

March 2024 PTO Minutes

March 13, 2023

Call to Order -

Board Members in Attendance:	Nicole Moore (President) Maria Bartman Kowalik (VP, Committee Oversight) Tracey Kilinski (VP, 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)
Mr Tennant - Principal's Round Table	RECENT & UPCOMING EVENTS 3/11 Preschool Pre-registration for 2024-2025: Open right now on the Faber School Website (click on preschool tab) 3/4-3/8 Read Across America was a great success. Thank you Ms. Willoughby 3/6-3/7 Principles of Hip Hop: Peach, Love, Unity & Having Fun (3rd, 4th & 5th Grade): An ensemble of dynamic dancers use breakdancing and audience participation to explore hip hop's rich cultural history and how Black Youth changed the world. 3/6-3/7 Your Life is a Work of Art - Bobby Beetcuts (PreK, K, 1st & 2nd): Bobby mixed live looping, beatboxing, multiple instruments, singing, dancing and interactive play with basic principles of mindfulness, meditation and creative visualization. 3/14 Women's History Month Assembly We Can Do It (3rd, 4th & 5th): Learn about some of the most amazing female figures to ever figure out how to reconfigure the world. 3/14 Little Red and the Big Bully Wolf (PK, K, 1st & 2nd): Little Red just wants to get to Granny's house, but she's going to have to deal with the Big Bully Wolf! 3/25 Third Grade Choir and Recorder Concert - 6:30 pm 3/25 Kindergarten registration open 3/27 Preschool Parent Workshop (2:00pm, Media Center) for students already enrolled in the program 3/28 End of Marking Period

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CLASSROOM UPDATES

Preschool

Ms. Keen's class looked at the letters Oo, Gg, and Bb. For science, they are focusing on clouds, rain and the season of Spring. Their math lessons will coincide with Dr. Seuss "Read Across America" with the story "One, Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish. Mrs. Lowrey's class is examining parts of a bird. They have been following the Eagle Cam in Hillsborough to see the baby birds hatch. For Read Across America, they have read a different Dr Seuss book each day. For St. Patrick's Day they made a Leprechaun Trap to see if we can catch Lenny the Leprechaun. Ms. Gutowski's class will be starting restaurant theme centers. The students will take their turns in the 6 centers: sit down restaurant, drive thru, school cafeteria, fast food inside, ice cream/ candy shop, and pizza shop. In science, the students will learn about the season of Spring and the process of butterflies changing. In Math, the students will learn about graphing and they will use their imaginations to make new things of shapes. Ms. Katz's class is covering letters T, U and V. They finished up dental health awareness week and have been reading Dr. Seuss themed books and engaging in corresponding activities.

Kindergarten

Students are getting ready for the season of spring as we explore the changes in weather. Students are taking a look at the changes that spring brings including the insects that will soon appear. Students are also using our knowledge of simple machines to create leprechaun traps. In Math students are learning to count using patterns to 100 and understanding our tens and ones. In ELA students are continuing to tap out letters to form words and started learning about Digraphs. For writing, students are continuing their "How To's" and thinking about things they are really good at so they can teach others.

1st Grade

In first grade, students finished their Sound unit for science. Students made their own musical instrument and shared with the class. In math, students continue to learn about place value while adding tens and ones. In writing, students have been researching an animal of their choice (habitat, food, appearance, babies, etc.) and are turning their findings into an informational writing piece. In ELA/Fundations, students are working on mastering blends, vowel teams, trick words, and long vowel sounds. Students continue to listen to stories and answer questions/identify main ideas and details, character traits, author's purpose, and vocabulary. In Social Science, students continue to learn about various impactful & influential women for Women's History Month

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2nd Grade

In writing, students started to research various animals and will write an All About Book. In Math, students have started their Money and Time Unit. In Science, they are continuing to explore solids and liquids with various experiments. In reading, they are learning about words with double vowels and various Women in History.

3rd Grade

Third grade is excited to research important women in history for their Women's History Month Projects. They are also reading about astronaut Ellen Ochoa and our solar system. In math their are learning about area and perimeter and how they are used in our lives. And in science they are learning about water, climate, and weather.

4th Grade

For ELA, students finished the novel *The One and Only Ivan*. They watched the movie and compared and contrasted it to the book. In writing, students are finishing their Compare and Contrast 4 paragraph writing piece. They chose two items to compare and contrast. In math, students have been working with manipulating fractions (adding, subtracting, multiplying) and are ready to move into graphs and measurement. In science, students are finishing up their Soils, rocks and Landforms Unit. They conducted experiments such as weathering rocks with acid-based vinegar to observe and compare chemical reactions.

5th Grade

In ELA, students just finished the novel *Wonder*. They watched the movie and compared and contrasted it to the book. Students are now reading either *Number the Stars* or *Stepping on the Cracks*, both of which take place during WWII. In writing, students are finishing their Compare and Contrast 4 paragraph writing piece. Students chose two items to compare and contrast. In Math, students completed their fractions unit which included adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing fractions. They have moved onto graphing with Line Plots and are preparing for measurement and geometry. In Science, the 5th graders have been exploring space, learning about our Solar System and the different effects that our solar system has on our planet.

