

June 2024 PTO Minutes

June th, 2024
 Call to order- 7:08

Board Members in attendance	Nicole Moore(Co-President) Rebecca Stark-Gendrano (Co-President) Tracey Kilinski (Vice President, Grade Level Oversight) Gwen Perdomo (Treasurer) Maria Bartman Kowalik (VP, Committee Oversight) Beth Willoughby (Teacher Liaison) Jasmine Ramos (Recording Secretary)														
Mr Tennant - Principal's Round Table	<p><u>Recent and Upcoming events/important dates</u></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="643 779 1419 1560"> <tr> <td data-bbox="643 779 898 909">Thursday 6/6</td> <td data-bbox="902 779 1419 909">5th Grade field trip to liberty Science Center BOGO Book Fair</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="643 915 898 1045">Friday 6/7</td> <td data-bbox="902 915 1419 1045">5th Grade Farewell BOGO Book Fair Kindergarten ONLY ½ day dismissal</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="643 1052 898 1108">Monday 6/10</td> <td data-bbox="902 1052 1419 1108">Kindergarten ONLY ½ day dismissal</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="643 1115 898 1171">Tuesday 6/11</td> <td data-bbox="902 1115 1419 1171">Kindergarten ONLY ½ day dismissal</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="643 1178 898 1266">Wednesday 6/12</td> <td data-bbox="902 1178 1419 1266">Kindergarten Proud Day ½ day for rest of faber</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="643 1272 898 1430">Thursday 6/13</td> <td data-bbox="902 1272 1419 1430">Preschool celebration Kindergarten luau ½ day for rest of faber</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="643 1436 898 1560">Friday 6/14</td> <td data-bbox="902 1436 1419 1560">LAST DAY OF SCHOOL ½ day for rest of faber 5th Grade Calp Out</td> </tr> </table> <p data-bbox="643 1629 1419 1829">The whole school will line the hallways to clap out the students. 5th graders will walk around the building twice to get clapped out by school faculty custodians. If you want to be there for the clap out, the ideal time is 11:55 in the teachers parking lot where you will find all the balloons and decorations.</p>	Thursday 6/6	5th Grade field trip to liberty Science Center BOGO Book Fair	Friday 6/7	5th Grade Farewell BOGO Book Fair Kindergarten ONLY ½ day dismissal	Monday 6/10	Kindergarten ONLY ½ day dismissal	Tuesday 6/11	Kindergarten ONLY ½ day dismissal	Wednesday 6/12	Kindergarten Proud Day ½ day for rest of faber	Thursday 6/13	Preschool celebration Kindergarten luau ½ day for rest of faber	Friday 6/14	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL ½ day for rest of faber 5th Grade Calp Out
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	<p>Josh spoke out and said the following:</p> <p>My name is Josh, and I know this is the first time I'm meeting all of you. I'm an agent with New York Life, and I'm local to the area, specifically from Bound Brook. I wanted to come here today to properly introduce myself. Part of my job involves giving back to the community, which I do through supporting parents.</p> <p>I am interested in discussing grants or sponsorships for events the school may hold. Although it's the end of the school year, you have all summer to prepare for the next year and possibly hold events during the summer. At New York Life, we have a foundation partnered with a sensitivity initiative. This initiative involves visiting schools to talk to the faculty about child bereavement. I'm sure you know someone who has gone through a loss, as I do, and we understand how it affects their academics.</p> <p>I would love to work with the superintendent to be of service to the schools. We offer free resources for allowing us to visit, and in addition, we provide grants. We also believe in sponsoring school events to give back to the community.</p>
<p>Nicole Moore <i>President</i></p>	<p>The meeting was called to order at 7:08PM</p>
<p>Gwen Perdomo <i>Treasurer's report</i></p>	<p>Opening Balance: \$51202.48 Closing Balance: \$53616.87</p> <p>We had our storage expenses decrease recently. We just made a startup deposit for the eighth-grade promotion tricky tray. We also had to renew our biennial licenses for the games. You'll notice an expense for Avalino's Pizza, which was provided as food for the volunteers at the tricky tray event. Additionally, we had to purchase some batteries.</p> <p>For the tricky tray event, we had to rent a U-Haul and cover the cost of gas. There was also a check for advertising in the yearbook. We donated \$800 for the eighth-grade field trip, which we discussed previously. For teacher appreciation, we spent \$92.18 on food. Donations were made through Venmo cash out, and we covered expenses for the teacher appreciation tricky tray tickets, fifth-grade farewell shirts, and various items for the tricky tray, including the spinning wheel, money tree, and mystery gifts.</p>

