

PTO Meeting Minutes

October 16, 2024

Zoom

Attendees: Jenny Mario, Audrey Hayek, Nikita Singhani, Jamie Noe, Shaziya Shaikh, Kim Bargiel, Lori Shekari, Jennifer Lee, Ms. Maroulis, Mr. Winkelstein, Yuko Utsumi, Jeanne, Prashant Naik, Saakshi, Karina Singh, Alana Perrone, Jason Kim, Alli Falciglia, Mary (Molly) Grauber Coco, Jacquelyn DiFrancesco, Victoria Sidoti

Start Time: 9:17am

PTO UPDATES

- Approve September Minutes – Audrey Hayek, Shaziya Shaikh
- Treasurer's Report – \$25,389.25 in operating account
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ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- Michael Barcadepone, Superintendent- Absent
- Bruce Winkelstein, Brookside Principal
 - Halloween right around the corner
 - Will be sending out an email for Brookside about costumes
 - What they are allowed to wear
 - No sticks/accessories they hold
 - No masks
 - Can wear inflatable costumes but must able to remove it during the day
 - Candy in moderation please
 - Kids currently voting on Mr. Winkelsteins' costume
 - Shrek and Grimace costumes in the lead right now
 - Photo makeup day
 - November 5th
 - Will start at Brookside then go to Hillside
 - Mrs. Bailey will be working with student council on Thanksgiving food drive
 - Book Fair Next week
 - Question - Mr. Winkelstein asked if 8th graders are still going to be helping younger kids?
 - Jenny Mario responded – Said that would be wonderful for K and 1st Grade
 - Mr. Winkelstein replied that he will arrange this
 - 6th grade trips
 - All sign ups finished
 - Some more forms will be going out soon
 - Second payment due mid – November
 - October 25th
 - Spooky Social
 - Mr. Winkelstein asked if we wanted him to put an advertisement on BTV?
 - Jenny Mario responded – Yes, that would be great
 - Mr. Winkelstein replied that he will arrange this
 - Question – Mr. Winkelstein asked if Staff Appreciation will still be the 25th?

- Jenny Mario confirmed with Audrey Hayek that it is October 25th
 - Mr. Winkelstein replied that he will advertise that to the staff
- Anastasia Maroulis, Hillside Principal
 - Solid beginning to school year
 - Establishing good habits, great start to the year
 - Doing a lot of assessing and academic support program will start next week
 - Carried over students who were in it last year into this year as well
 - Parents will receive letters if their child is continuing, exiting or starting
 - Playground
 - Best thing that has happened to this school- feels like a more typical suburban elementary school
 - Very grateful to Board and AFEE and all who supported this endeavor
 - Drop off is much simpler
 - Gate is now there so back area is completely fenced in
 - Has helped with choices for students and making their own decisions on what they want to do
 - Also want them to learn how to share and limit their own time
 - Huge space for them to play in
 - Wall ball sought after just as much as the grass
 - Basketball hoops are not going to be installed
 - Not being used as much or as well
 - Soccer, Football and Wall Ball more popular
 - Question -Ms. Maroulis asked about the size of courts at Brookside
 - Mr. Winkelstein responded that they are standard high school size
 - Seeing less misbehavior since kids are very eager to go out and play
 - Pavers have been all put in the front of the school
 - Thank you for the staff treats!
 - Juggling assembly was exceptional
 - Was very engaging, brought kids up and make it very interactive
 - Next Assembly November 5th
 - Acapella group that will be going to both schools
 - Last 2 professional development days went very well
 - Sent out information for Halloween already
 - Book Fair next week
 - Weather looking good
 - 2 days dedicated to just Hillside visiting the book fair which is great
 - Veterans Program
 - November 14th
 - Will send out a letter to bring Veterans in for this special program
 - Works with PTO on this to honor current or retired veterans
 - Honored with breakfast and tribute assembly created by students
- Sharon Bailey- Hillside & Brookside Representative- Absent

UPCOMING EVENTS/INITIATIVES

- Pumpkin Carve
 - This Sunday October 20th
 - Still has some open slots
- Book Fair (Jamie)
 - Next week October 21st -24th
 - Donuts with Grownups October 23rd starting at 7:30am
 - Family Night October 24th starting at 6pm
 - Donation bins for teachers will be there again this year
 - Few spots open for volunteers
 - Thank you to those who have signed up to help
- Brookside's Spooky Social (Lori V/Shaz)
 - Will be Friday October 25th for 4th/5th grade then 6th/7th grade
 - Will be a parent square post for that this week
 - Still looking for volunteers to help with setup
 - Have enough chaperones for 4th/5th grade but need more for 6th/7th grade
- Brookside PTO sponsored assembly
 - November 5th
 - Acapella Group
- 3rd grade service project- CFA Snack Packs (11/4)
 - Doing same as last year, well received
 - Will benefit Center for Food Action
 - In early November an email will be going out for amazon links for parents to purchase items
 - 3rd graders to pack them up
- Bingo (2nd grade)
 - Sign ups went out last week
 - Ms. Maroulis confirmed time is 6pm
- Movie Nights (4/5th grade)
 - Sign ups coming out soon
 - Question- Mr. Winkelstein asked if we should let kids pick the movie?
 - Jenny Mario responded – Yes, we will poll the kids. Makes them more excited about the event
- School's Closed Camps at One River and Superdome (Nikita)
 - Both camps were very successful over the October Break
 - Will be having the same options again over the Teacher's Convention Break on November 7th and 8th
 - Signs up will go out soon

- Veterans Day breakfast (Audrey)
 - Have reached out to anyone who has expressed interest and has a lot of volunteers already
 - Started to work on sign up genius for food – will send out until first week of November
 - Question – Audrey Hayek wants to be sure will be able to enter school at 7:30 am to start set up?
 - Ms. Maroulis responded yes, should be fine
- Charleston Wrap fundraiser- through 11/15, PTO gets 40% of sales
 - Great fundraiser for PTO
- Any questions?
 - Ms. Maroulis commented that 3rd grade committee met and started planning. Was a very productive meeting.

End Time: 9:39am

UPCOMING DATES

10/18	Book Fair Set-Up
10/20	Pumpkin Carve
10/23	Book Fair Donuts with Grown Ups
10/23	Second Grade Bingo Night
10/24	Family Night at the Book Fair
10/25	Break down the Book Fair
10/25	Brookside's Spooky Social
11/6	November Birthday Bees
11/6	Brookside PTO-Sponsored Assembly
11/7-8	School Closed - Teacher's Convention/Camps
11/14	Veterans Day Breakfast at Hillside
11/14	4/5th Grade Movie Night
11/20	General PTO Meeting 9:15am (Zoom)