

February 2024 PTO Minutes

February 8, 2023
Call to Order - 7:09 pm

<p>Board Members in Attendance:</p>	<p>Nicole Moore (President) Tracey Kilinski (Vice President, Grade Level Oversight) Gwen Perdomo (Treasurer) Rebecca Stark-Gendrano (Recording Secretary) Cassie Muratore (Co-Correspondence Secretary) Heather Anderson (Co-Correspondence Secretary) Beth Willoughby (Teacher Liaison)</p>
<p>Mr Tennant - Principal's Round Table</p>	<p>Upcoming Events</p> <p>2/9 - Chinese New Year Celebration - 1st Grade - APR 2/12-2/16 - Random Acts of Kindness week. 3/4 - 3/8 - Read Across America 3/25 - Third Grade Choir Concert - 6:30 pm</p> <p>Faber is celebrating Black History Month. We had two wonderful assemblies in February. Pre K - second grade enjoyed <i>Principles of Hip Hop</i>, where the ensemble of dancers came in and used break dancing and abundance of audience participation to explore hip hop's rich history and culture. The third through fifth graders got the same group of ensemble teachers and they talked to them about the Civil Rights movement through dance, audience participation, and a variety of interactives.</p> <p>Classroom updates</p> <p>Pre-K: Preschool classes have learned about special holidays in January and February. They really enjoyed talking about fun things to do in winter, like Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day, and Martin Luther King Day. The students are enjoying taking turns from playing pretend in classroom centers throughout the month. All classes will celebrate the 100th day tomorrow.</p> <p>Kindergarten: February is the busiest month for kindergarten. They learned about groundhogs and they learned about predictions of shadows. They're just learning about the Chinese Lunar New Year and painted dragons and made lanterns. They're looking forward to graphing which team wins the Super bowl this weekend, learning about organizing data. And they are very excited tomorrow because they will be dressing up as 100 year olds. They're also learning about addition subtraction, and they're forming sounds and blends of sounds. In Ela, kindergarten is also working, exploring some amazing contributions made by African Americans and social studies units to discuss contributions of Stevie Wonder. It also includes a science unit on the senses and discussing sight and blindness.</p> <p>1st: Our first graders in science are learning to complete investigations about sound. In math, they're continuing to learn about place value, especially tens and ones, and in writing, they're beginning to write their nonfiction and informational text. ELA foundations are masking glued sounds and blends and being introduced to vowel teams. The first graders are learning about influential and impactful African Americans such as George Washington Carver, Ruby Bridges, Rosa Parks. Each class will create a biography about</p>

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	<p>George Washington Carver, and they'll read the book about Ruby bridges and have age appropriate conversations about how brave she was.</p> <p>2nd: Second graders are learning about subtraction and two digit numbers and math. They started to work on the writing unit as well and in science, learning about states of matter. They are also working on Black History Month with Martin Luther King and making crafts related to dreams of the future and content of their character. In February, they will be exploring people like Rosa Parks and Maya Jameson and reading passages and discussing their impact on the world.</p> <p>3rd: Our third graders are learning about black history through novels and reading. They are reading several novels about black History Month, highlighting the voices in these novels of the Underground Railroad and Dr. King. They are also reading about Ruby Bridges. They're learning to bar graph in math and use pictographs. And they are also creating graphs based on the Super bowl. So that's a big conversation that's happening in our school. Science, learning about water and climate and social studies, the different cultures and communities around the world.</p> <p>4th / 5th: Our fourth grade ELA and fifth grade ELA are doing two different novels. One is the <i>One and Only Ivan</i> (4th grade), which talks about a captive gorilla named Ivan who was in a mall for 27 years. The fifth graders are reading <i>Wonder</i>, a story about a ten year old boy, August Pullman, who faced different challenges in school through his fifth grade year. In writing, they will be researching notable African Americans and write a five paragraph essay. In fourth grade, they're beginning to add and subtract fractions. In fifth, they're working on fractions and moving and adding, subtracting and multiplying fractions. And in science, they're having a lot of fun with landforms and energy, soils and rocks for their science units.</p>
<p>Nicole Moore - President</p>	<p>PTO meeting called to order at 7:09 pm</p>
<p>Gwen Perdomo - Treasurer's Report</p>	<p>Opening Balance: \$55,325 Closing Balance: \$56,208.52</p> <p>Money was taken out for tricky tray, winter wonderland, holiday bazaar startup, and then the holiday bazaar, as well as there's the gift and donations for the teachers that we still had to pay out.</p> <p>In December, money came in for fundraising, family fun night membership and holiday bazaar. In January, we received money from Reflection Studio, Family fun night deposit, and Candy grams.</p> <p>A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Jasmine Ramos. The motion was seconded by Jackie Stadler.</p>
<p>Rebecca Gendrano - Minutes</p>	<p>In our last meeting, we discussed the new bylaws, which were approved by a vote of the membership present. We also discussed details of the upcoming tricky tray and the theme for this year's event being fandom, as well as upcoming events including Winter Wonderland and Hollywood Day Bazaar, and the family fun night. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Jasmine Ramos. The motion was seconded by Jackie Stadler.</p>