Picking Up a Student Early

If the need arises for you to pick your student up early from school, kindly notify BOTH the student's teacher and the main office (732-400-5900, option #1)

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Nicole Moore - President	The PTO meeting was called to order at 7:15pm.
Gwen Perdomo - Treasurer's Report	<p>The PTO's expenses included contributions for yearbooks, allergy-free cookies for one of the classroom parties, teacher gifts, holiday bazaar fees, a tricky tray raffle license, start-up money for the Talent Show, candy grams, and family fun night expenses. Our check went out for Small World, and the Raffle license went through for the tricky tray. And then we had an assembly that we paid off for 4,000. We also had expenses for the tricky tray, including prize purchases from Amazon and Staples.</p> <p>We had an opening balance of \$56,208.52 and an ending balance of \$42,010.79.</p> <p>There was a motion to approve the treasurer's report by Jasmine Ramos. The motion was seconded by Jackie Stadler.</p>
Rebecca Gendrano - Minutes	<p>Our last meeting discussed the talent show, Candy Gram sale, and tricky tray planning. We also discussed board nominations, Nicole Moore's upcoming retirement as president, and future events including Wellness Night, Zumba night, grade promotions, scholarships, and an adult Lego building night.</p> <p>There was a motion to approve the minutes by Jasmine Ramos. The motion was seconded by Jackie Stadler.</p>
Nicole Moore - President's Report	<p>Candy Grams: This year, we sold 722 candy grams, including some Venmo payments, resulting in approximately \$568 profit which will allow us to purchase Tricky Tray prizes.</p> <p>Tricky Tray: Planning for the upcoming tricky tray is going well. We plan to purchase bikes as prizes but we still need a variety of donations to raise even additional money. Themed baskets, such as Swift, Harry Potter, Avengers, and Mickey Mouse, were suggested as donation ideas to go along with our theme of "Fandom." Our wrapping efforts have begun, and we wrapped many of our prizes. Additional meetings will be scheduled to prepare/wrap baskets and organize donations. Registration for the event is open. We have received approximately 43 registrations, amounting to close to \$5,000 raised so far. To promote the event we will be distributing flyers to local businesses and featuring a blurb in a community newsletter. You don't need a full table to attend the event; smaller groups can join, and we will coordinate seating arrangements to ensure everyone has a fun experience together. Additional support with donations and ticket sales would be very appreciated!</p>

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	<p>Board Nominations: Board nominations are opening tonight, with the Google form ready to accept submissions. Nicole plans to step down as current president but will still remain involved in the organization's activities. All positions on the PTO board are open for nominations, and any active member can nominate another member for any position. Those interested in joining the board are encouraged to reach out to current members for more information.</p>
<p>Maria Bartman - VP, Committee Oversight</p>	<p>Assemblies: We have made plans for the mobile planetarium assembly, scheduled for either the 9th/10th or the 10th/11th, avoiding the day of the Solar Eclipse.</p> <p>Wellness Events: We have the upcoming wellness night featuring Zumba and yoga. We are interested in doing puppy yoga but there is a high cost, with prices ranging from around \$120 per person for a group of 15 attendees to approximately \$78 per person for a group of 30. We might do a collaboration with Generation Stan Studio for an upcoming event. We're currently seeking connections with yoga instructors and have received confirmation from Mr. Ross that hosting such an event would be feasible, likely in a venue other than the gym.</p> <p>Scholarships: We've received 15 de-identified scholarship applications and are seeking six volunteers to assist with reviewing and interviewing applicants; interested individuals are encouraged to reach out to the speaker or Kate Harada. Kate will send out an email regarding this after the musical, and those who responded to previous inquiries about joining the committee will be contacted.</p> <p>Fifth Grade Farewell: An email will be sent soon regarding the beginning stages of planning for fifth-grade activities, aiming to schedule the first meeting before spring break to ensure timely preparation and avoid supply issues.</p> <p>Eighth Grade Promotion: Megan Portik and Miriam De Silva are planning this event. Individuals interested in helping out are encouraged to contact them.</p> <p>Book Fair: The upcoming Book Fair features a buy one, get one free offer, and will take place from May 13th to May 17th. Volunteers are needed to assist during this event, even if you can only help for part of the day, to ensure a smooth shopping experience for the children.</p> <p>Teacher Appreciation: Teacher Appreciation Week is scheduled for May 6th through 10th. The chairperson will be confirmed soon, and volunteers with ideas for appreciating teachers are encouraged to reach out. Assistance is typically needed for the luncheon provided for teachers. If you're not able to come and help, please donate, because</p>

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	<p>we do put out a sign up genius asking for beverages and snacks and such.</p>
<p>Tracy Kilinski - VP, Grade Level Oversight</p>	<p>Spring parties are approaching, with kindergarten parties scheduled for the 19th, first-grade parties on the 21st, and parties for all other grades on Thursday, the 28th, the day before spring break. Parents donating food for events don't need to send the ingredients lists. Instead, the team leader should inform the organizer of the donated items, such as cheese-its or homemade cupcakes, without requiring the recipe or pictures of labels.</p>
<p>Beth Willoughby - Teacher Liaison</p>	<p>I did confirm the book fair this week, which is good news. And just thank you for all of your support throughout the year.</p>
<p>Open Discussion</p>	<p>The spring musical (Grease) will run Thursday through Saturday nights, with shows at 7:30 PM and an additional 2:00 PM show on Saturday. Tickets are available at the door.</p> <p>We are making plans to purchase the 360 camera. We prefer a slightly more expensive option at \$1,600 that includes a hard case as this offers better protection against damage during storage and travel. The members present at the meeting approved the purchase of the camera. We will do a trial run of the camera at Tricky Tray to ensure that everything works correctly, and then we can offer it to be used at various school events.</p>
<p>Meeting Adjourned</p>	<p>The meeting was adjourned at 7:43pm.</p>