

Howe PTA
NOV Meeting Minutes
11/07/18 @ 7:00 PM

Call to Order: 7:04 PM

October meeting minutes were approved

PTA Officers Reports

Treasurer's Report – Denis Skorskiy

- Ending balance is as follows:
 - FNB as of 10/31/18 is \$8,740.68
 - Paypal as of 10/31/18 is \$164.16
 - Read-a-thon net was \$2,039.03
- Clarification of rules on expenses and deposits:
 - Expenses and deposits should be submitted within 30 days of the event.
 - We cannot reimburse expenses after the fiscal year has ended.

Vice President – Dr. Murray

- Request from 2nd grade for a guest speaker for 30 minutes to discuss bats with a live bat to show. Motion, seconded, and approved.
- Safety request about morning area line up for older kids (3rd, 4th, and 5th grades). Suggestion made to have all students come inside the building starting at 8:20AM. Currently, the older kids stay outside during nice weather and younger (K, 1st, 2nd grades) come inside and wait. Dr. Murray will send an email stating that starting after Thanksgiving, all kids will be coming inside and wait until 8:30AM to go to homerooms.
- Security update with the Veterans' Day assembly. Currently have 30 guests signed up, plus the entire student body, teachers, and staff. Guests will come in through side doors and be signed in for assembly. We will have the same set up for the book fair where the adults will go through the gym doors to attend.
- 5th grade student council is now selected. They will help out with Veteran's day assembly. They are also working on their fundraiser. They are also looking for an activity for inclusiveness such as a rock messages for a rock garden. Requests have gone out for rocks from the teachers.
- Readathon thank you to Leah and Katie. Reading minutes went up from last year. This year generated talks about books and an interest in books. The fundraiser portion is down, but not all donations are in.
- Hour of Code will happen this year around December. Looking into the interest in getting a coding club started for after school. If interested in assisting, please see Dr. Murray.

President – Wendy Liberty

- Yearbook information from Herff Jones was received. \$15 soft cover, \$20 hard cover. Website pre-orders will go out around January. PTA will order a couple extra books at the end of the year to sell for those that may have forgotten.
- Laminated visitor tags used at other schools. Discussion if needed and Howe. Howe just started using something similar with our keyholder tags.
- School supplies Vendor, Blu Source, is getting information out for next school year. Suggested to use the same company but will get the information out earlier so parents have a chance to order.

- Nominating committee has one person, Heather Hathy, to start the group for next year. Looking for 2 additional people for assist. Please contact Heather or Wendy if interested.
- Noelle Conover, founder of Matt's Maker Space found in the 7 Mt. Lebanon elementary schools, would like to speak at February's PTA meeting. Their funding will stop in 2 years so she would like to discuss how to sustain these spaces after that.
- Howe Spiritwear link is ready to go out. You will see out in Facebook and newsletter this coming week.
- Newsletter information is requested to be in Thursday night. The information is formatted on Friday and sent out Sunday.

Chair Reports/Recent Activities

- Read A Thon - 100% participation. Reading minutes exceeded by over 9,000. Even with higher reading minutes we were down on the fund raising over last year. Belief that the electronic payments from last year's software (Whose Reading) increased the funding over this year. Suggestion to use the software even though it takes 20% or to look for another software to do this.
- Scholastic Book Fair 11/14 and 11/15 – Looking for volunteers to sign up for staffing the book fair. Information will be in the newsletter this Sunday.
- Winterfest - 11/29 & 11/30 also looking for volunteers soon.
- Box Tops collection went well. We should have \$374.30 back. We will get a monthly reminder of new box tops items and to continue collecting for spring turn in.

Old Business

- none

New Business

- Halloween party – suggestion to move party to 1 hour rather than 45 minutes. Some didn't find that enough time to do everything.
- Global kindness day – November 13, 2018 Girl Scouts will draw chalk on the ground and hand out cards.
- Family Fun Night last Friday evening went well. Believe the low attendance was due to football playoffs.
 - Thank you to Nikki, Denis & Heather for the painting on the black top.
 - Discussion of adding another meeting in January. Motion to have a meeting January 9, 2019 at 7pm. Motion, seconded, and approved.

Announcements –

- Veteran's day Assembly Nov 12th - Students and invited Veterans only.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:50 PM