

AEPTO Meeting Minutes

October 21, 2013

In Attendance (21):

Executive Officers: Mike Mazurek, Jeff Turk

Committee Chairs: Teresa Parks, Mandy Sanders, Errin Thompson, Stephanie Leppien

Luce Road ECLC Representatives: Michelle Kelly, Kristie Falor

Pine Avenue Elementary Representatives: Kim June, John Case

Hillcrest Elementary Representatives: Mary Kay Yonker, Linda Patton, Jennie IntVeld

Parents: Kim Turk, Amber Schlappi Bloss, Bobbie Mazurek, Sheryle Dixon, Jennifer DeLeon, Lisa Carmen, Branden Sanders, Laura Ash

I Call To Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

II Officer Reports

President's Report (presented by Mike Mazurek): In showing respect for everyone's time, please keep in mind that our PTO meetings begin at 6:30, sharp.

Treasurer's Report (presented by Jeff Turk - Sara Bonacci *in absentia*): The current total for the PTO account is \$58,804.38; this does not include Hillcrest fundraising data. We have spent about half of our annually budgeted child care fund. Extra (constitution review) meetings are probably the source of this. Discussion from the floor ultimately led to a decision to review the child care allocation once we get into 2014 and we can better project our needs.

Secretary's Report (presented by Jeff Turk): The minutes from the September 2013 meeting were approved.

Special thanks to the 9 members of the Alma PTO who spent two Monday evening reviewing and revising the PTO constitution. There remains only one article to review/revise. A proposal for amending this article will be sent via email before the next meeting.

Thanks also goes out to the parents who are attending our PTO meetings - in September we had 30 people attend! Discussion from the floor concluded that we need to take additional steps to advertise PTO meetings. This may include attaching copies of the PTO minutes to school newsletters.

III Fundraising and Committee Chair Reports

Fundraising Chair (presented by Teresa Parks): Help is needed for the November 7th fundraising pickup at Luce Road ECLC - a signup sheet was passed out (attachment).

Pine River's fundraiser will run through November 11th, with product pickup occurring on December 10th (4:30 - 6:30).

The total product sold at Hillcrest came to \$8946 and Luce Road sold \$11,613.50. The PTO receives approximately 50% of this back in profit!

Art Reach/Carnival Chair (presented by Errin Thompson): Thanks to all the parent volunteers, we started out the year with ALL TEACHERS HAVING AT LEAST ONE DOCENT! A couple of either moved or otherwise have difficulty with transportation, so we are now looking for three replacements (one at each school). Thank you to all of the "first timers" who were there at the training session, last month, and who were willing to help.

Thirty-three water bottles were sold at the Alma High School Homecoming football game. These were purchased at a bulk discount, and all sold now are 100% profit. We still have several boxes remaining. An idea from the floor was to possibly check with retail vendors around town to see if they would be willing to purchase a box at a reduced price so they can sell them in their stores.

Non-Sales Fundraising Chair (presented by Mandy Sanders): Labels for Education were submitted on October 15th, and the points brought in for each school were: Luce (4100 points), Hillcrest (3900 points), Pine Ave (2500 points). Merchandise purchasing by using these points is in the hands of the individual school principals.

There is now a label collection canister at Family Fare grocery store!

The first Box Tops deadline is November 1st. We are considering a Box Top notice at the schools for display at the approaching parent/teacher conferences. Having a Box Top representative at each school would be helpful.

IV Grade Level Representatives

Pine: Students are going to Masonic and Arbor Grove for Halloween parade on October 31st.

A Native American presenter will be coming in November to talk about basket weaving (part of the General Assembly fund).

Thanks to the PTO, all 5K trophies and medals have been purchased and are on display at Pine Ave.

Hillcrest: Health and Fitness day is November 1st.

Second and third grade also participating in Halloween parades during the morning of October 31st.

Parent Teacher conferences are the 12th and 13th of November between 4 and 7.

Hillcrest Elementary Panther t-shirts and hoodies are being sold - profits being used for science and social studies materials.

Luce: Thank you to the PTO for funding Science Alive!

Fall Festival is October 31st.

V Old Business

We are still waiting to learn about the legality of creating a PTO Facebook site that is indirectly linkable through the Almaschools.net site. Teresa Parks indicated that we can place fundraising catalogs onto our proposed Facebook site and share them with friends and family.

VI New Business

Review of AEPTO constitution (presented by Jeff Turk): Final proposal for review/revision will be sent via email before next month's meeting.

Family Fun Dance (presented by Jeff Turk): Given the poor attendance and profitability of last years event, we should review all aspects of the event before deciding to schedule another. It was proposed that a goal of \$1000 profit should be set, and that we work toward that goal. There was discussion that precedence shows a family event like this will not be as successful as we would like. It was countered that new ideas usually do not get a lot of buy-in during the first year of implementation, and that one more year should be tried before ending this fundraiser.

Lansing Lugnuts (presented by Mike Mazurek and Sheryle Dixon): Attending does not cost the PTO any money, but instead this is simply a fun and social event. Bobbie Mazurek agreed to take on the responsibility of coordinating the event.

VII Announcements

“Magic Water”, the chemistry show by Dr. Jeff Turk (Alma College) is under way. The presentation was given to five classrooms on Monday (October 21st). If you haven’t yet responded to Jeff to arrange a show at your school or in your classroom, please do so.

Gratiot County Players are gearing up for The Best Christmas Pageant Ever, and matinees for students run December 11th for 3rd through 6th graders. The cost is \$3 per student, and bussing is about \$1 per student. There was a motion brought forth (Kim June) for the PTO to allow the funding of this for 4th and 5th grade students out of their general assembly fund. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Don’t forget to sign up for the “Zombie Run”, which is at 4pm on October 31st - you can sign up at www.runreg.com. The cost is \$5, and all proceeds go to the Alma Free Clinic.

Adventist Community Services is providing free clothing and shoes to those that are in need. Contact Virginia Pfeifle at 989-875-4433 or Marilyn Kiser at 989-875-4630.

IX Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.