	<p>Another check was issued for a field trip to Washington, D.C. for the Black Student Union.</p> <p>We had several deposits related to the tricky tray. On the 20th, there was an administrative expense for the software I use. Other expenses included fifth-grade farewell decorations and shirts, bake sale supplies, and more shirts. We reimbursed the startup money for the tricky tray, and made a \$700 donation to the Board of Education for caps and gowns. For the eighth-grade promotion, we refunded a parent for decoration expenses. We also had startup costs for the book fair and additional teacher appreciation expenses, which covered gift cards and prizes. A check was made out to Katrina.</p> <p>Lastly, we had an administrative expense for our storage, as there are 31 days in May, so we were charged for June. That concludes the summary of our expenses and deposits</p> <p>A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Lucretia Raynes The motion was seconded by Luisita Lopez</p>
<p>Jasmine Ramos- <i>Minutes</i></p>	<p>A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Lucretia Raynes The motion was seconded by Luisita Lopez</p>
<p>Nicole Moore- <i>Co presidents report</i></p>	<p>I spoke with Manay, who is leading Project Graduation. She is still looking for a couple of parent volunteers to help out on the evening of Project Graduation. It's from 8 p.m. to 3:30 a.m. at the JCC, YMCA, and Edison. We currently have five parents signed up, but we need around 10. Note that no senior parents are allowed to volunteer, as this is a school requirement to ensure the kids can have fun without their parents watching over them. Volunteers will also be needed to help set up the event. If anyone is interested, please let us know.</p> <p>Regarding the Tricky Tray, we won't have any details until next year. However, if people start collecting donations over the summer, we will gladly accept them. If you find items in your house that haven't been used or opened, consider setting them aside for us. Baskets are something we will need a lot of next year, as our current supply is running low. If you have any baskets, please get them to us. You can drop them off over the summer or reach out via email.</p> <p>I also want to mention that if anyone has unused Kohl's Cash, we would appreciate it if you could forward it to us.</p>

	<p>Even small amounts can be used to purchase items for our events.</p> <p>I want to thank everyone involved with the PTO this year, from those who joined and chaired committees to those who volunteered at events and made donations. Your contributions have allowed us to achieve a lot this year. Some highlights include a donation to the Black Student Union for their field trip to D.C., a donation to the eighth grade for their field trip, support for the National Honor Society's visit to an Ivy League school, and additional scholarships. We also provided numerous purchases for teachers' classrooms at the beginning of the year.</p> <p>Thank you for all your support, and get ready to support us again next year. Lastly, we will be hosting the back-to-school luncheon for teachers on their first day of school, August 28th. Emails for this event will go out in early August. We rely on the previous year's PTO members to help with this since the new PTO group isn't formed yet. This luncheon is our way of welcoming teachers back and giving them something nice on their first day back at school. Stay tuned for more information in August.</p>
<p>Rebecca Stark-Gendrano- <i>Co president report</i></p>	<p>I don't have too much to say at the moment, except that I'm really glad to be working with Nicole as co-president and I'm looking forward to next year. We're discussing how to divide responsibilities to ease Nicole's burden and help me learn the ropes of everything she has taken on over the last couple of years. If you need anything over the summer, you can reach out to both of us.</p> <p>I'm just excited to get started. Thank you!</p>
<p>Maria Bartman- <i>Vice president committee oversight</i></p>	<p>Good evening. I wanted to talk about a few recent and upcoming events. First, we had Teacher Appreciation Week, which feels like it was forever ago but was actually just from May 6th to 10th. Thank you so much to Megan for chairing and organizing everything, and to everyone who donated. A special thanks to Jasmine's restaurant for providing the lovely lunch. Thanks to all of you, Teacher Appreciation Week was a great success for our teachers.</p> <p>The fifth-grade book fair is currently ongoing with a buy one, get one free offer. Unfortunately, they can't restock any</p>

