

Geyser Road Elementary School PTO - Meeting Minutes- November 18, 2025

Attendees: Marissa Izykowski-President, Jessica Hirliman-Vice President, Jess Quigley-Secretary, Cody Conley-Principal, Kristie Snow-5th Grade Representative, Gretchen Thomas-4th Grade Teacher, Joly Stevens-Parent, Karen Houlehan-Parent, Joe Policino-5th Grade Teacher

Welcome-Marissa Izykowski

- The PTO provided breakfast for the faculty and staff at their monthly faculty meeting this morning. Marissa and Mary Austin (AIE Representative) presented information about Arts In Education. Teachers received a Google Form looking for input about how we can show our appreciation for all they do.

Principal's Report:

- The breakfast provided by the PTO at the faculty meeting was very appreciated.
- Geyser kids have participated in a lot this month:
 - Fitness Club,
 - Cross Country Race
 - Jared Campbell Performance
 - Student Council collected books for the Glens Falls Hospital. They are hosting a Food Drive on Friday, 11/20
 - The Advisory Club is working on a bi-monthly school-wide newspaper
 - The No Place For Hate Club is sponsoring 'Gratitude Grams' for teachers, to show their appreciation for each other.
- What does the PTO need for Math Night? (We are all set with volunteers).

Treasurer's Report:

- General Account:
 - Available Funds: \$33,524.03
- 5th Grade Account:
 - Available Funds: \$3,615.70

Committee/Upcoming Event Reports:

- Math Night - PTO will be preparing the popcorn and Hot Cocoa. Student Council volunteers will help to hand them out.
- Art To Remember - Closes 11/23 - We will check in with the Art Department to see what materials or supplies they can use. Proceeds from the sale will go toward purchasing what they need.
- Gecko Gear - Closes 11/30
- Holiday Market
 - We have 9-10 vendors who will be selling handmade items.
 - All items will be \$3-6.
 - Sign-up Genius went out for volunteers. Lunch on 12/16 and breakfast on 12/17 will be provided by the PTO

- Flyers, budget sheets, and envelopes will be sent home on 12/1
- PTO will purchase gift bags and tissue paper
- 5th Grade
 - Kristie Snow voiced concerns from the committee about the availability of funds raised by 5th graders from the Raise 365 fundraiser. They were told that the PTO is not giving them any money. Parents were under the impression that this fundraiser was the only fundraising they needed to do for the year. The PTO clarified that as per our discussion with the committee chairs at the October meeting, if after all of the traditional 5th grade fundraisers are done, if there are funds needed for Camp Chingchagook or end of the year activities, the PTO will provide the money the committee needs. The PTO has never fundraised directly for the 5th grade committee. The board will use this feedback as they plan for next year.
 - Half Day Movies 12/3 (Closed) & 12/11
 - A Google Form will be sent out for 12/11 via Parent Square that will eliminate information going home to different families at different times.
 - Cody will send out the Parent Square
 - The Google Form will count as your reserved spot, only if you are paid.
 - Kids Night Out: 12/12
 - 5th grade committee will recruit parent volunteers for each room
 - The PTO will purchase pizza, plates, and napkins using money from the 5th grade account.
- Arts In Education
 - There is a little under \$5,000 left to spend on programming. Mary Austin is working on getting more school-wide assemblies.
 - Mary is working on using AIE funds to cover some of the programming at Camp Chingchagook for the 5th Grade field trip. There are rules and regulations that we need to follow for the use of AIE funds, so we need to follow up with the district.
 - Cody: The Geyser Road PTO pledges the least in the district for their AIE match. This is the first year that we have used all of the district AIE money, and the first year that we have used any of the PTO's match. We are already approaching surpassing the pledge amount. Next year we will look at all of our programming to come up with the amount that we will be pledging
- Snowball: 1/16
 - There was a committee meeting on 11/13 that was a big success.
 - We will book the cafeteria and the gymnasium to have two separate spaces
 - One room will host the "dance" with the DJ and lights, the other room will have a few activities for the kids to do who need a break.
 - Cody: It is important to have volunteers in the hallways (We are reaching out to Honor Society and Key Club for High School volunteers.)
- Drama Club:
 - The shows will be on February 27 and 28

- Rehearsals are on Thursday, 11/20, after school
- Over 70 kids have signed up for the club
- The PTO has pledged \$1500 to Drama Club. Let us know what you will need.
- The sound system on the stage needs work
 - It may be possible to rent equipment
 - Can we look into purchasing nice speakers? (Cody is going to check with the Legacy Project to make sure this won't be a future project.)

Unfinished Business:

- 2025/2026 Treasurer
 - Kristi Snow is interested in the position. She will reach out to Marissa and let her know.

New Business:

- Cody: What is happening with the Bylaws?
 - As all members of the current board are new to the scope of responsibilities the PTO requires, we have spent the last four months finding our footing. This summer, we decided that our top priorities for the beginning of the school year were fundraising and building community involvement. Thanks to the success of these initiatives, we are now in a strong position with considerable community support. Due to the generous amount of volunteer support for events and committees, we can now concentrate more on administrative tasks.

Upcoming Events:

- Math Night: 11/19 6-7:30
- Student Council Food Drive: 11/20
- Half Day Movie (Sponsored by 5th Grade): 12/3 and 12/11
- Kids Night Out: 12/12
- Holiday Sale: 12/16 and 12/17 (In classes)

Next Meeting: January 20, 2025 at 6 p.m.

