



Timber Ridge PTO Minutes January 9, 2018

Call to order 7:00p

A meeting of [Timber Ridge Elementary PTO](#) was held at [TRE LMC](#) on [12/12/2017](#). Board Members present: Co-Presidents: Jason Arnold & Beth Arnold, Interim Secretary: Amy Withers. PTO Members present: see sign-in sheet.

Approval of minutes

Motion to approve December 2017 minutes was made by Amy Withers and seconded by Beth Reese. Motion passed.

Reports

Treasurer's report not given by Monica due absence from illness. Beth Arnold gave notes from Monica that nothing crazy happened.

Committees:

Hospitality (Megan W)

Kindergarten Informance Jan 18 & 23: Need parent donations of cookies and lemonade. Will also need parent volunteers to stand at cookie table and pour lemonade.

Yearbook (Alex)

Lots of entries for the art contest for the cover. Winners have been chosen and will be announced once confirmed from LifeTouch they can be uploaded. 5th grade tweets will be collected for \$3 per tweet. Send pictures and upload them to the LifeTouch website.

Purple Party (Stacey)

Sunday, Feb 3

We are in desperate need of help. We only have 3 out of 16 people needed to help. Need volunteers to help plan and also to help the night of the Purple Party. Games were shut down last year due to not enough volunteers. A list will go out soon for basket donations.

Communications (Sara)

Reminder that Facebook is a public forum and we need to be kind to one another on it. Please be mindful about criticisms and find a more specific home for them instead of making them public.

Spring Book Fair (Beth/Jason)

Feb 27- Mar 6. Will need volunteers.

New Business

Johnston Legislative Action Committee - Kevin O'Connor - presented:

Committee meets with school board members to improve the image of public schools and understand how public schools are funded. School budgets work on a "bucket" system in which funds cannot move between budget areas. The committee would like to approach Iowa legislators to give a 10% leeway in each budget area for each district to use. Kevin would like to ask parents for support, i.e. making phone calls, writing letters, meeting for coffee, asking legislators for flexibility in how schools spend their money. There is a meeting on Jan. 14 from 2:00 to 3:30 for those interested in advocating for this issue. Contact info: Twitter- @LACJohnston, Facebook- Type in search bar: "Johnston Legislative Action Committee", Website- www.johnstonlac.com, Shanda Carstens: shandac3@yahoo.com, Kevin O'Connor- blarney27@hotmail.com

Fifth Grade Celebration 2018:

Chaired by Susanne Downs. There will be a field trip to Sleepy Hollow the week before field day. There is still a need for someone to do memory book- maybe a 5th grade parent?

Joint PTO Meeting:

We are hosting next month- Feb 13.

Hospitality committee will look into providing food/snacks.

There was a suggestion from another PTO to have an extra long session, making the meeting 6:30-8:30.

Things to discuss:

- Purple Party- are all the schools providing volunteers? Why aren't they helping?
- JA Biztown
- 5th grade celebrations

JA Biztown update:

Date is set for March 29!

Backpack Flier Authorization:

Sara Miller needs permission to send out a backpack flier advertising a Wildtree Workshop on January 28th as a fundraiser for PTO. Motion to approve by Kris Zylstra and seconded by Laurel Griffin. Motion passed.

Announcements

Timber Ridge News -

Mrs. Harrison: The number of students absent today was down but office staff has been hit hard with illness. Please be patient with office business the next few days.

3rd Grade Teachers (Fisher, Peters, Meyers, Gearhart): presented and shared how their grant books and word tiles have benefitted their students. They were able to get 100 copies of a few different books! Kristen Gearhart also shared how the benches in her classroom that were purchased by PTO are working in her classroom. The storage underneath is very helpful and the benches are very sturdy.

Jolene Rude and Sandy Miller proposed a butterfly garden in memory of Mr. Spellman and other students and staff from TR who have passed away. Classrooms would take over and

share the upkeep during the year, families would share upkeep during the summer. A location for the garden is yet to be identified. Approximate cost would be \$500-\$1000. Conversation tabled until next meeting when there is a better idea of cost and layout/location.

Adjournment - Motion to adjourn meeting made by Megan Thompson . Seconded by Laurel Griffin. Meeting adjourned approximately 8:05p. Motion passes.

Secretary

Date of approval