

Horseheads Intermediate School PTO
Meetings Minutes
Tuesday, February 13, 2018

1. Old Business

The following topics were discussed:

*Believe Fundraiser- 2 orders need to be picked up. The families have been notified. Gretchen will contact the Potter order and Mr. Bostwick will speak to Brody's family.

*Frames-The committee has previously approved the purchase of black frames to showcase student artwork. Mr. Bostwick has purchased some frames but 9X9 frames were out of stock. He will check back to purchase more.

*Variety Show- Gretchen reported that the talent show was a success. Due to weather conditions, it had to be rescheduled to 2/12. There were a total of 24 acts. The students and parents had a great time showcasing their talents.

*The bulletin board outside of the office is in need of updating. Jaime volunteered to clean it and make a new display.

*STEM night-(Scheduled for Friday, March 2nd) Michael updated the committee that Rob Switala is chairing the STEM night activity. There will be 20+ booths with interactive displays. There is also a flyer going home, giving directions for participation in an egg drop event. The math bee will also be held on the same evening.

*Televisions for cafeteria-Last school year, the PTO agreed to purchase 2 large televisions for the cafeteria to show announcements. Due to construction and rewiring, the purchase of the televisions was put on hold. Mr. Bostwick will now shop for the televisions between 65"-70" around the \$600 price point. Additionally, he will need to purchase a mount for each television. The school district will pay for the cable necessary to connect. After they are purchased, he will contact facilities for mounting.

2. New Business

*Blue Sheets originally sent home in the beginning of the year are missing. The committee agreed that it would be ok to send home additional flyers asking for family support for different events, as well as interest in holding an after school club. The committee discussed the pros and cons of having people chair activity events. At this point, volunteers are at a minimum. The committee agreed that if someone not on the committee chaired an event, that person would need to attend PTO meetings leading up to the event, as well as keep in communication with an officer of the committee.

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*The Spring Book Fair is approaching. The Committee agreed that students will be responsible for paying tax on their purchases. This book fair is a BOGO event.

*Staff appreciation week is the first week of May. Start thinking about ideas now. It will be discussed further at the March meeting.

*Middle School art teachers are asking for volunteers to help sort the Original Works project/fundraiser. More details to come.

3. Treasurer Report

Treasurer, Brandon, provided a copy of his report. There is a checking account balance of \$18,815.94 and a savings account balance of \$6,121.31.

4. Purchase/Reimbursement requests

The following teacher requests for reimbursement:

Michael Bostwick- \$69.03-for frames purchased for his wall of fame
\$20.57 for refreshments for the cast of Ball in the House

All requests were approved. Brandon will cut the checks for reimbursement.

*Reimbursement for insurance needs to be made in a couple of weeks, and the only school that has paid is Ridge Road. Michael will reach out to other principals to ensure balances are paid.

*The PTO has decided not to donate to project graduation this year.

*The committee agreed that Gretchen will be placed on the credit/debit card/ checking account. She and Brandon will arrange a time to meet at the bank to complete the necessary paperwork.

5. Parent council report

Jaime reported information discussed at the 2/7/18 council meeting:

*The district hired more bus drivers who are receiving training to get started.

*More substitute teachers are needed as well as ones who have the ability to be an effective substitute.

*It was suggested by other members that the IS start a family newsletter as they find it is an effective form of communication with families.

*Teachers are continuing to receive additional training and planning time to reconstruct the framework of curriculum. Beginning next school year, students will have additional half days to allow time for this work.

*Parents need to be reminded to check their child's school lunch balance to ensure that there is not a negative amount.

* Sports team bussing will be equipped with Wi-Fi so that students can complete homework to/from games.

*Some High School Parents feel strongly that they should be allowed to pick up their child after a sporting event and drive him/her home. It is the district's policy that all athletes travel to and from events with coaches on a team bus.

The next meeting was scheduled for 2/7/18, however, due to inclement weather, it was moved to 2/14/18. The committee agreed that there were no concerns to be presented.

6. Principal Report

Principal Michal Bostwick presented the following report:

- **Congratulations to Kris Patel for winning the spelling bee along with Nathan Zhou, runner up. Both will be competing at the Regional Spelling Bee on March 17th in Corning.**
- **Ball in the House, a cappella group, performed on January 10th for all 5th and 6th grade students. They performed and shared personal stories of their musical journey.**
- **Keep filling out community service logs. Students will be honored at the end of the year. More information is on the website.**
- **Please encourage your child to read for 20 minutes each night to work toward 25 books for the school year.**
- **Parent Resource ppt and resources will be available at STEM night again.**
- **Keep sending in the pull tabs and box tops. Also, remember that you can link your Target and Tops cards to our school and they will make a donation.**
- **Keep checking Parent Portal. It's a very useful tool in aiding your child's education for academics, attendance, and other records.**
- **Reminder that there is student access to Parent Portal so students have their own log-in information to check their grades. Check out the school district website for all kinds of resources and information. Up to date information is there regarding current district initiatives.**
- **No school on February 19th and 20th for President's Day.**

The next PTO meeting is scheduled for March 13, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

Jaime Cunningham
PTO Secretary