	<p>items, but there are still quite a few books available.</p> <p>Fifth Grade Farewell is this Friday. The t-shirts and bags have been delivered, and the kids should have them in time to wear their shirts to the farewell event. The parents planning the Fifth Grade Farewell had a fantastic idea of doing a couple of popsicle sales to raise funds for additional activities. I think we should consider adding this idea to the list of suggestions for committee chairpersons because it was very successful. The two popsicle sales generated a significant amount of money, allowing for extra activities.</p> <p>Regarding the eighth-grade promotion, I'm not as involved, but I know Nicole has everything set. The students already have their shirts, which they wore on their field trip last week, so everything else is ready for the day of the event.</p> <p>Lastly, about the book fair, if anyone is available to help this Friday, we could use some assistance, especially with cleaning up towards the end of the day.</p> <p>Thank you so much.</p>
<p>Tracy Kilinski- <i>Vice President Grade level oversight</i></p>	<p>Okay, so my last update is about the end-of-year parties. All the team leaders should have received my emails regarding these parties. There were some changes, so some grades received specific updates from me.</p> <p>I have just confirmed that the fourth-grade end-of-year party date has been moved to the 12th. It will still be an ice cream party provided by the school. Emails have been sent to those team leaders to inform the parents about the new date for dropping off donations.</p> <p>I want to reiterate what Nicole said: team leaders are my backbone. They are my primary way of connecting, and without them, none of the parties or events would happen. They handle my frequent emails and last-minute changes, often due to unforeseen circumstances. I truly appreciate their patience and dedication.</p> <p>This year, I will be attending the teacher luncheon to personally discuss the forms I distribute at the beginning of the year. These forms include party breakdowns, dates, and specific details like the number of students and allergies in each class. Since the nurse no longer checks allergies, we need accurate information from each</p>

	<p>classroom. I will emphasize the importance of each teacher returning a form, as each class has unique needs.</p> <p>Additionally, I'll discuss expectations for party donations with the teachers. With rising costs, it's important to be mindful of what we ask from parents. Not everyone can bake at home, and store-bought baked goods can be expensive. We need to consider these factors when requesting donations.</p> <p>During my conversations with the teachers in August, I'll also address the importance of keeping us updated on any changes in class size or student allergies throughout the year. If a new student joins or if a student develops an allergy, it's crucial for the team leader to be informed so they can adjust their requests for donations accordingly.</p> <p>Lastly, if you have any questions or issues throughout the year, feel free to reach out to me directly or to the teacher. I'll do my best to get the answers you need, as accurate information is vital, especially when it concerns student safety.</p> <p>Thank you, everyone, for your support. I hope next week's events go smoothly.</p>
<p>Beth Willoughby- <i>Teacher Liaison</i></p>	<p>I just want to thank everyone for all of their help and support this year, not just for me, but for all the staff. I know everyone appreciated it.</p>
<p>Discussion</p>	<p>Nicole:I also want to add that we received a lot of thank you emails and even some thank you cards from teachers for Teacher Appreciation Week. They all seemed to really enjoy the food. I know some schools had no leftovers because everything was eaten, even when there was a lot of food.</p> <p>Teachers were told to arrive early in the morning when everything was set up, and they were genuinely appreciative. It was a big hit, and they really enjoyed it. Thank you again to everyone who contributed to making it such a successful event.</p> <p>Mr.Tennant:Yeah, I just want to thank the PTO for everything you do for this district. It is truly impressive how much time and effort you all put into volunteering for</p>

	<p>everything, especially the tricky tray, which I know takes countless hours over several months.</p> <p>Your dedication greatly benefits the kids in our middle and high schools. You all go above and beyond, and I can't thank you enough. Year in and year out, you do an amazing job. Thank you.</p> <p>Nicole: see you all in september and have a great last 7 days of school</p>
Meeting Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 7:30