

Hillside Elementary School

PTA Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2016

- I. Call to order by Alex Wells at 7:05pm.
- II. Minutes
 - A. Motion to approve by Kim Krentcil.
 - B. Second to approve by Jeanne Silberman.
 - C. September 13, 2016 meeting minutes approved.

III. Correspondence

- A. Nothing to report.

IV. Treasurer's Report

- A. Provided by Meryll Kropac.
- B. Bank Balance as of September 30, 2016:

Checking	\$	40,372.79
Outdoor Resources	\$	2,764.95
Money Market	\$	1,810.95
Games of Chance	\$	100.36
PayPal	\$	512.23
Total	\$	45,561.28

- C. See full Treasurer's Report for additional details.
- D. The question was raised as to how a new parent to Hillside can gain an introductory understanding of how the PTA works. Alex Wells explained the budget, the expense process, and the volunteering process.

V. Membership

- A. Provided by Zan Ouyang.
- B. Cost is \$13, which includes a PTA membership. That membership comes with a right to vote.

- C. The Buzz Book was explained to new members. It is an address book to assist in communication between members and is a useful tool for birthday party invites and play dates.
- D. The deadline for Buzz Book submissions has been extended to 10/17. Payment is by check.
- E. To date, 184 forms have been collected. Some are missing signatures and payments but the committee is working to correct those items.

VI. President's Report

- A. Provided by Alex Wells.
- B. Volunteers of the month: Alyse Heilpern and Rania Gerges for their work on Outdoor Movie Night.
- C. Alex announced that Alyse Heilpern has volunteered to fill the vacant Recording Secretary position for the remainder of the school year.

VII. Principal's Report

- A. Provided by Carlos Gramata.
- B. Key Club – Mr. Gramata expressed his appreciation for the Key Club from Livingston High School for providing child care during PTA meetings. He hopes this will lead to more parent attendance at meetings. He expressed gratitude to Nurse Tseng for organizing the effort.
- C. Pep Rally – The 3rd annual pep rally was a success and a good picture of the student body and teachers was taken, continuing the Character Matters theme.
- D. Hank the Husky – The students are not aware yet but Hank will soon be joined by his female cousin from Siberia. There will be a special Election Day assembly to choose her name. This will provide another husky to the rotation to be handed out to a chosen class for safe keeping.

- E. Bank Shot – The new Bank Shot system is almost complete. The pavement will be painted on Friday, 10/14. The students will be taught how to properly use the equipment by Mr. Schinelli during their PE classes.
- F. Conferences – Parent/teacher conferences will be held Wednesday, 10/19 through Friday, 10/21. These will be half days for students.
- G. School Play – Last year's play was a success and so there will be another play this year. The selection of Aladdin has been made. Information will be coming soon. This is a good opportunity for students to shine outside of the classroom.

VIII. Old Business

- A. Outdoor Movie Night – Movie Night this year was a success, with good turn out.

IX. Committee Reports

- A. 5th Grade Committee – Margaret Davis is the chair. Her report was emailed and read by Alex Wells. The committee will be selling “Boo Bags” for Halloween this year. Flyers were sent home and payments are due 10/14. The bags will be delivered to students on 10/24. They will include small trinkets and some candy. The proceeds will go towards the 5th grade gift to the school. Also, Thursday, 10/20 is the ½ day activity. It will be a color wars theme. Students are being offered a pizza lunch and a snack. Orders are due 10/14. Finally, help is still needed for the Spring Fundraiser.
- B. Apparel – Reported by Denise Dunton. All orders have been placed and should be received in 2 weeks.
- C. KidStuff Books – Reported by Kim Krentcil, committee chair. The book cost is \$25. Approximately 23 books are still missing.
- D. Box Tops – Reported by Nicole Aaron-Wagener, committee chair. \$100 was made in the summer collection. Tuesday, 10/18 is the next collection due date. The question was raised whether a full collection sheet was required to send in what was collected. The answer was

to send in whatever you have, either attached to a collection sheet or in a plastic baggie. A full sheet is not required. Awards will be given again at the class and individual level. The first check should be received in December, which includes the remainder of collections from last year. Also, there is an app for Box Tops. Information will be included in the next newsletter. Using the app allows for a bonus in addition to clipping.

- E. Book Fair – Reported by Alex Wells. The kick off for the Scholastic Book Fair will be Fall Family Fun Night on Friday, 11/18. There will be events for the family, teacher readings, and a pirate theme. Monday and Tuesday of the following week will be set up for student shopping during the day. Teachers will provide wish lists. The Scholastic Book Fair will replace the Barnes & Noble Book Fair normally held in December.
 - F. Cultural Arts – Reported by Denise Dunton. They have narrowed down the options and are currently working on dates. There will be more information at the next meeting.
 - G. Hillside Night at a Restaurant – Reported by Denise Dunton, committee chair. She will be contacting local restaurants to decide which one to use for the event. The date will be given at the next meeting but the target is the beginning of December. How it works is that Hillside PTA will receive a % of sales for the selected restaurant on a particular date.
 - H. School Store – Reported by Meryll Kropac, committee co-chair. The first store will be held on Friday, 10/14. Like last year, prices will range from 25 cents to \$2. The store will be stocked with new items.
 - I. Buzz Book – Reported by Zan Ouyang, committee chair. It was stressed that all volunteers must be current PTA members. This includes committee volunteers and class parents. They are working on inputting all information and trying to print the book as early as possible.
- X. Comments.
- A. A new family to Hillside spoke of their company Wonderworks and putting together a group for robotics competition. Flyers were sent out to current 3rd grade students for

interest. Spaces are already full. The question was raised about space usage. Mr. Gramata would be the contact for that. A parent suggested also obtaining a room at the library. The comment was made that the school used to have a successful after school “hobby” program but the interest dwindled and it was hard to get volunteers. Other schools in the district have after school programs for students.

B. The question was raised as to whether or not the PTA is a non-profit. This was confirmed. It was suggested for working parents to look into their work situation and see if their company makes any sort of match for hours donated.

XI. Meeting adjourned by Alex Wells at 7:54pm.