distribute to those who purchased memberships. They will be distributed to the teachers to pass out next week.

- Carnival:
  - Games: Nichole Masullo and Molly Hoy
    - There are several organizations who have agreed to participate at the carnival: Bellefonte Soccer Association, Swim Team, Discovery Space, Boy Scouts, Supelco.
    - Jackie Wynkoop will be sending out the SignUp Genius email for volunteers.
    - Need suggestions for Helium rental. Best Event doesn't rent anymore. Party City was suggested.
    - Popcorn Maker-Looking for organization or somewhere to donate our popcorn maker. We are removing the Free Popcorn coupon from the Membership drive coupons.
    - Danny Miller is willing to do sno-cones for the carnival if we are interested, but they may be too messy.
    - A couple new games/activities are being added this year and donations are being requested for those. Dishes are needed for the Dish Game, as well as gently used books for a Book Swap.
  - Raffles - Laurie Henry
    - Sign up Genius was sent to teachers for classroom basket themes. Letters will be sent home with individual themes the week of January 20th, with items needed by February 18th.
    - Lindsey Harter is working on business letters for donations based on who has responded and donated in the past. If anyone has connections to businesses and would like to hand deliver the letters, it is more personal and has better results. There are approximately 200 names on the list, and we usually get about 50 responses each year.
    - Laurie asked for permission to purchase a Nintendo Switch Lite for the big giveaway this year.
  - Kitchen: Danyelle Crouthamel
    - Jackie Wagner will be helping again with the kitchen.
    - The Menu will stay the same this year. We have some items already. The Bellefonte Football banquet donated some chips and drinks. Some of these items were used at the Holiday Store (due to expiration dates) and the rest will go towards the Carnival.
- Yearbook: Joey Stewart
  - Yearbook is going well. The deadline for the entire yearbook is the end of February. The student pages have been started, and the cover was submitted in December. The new student pictures still need done. We are still in need of more candid pictures.
  - New students are still able to order yearbooks up until 2 weeks before the yearbook deadline. Jill Catalano will pass out information to teachers of new students. PTO has 10 extra yearbooks as well.
  - One yearbook will be given away at the Carnival this year also. If the person who wins has already purchased their own yearbook, their money will be refunded.

## **Mrs. Krisch**

- Parent Council: Looking for a parent representative to attend the meeting on January 15th at 12 pm. Meeting will be with Principals and Superintendent. Amanda Fedisson offered to attend the meeting.
- Strategic Plan: Every 5-7 years a building plan is done for Marion Walker. Evening meetings are often held and Parent representatives are needed for this. Mrs. Krisch is looking for volunteers.
- Kindergarten Registration will be held on April 8 and May 6. These dates have not been advertised yet.
- Mindful Minutes: Every Wednesday morning at 7:50 am, starting January 15th, there will be Mindful Minutes held in the library. These meetings will be 10 minutes long, and are similar to what the students have been doing in Guidance classes. Parents are also invited to attend as well. A newsletter will be sent home explaining in more detail.

- Playground Repairs: An Equipment Assessment was done on the playground equipment, and there are approximately \$8,000 in repairs and safety issues that need addressed. Mrs. Krisch has asked the PTO to help with these costs. In the past, the PTO has always helped with a playground project, and this would be a good project for this year. The repairs will be done regardless of the PTO involvement. It was approved that the PTO would help with the repair costs. Amanda and Mrs. Krisch will meet to discuss an amount, and then that will be voted on at the next PTO meeting.

### **Teacher Rep.: Colleen DeFonzo**

- Mrs. Roos discussed that the Kindergarten classes would like to go on a field trip to the Lewisburg Children's Museum this year. Due to this being a longer distance to travel, a charter bus will be needed for transportation. She asked if the PTO would be willing to pay for the cost of the charter bus. PTO approved this cost.
- The 5th grade classes will be working on posters for the Carnival.
- Mini Thon season will start the end of January.
- Reading Counts Assembly will be held in early February. No set date from Mr. Burrows yet.
- Student Ambassadors want to do a PAWS drive, but there may be some overlap with the carnival. Discussion was made about having a table at the carnival with information about the PAWS drive.

### **New Business**

- Poster Machine:
  - Mrs. Krisch has a poster machine that the PTO is welcome to use if needed. It makes 36" posters. Those using the machine must work with Mrs. Krisch and/or her trainer on how to use the software and machine.
- T-Shirt Orders: Kim Kneas-Hilliker and Ashley Price
  - Order forms were distributed to the students. The PTO is not ordering additional shirts this year.
  - There is no design contest this year for the t-shirts, we are using the same theme as the yearbooks "Dare to Dream".
- Student Spotlight Ideas: Amanda Grindley
  - Need ideas for the rest of the school year for the monthly PTO newsletter.
  - Joey Gearhart's Shoe Drive was suggested as the topic for the February Student Spotlight.

### **Questions/Comments:**

- Limo Fundraiser:
  - We are still trying to get a date for this from the Fundraising company. Mrs. Krisch has been discussing with our fundraising representative. Amanda Grindley is going to look into this also.

Next meeting will be February 12, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at the Marion Walker Elementary School Library.

Motion made by Amanda Grindley to adjourn at 7:36 p.m.

Approved by: Amanda Fedisson

Second: Nichole Masullo

*Submitted by Megan Aberegg*