

Howe PTA Meeting Minutes - February 5, 2020

Call to Order: 7:02 p.m.

Approval of November Meeting Minutes: Motioned Michelle Murray, Second Chris Cerci, APPROVED

PTA Officers Reports

- Treasurer's Report - Denis Skorskiy.
 - FNB Balance as of 1/31/20 is \$19,529.93
 - PayPal Balance as of 1/31/20 is \$0
 - New funding request from Dr. Murray for PTA to support an all-female, African American drum ensemble. Black History Month assembly - cost is \$250 for one performance, \$500 for two. We may need two performances so all students may see it in the auditorium if it cannot be done in the gym in order to fit the entire school. Motion: To spend up to \$500 on assembly Chris Cerci. Second: Wendy Liberty , APPROVED

- Vice President – Dr. Murray
 - Shout out to current treasurer - Denis for his hard work in remaining in treasurer position and doing an excellent job organizing accounts.
 - LEBO parent university - district received very good feedback, and they will plan to do it again next year.
 - SEL Social Emotional Learning update - Dr. Steinhauser set goals this year. At Howe it is working with staff to increase their awareness ex. Staff book studies, activity/exercise each month at staff meetings, increased trainings for the staff. Generating spreadsheet for district to share with teachers about age-appropriate books and resources so that all schools have access to this information.
 - Nat'l school counselor's week and national kindness week - this week, coordinated by our school counselor.
 - 5th grade student council has identified the next project to benefit Special Olympics - they are raising money for Mt. Lebanon's team at The Polar Plunge on 2/29 in downtown Pittsburgh. Idea created and presented by one of the 5th graders.
 - The school has begun to research 3 potential new core resources for elementary English Language Arts. We are analyzing the teachers' assessments of these resources and hope to make a recommendation for adoption of new materials for implementation in fall 2020.
 - Thank Kelly Ionati for scholastic bookfair leadership. Howe had close to \$5,000 scholastic dollars that will be divided among teachers to supplement classroom libraries.
 - Howe sent a team for training for a new support resource for student and families called the Student Assistance Program. The SAP team will consist of members from the school in the following roles: principal, school counselor, school psychologist, reading specialist, instructional support teacher, and the school nurse. This cross-functional team is just starting, but will be additional support and resource to families.

- President – Wendy Liberty
 - Valentine parties happening on Friday, Feb. 14th . Noon dismissal, so parties will happen at 11:15am.
 - Information will be coming re: Howe’s Got Talent show scheduled for the evening of March 20th.
 - An email will be sent to confirm returning committee chairs so we can start filling open positions.
 - Howe’s About A Gift - hugely well-received and the hand-made items brought in \$1,500. Next year, targeting 50/50 hand-made/novelty items. Wendy Liberty and Katie Graybill will be heading this up next year, and will be starting to collect items
 - Update on Council items.
 - SHIM food drive will start in March 23-27. Each school has a different food item. Howe’s will be baking items to bring to school during that week. Boxes will be picked up by South Hills movers on March 30.
 - The Mt. Lebanon Library has Sunday programs to offer - check the website. Peeps diorama, and other fun programs coming up.
 - Be aware of a new on-line dare kids have seen called “the Charger challenge” - It instructs people to drop a penny between the wall and the charger. When this is done, it sparks and can start a fire.
 - Fire Department is offering a “stop the bleed” program - classes for community on first aid around bleeding control.

Chair Reports/Recent Activities

- Spelling bee 1st -3rd grade @6pm Thursday Feb 6
- Science fair Feb 13th @6pm
- 5th grade update - pool party planned June 1, baby picture email went out.

Old Business - none

New Business

- Emily Weber presented the nominating committee slate for open positions for 2020-21.
 - Of the 4 positions open only the position for **President** remains open.
 - Treasurer - Josh Staff
 - 1st Vice President - Kelly Ionadi
 - Corresponding secretary - Emily Smoller
 - Leah Hayweiser (2nd Vice President), Amy Grella (recording secretary), Joyce Divine (historian) are returning.
- There were no nominations from the floor.

Announcements

- Next PTA meeting date: March 11 9:15 a.m.
- Adjournment: Meeting ended at: 7:44 p.m.