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	<p>Talent Show Update: We had 28 acts perform and approximately 250 people in the audience. Our performers all did a wonderful job, and we had a lot of participation from our high school students. The students were in charge of lights, sound, backstage help, etc. We raised \$1,816 with the talent show, between the admission, the bake sale, and a 50 50.</p> <p>Nicole proposed rounding that provide an additional donation of \$184, which would allow us to give \$1,000 to the band and \$1,000 to the choir. This would allow band and choir to replace costumes and repair instruments. The membership present at the meeting voted to approve the additional funds.</p>
<p>Nicole Moore - President's Report</p>	<p>Candy grams: We are happy to report that 247 candy grams have been sold. So anybody that has forgotten to send in their candy grams and want to get them in, make sure they're in tomorrow morning. We're going to pick them up at the end of the day tomorrow and then we'll see where we are. . The funds raised from candy grams contribute to purchasing prizes for the tricky tray event.</p> <p>Tricky tray planning: The tricky tray planning is progressing well, with letters sent to businesses, donations coming in, and committees formed for tasks such as follow-ups and wrapping. The event is scheduled for May 4, with a fandom theme, and registration and pre-order ticket links are expected to go live soon.</p> <p>Board nominations: The board nominations link will go live in March, and there will be openings for various positions. I intend to step down as president and I encourage others to consider running for this position, or any other position that interests you. The possibility of a shadow program for interested individuals to learn about board roles is also mentioned. We have a very positive board dynamic, with a friendly and drama-free atmosphere. We are looking for new ideas and open communication, and we want to have new members into the board. Nicole will still be present and willing to assist, highlighting the upcoming vacancy for the treasurer position.</p>
<p>Nicole Moore reporting on behalf of Maria Bartman - Vice President, Committee Oversight</p>	<p>Wellness Night: Scheduled for Friday, March 1 at 7:00 p.m., the event will focus on hand knitting pillows. Cassie Muratore will lead the session, and a Google link for pre-registration will be shared to facilitate material purchases. The entry fee is set at \$20.</p> <p>Zumba Night: Planned for Friday, April 12, this event will include Zumba in the gym, potential yoga, and a quiet room in the library for relaxation. Donations for a local women's shelter will be collected.</p> <p>8th Grade Promotion: Planning is underway, and we invite interested individuals to join the efforts. A meeting has already taken place to discuss the event.</p> <p>Fifth Grade Farewell: Planning is ongoing, and volunteers are encouraged to participate. Those interested in contributing to the fifth-grade farewell can reach out to get involved.</p> <p>PTO Scholarship Applications: Applications for the PTO scholarships are live, with a deadline set for February 24. Six \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to graduating seniors. The scholarship committee, composed of</p>

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	<p>non-senior parents, will review applications, conduct interviews, and announce recipients on the night of graduation.</p> <p>Adult Lego Building Night: Maria suggests organizing an adult Lego building night where participants can create flower-themed Lego kits under \$20.</p>
<p>Tracy Kilinski - Vice President, Grade Level Oversight</p>	<p>Chinese New Year: The first-grade Chinese New Year event is scheduled for tomorrow, and volunteers were requested.</p> <p>Remember that chaperones for field trips are selected by teachers. The first grade already had their field trip, but the dates for other grades are unknown at the moment.</p> <p>Spring Parties: Kindergarten and first grade are set to have spring parties on March 21, with other class parties planned for March 28, the last day before spring break. Remember that teachers should not ask for supplies for non-PTO-sponsored events like the 100th day of school, St. Patrick's Day, and Valentine's Day. If such requests are received, parents should notify me.</p> <p>I've had parents reach out about the challenge of increasing PTO memberships. We cannot force parents to join or volunteer. If you are struggling to gather volunteers or donations, please let us know and we can ask for donations from other classrooms.</p>
<p>Heather Anderson - Corresponding Sec'y</p>	<p>Membership update: it's never too late to join and encourage your friends. Someone just joined this week, so it's never too late.</p> <p>In addition, we would like to purchase a 360 camera for school events like dances. Purchasing this has advantages over renting, as we would save money over time, since we would use it at multiple occasions. Purchasing the camera would be a more cost-effective long-term solution. We can rent it out to other groups and actually make a profit off of it instead of spending \$500 for every event that we have rented out.</p> <p>Nicole noted that the money we received from Reflections Studio would cover the cost of purchasing the 360 camera. The membership present voted to approve the purchase.</p>
<p>Cassie Muratore - Corresponding Sec'y</p>	<p>Our next meeting is scheduled for March 13.</p>
<p>Beth Willoughby - Teacher Liaison</p>	<p>We just want to thank everyone for the support with the talent show.</p>
<p>Meeting Adjourned</p>	<p>Meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm</p>