



Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2014

Meeting was called to order at 7:02pm in the East Media Center.

Members present included: Duana Howard, Susan A Johnson, Sarah Lewin, Julie Flickinger, Dewey Hupke, Donalyn Pogue, MJ Blaisdell, Helen Lukes, Kelsi Whittrock, Lisa Wood, Nikki Sidles, Julie Davison, and Amanda Johnson.

Welcome

Nikki Sidles Co-Chair greeted and welcomed members to the November PTO Meeting.

Treasurer's Report (Julie Davison)

PTO Funds:

Beginning Balance 10/14/2014	\$ 19,203.40
Total Income	\$ 41,027.01
Total Expenses	\$ 3,025.39
Ending Balance 11/10/2014	\$ 57,205.02

East Funds:

Beginning Balance 10/14/2014	\$ 6,727.37
Income	\$ 0.00
Expenses	\$ 3,951.00
Ending Balance 11/10/2014	\$ 2,776.37

Total Checkbook Balance 11/10/2014 \$ 59,981.39

Treasurer Julie Davison read the Treasurer's Report. Duana Howard made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Susan A Johnson seconded the motion, which then carried.

Secretary Report (Amanda Johnson)

There is a "Quick Link" for Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) on the Independence Community Schools website. Monthly meeting minutes are posted on the PTO webpage.

Old Business

The new wooden table and four chairs for Madi Forsyth's classroom have been ordered for a total cost of \$80.

The Fall Fundraiser through Club's Choice was kicked off on October 7th and finished on October 22nd. Product pickup day will be held on November 19th. The Miami Dunk Team will be used as an all school incentive for having such a successful fundraiser.

Brittany Holt was welcomed into the PTO as the Junior Kindergarten teacher and was given the same monetary donation as the other teachers that are a part of the Elementary Schools.

Harvest Night was held on October 14th from 5:30-7:00pm and was a huge success. There were 128 kids and 93 adults in attendance. PTO members, Silver Cord kids, and Student Council kids volunteered their time to work this event.

New Business

On November 19th parents can pick up the Fall Fundraiser products at West Elementary in the Commons from 3:30pm – 6:30pm. Volunteers are needed beginning around 1:30pm to start sorting the items and volunteers are needed to assist with the distribution of the items when parents arrive. Various PTO members stated they would volunteer their time. The fundraiser brought in approximately \$39,400 of which the PTO keeps approximately 40% of this.

PTO shirts are in and can be picked up following the meeting or from Nikki Sidels at a later time. The PTO shirts will provide visibility for the PTO members when working events and activities so they can be located when someone need assistance or has a question.

Principal Duey Hupke and Principal MJ Blaisdell provided an update on the playground. The new West Elementary playground has been installed and the teachers have given instructions to the students on how to use the equipment. It was mentioned that a light and/or security camera might be needed near the playground for safety and security of the playground and children. The new Kindergarten playground has been installed and the teachers and children enjoy the equipment and new mats.

The Junior High concession stand volunteer opportunities have begun for the basketball and wrestling seasons. Members discussed in detail the pros and cons of serving hot dogs, pizza, and/or both. It was decided this would be voted on at the end of the meeting via paper ballot. The final vote was a majority to serve hot dogs. This will be implemented at the first wrestling meet and will only be provided for wrestling meets due to their length and the number of people in attendance.

Movie Night will be held on November 14th at 6:30pm. A One Call will go out this week as a reminder to parents. Teachers are encouraged to attend. The movie being showed is the Disney movie, Bears, and there will be free popcorn, water, and orange drink (from McDonalds). The PTO purchased the supplies and volunteers have signed up to work this event.

The PTO board members raised the question of how to handle PTO membership for the 2015-2016 school year. The main issues discussed were the cost of InfoSnap and the reliability of the program. The option was presented to make every family with a JK-6th grade student a member of the PTO at the beginning of the school year. The families would have the option to be removed from the list upon request. This was tabled until the paper ballot voting at the conclusion of the meeting. It was a unanimous vote to approve the presented option of automatic enrollment in the PTO.

The Independence PTO can receive donations from AmazonSmile if you purchase your items through this site versus the regular Amazon site. Co-chair Nikki Sidels encouraged members to make their purchases through AmazonSmile and designate the Independence PTO as the recipient of the donation made by Amazon with every order.

The PTO provides a meal for the teachers at conference time. This year the meal will be on Tuesday, November 25th. The PTO will be purchasing sub sandwiches. Subway and First Street Deli both provided bids for the cost of this meal. This was voted on via paper ballot at the conclusion of the meeting with a majority vote for First Street Deli for a cost of \$5.50/footlong. Additional volunteers are needed to bring bars, cookies, chips, and water for the meal. An email will be sent out to members asking for volunteers.

Julie Flickinger offered to give someone a wooden popcan box that in the past has been sat by the old high school. The box has been weathered over time and needs refinished. Amanda Johnson offered to take the box and have her children refinished and refurbish the box for a 4h project then place the box back at an Independence school building to be used for its original purpose. Details of who would manage the popcans deposited into the box will be determined once the box has been refurbished.

It was discussed if a December PTO meeting should be held. Duey Hupke made a motion that the December meeting be cancelled so families can have family time during the holiday season. Susan A Johnson seconded the motion, which then carried. Meetings will remain on the second Monday of the month at 7:00pm beginning again in January.

Fund Requests:

MJ Blaisdell present a fund request for both East and West Elementary to bring Old Creamery Theater back to the schools. The total cost is estimated at \$625 and covers total production and related travel costs. This was voted on via paper ballot at the conclusion of the meeting with a unanimous vote for approval.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Submitted by Amanda Johnson/PTO Secretary

PTO Board/Officers:

Gina Homan Co-Chair
Nikki Sidels Co-Chair
Gina Trimble Treasurer
Amanda Johnson Secretary