

The meeting began at 6:08 pm

Attendees – 14

Board Members in Attendance:

Tahra Harrell, Megan Pugh, Renee West, Cecile Rock, Jeanette Bentham

Members in Attendance: Emily Dunn, Trisha Wells, Sherry Brubaker, Heidi Barrick, Julie Straight, Stasia Pitcher, Sarah Camp, Liz Wynn, David Middlin

I. Approval of the October meeting minutes

II. Treasurer's Report

2017-18 Planned Operating Expenses: \$32,811.40

2017-18 Estimated Income: \$26,850

Bank Balance as of 12/4/17 : \$13,638.73

Band Line Item: -\$3,050.34

Sept. Funding Request Not Spent: -\$843.26

Total Available: \$9,745.13

Income Earned Not Deposited/Received

Fun Run: \$19,278.00

Box Tops: \$1,012.20

Dining Dollars: \$340.35

Kroger Rewards: \$574.02

Total: \$21,204.57

- a. We want to keep \$8,000 in reserves.
- b. We are waiting on totals for Trunk or Treat & Spirit Wear Sales
- c. Due to the scheduled meeting being cancelled and rescheduled Renee informed the PTO that the current bank balance as of 12/19/17 was \$36,706.35 and some of the deposits we were expecting had come through including from the Fun Run. Around \$17,000 was rolled over from the previous year and due to a successful Fun Run and other fundraisers we are doing well financially this year.

III. Funding Requests

- a. Jenny Ross is requesting \$1,000 towards additional items to be used to organize the Parent Room including a curriculum holder for grade level sheets, "floating" frames to display students' art work, wall décor, bins for dress code clothing, shelving cubby units, toys, magazine holders, and décor for the tops of the cabinets. **Declined 8 No Yes 4**
Discussion: Jenny Ross is the student ambassador and does tours for new prospective families monthly, if not more frequently, and the Parent Room is often the first room and therefore the first impression families have of the school and it is important that we make a good first impression. It was discussed that \$1,000 for these items was excessive and many felt that additional items could be purchased more economically and perhaps art students could make the frame to display their artwork. It was discussed that the PTO would consider purchasing additional items for the Parent Room but at a reduced cost.
- b. Julie Straight is requesting \$400 for 2 chromebooks for the 8th Grade class. **Approved 14 Yes 0 No**
Discussion: Students are required to take the AR tests throughout the year and during certain units complete research online in the classroom. The AR tests must be completed inside of the classroom and due to the difficulty of the tests it is best they are taken soon after the students have completed the readings in order for the student's to pass the test and retain the information needed. The 30 chromebooks and the card for the middle school are able to be borrowed by other teachers inside of the school and are not simply designated for the middle school students' use. Often, the 90 middle school students therefore do not have access to chromebooks and therefore cannot take AR tests right away or do research in class. These 2

chromebooks would stay inside of Julie Straight's 8th grade classroom and other teachers would not be able to borrow them. This would mean that the 8th grade students would always have access to 2 chromebooks.

- c. Julie Straight is request \$856.48 for 8th grade t-shirts. **Approved 12 Yes 2 No**
Discussion: It is a tradition that the 8th grade students receive college bound t-shirts to encourage students for college readiness in the Spring and for the 8th grade students to have the privilege to wear the t-shirts on Friday's along with jeans. NHA has purchased these t-shirts for the past several years and is no longer doing so. 8th graders look forward to be able to have the privilege, due to their status in the school, of wearing these t-shirts and jeans vs typical uniform code on Fridays.

IV. Topics and Updates

- a. Bagel Mornings. Sarah Camp provided an update regarding her plan to organize a fundraiser one day each week to raise funds for the PTO. A similar fundraiser has been very successful at HoneyCreek school and Sarah believes we can re-create the success. At least 1 parent and 1 teacher would have to be there, as the event will take place once, every week, in the morning prior to school starting. Students would have 25-30 minutes to eat and the profits would go to the PTO. Mrs. Bondy has approved the fundraiser and having a designated parking area for parents to park in and go inside with their children. We discussed whether Honor Society kids would be allowed to get volunteer service by helping out. This is a non-compliant fundraiser so that the food will not need to be audited and approved by the state of Michigan.
- b. The PTO Auction. We reminded the membership that the Auction will be held on Friday, March 2nd and will be an adult only event. There will be both silent auction items and a live auction. Megan and Dave will be the auctioneers. Tickets include the price of the meal and the use of the facility. The PTO does not make money from the ticket sales so we depend on donations and the money generated from the items that are auctioned off. We are in need of items donated by businesses and parents. Businesses who donate will receive advertising on the program and on the slide show throughout the auction. All items donated are tax deductible. Popular items to be donated include season ticket passes, timeshares, stays at a condo, and sports memorabilia. The Auction committee consists of Liz Wynn, Jen Young, Kim Kratzer and Dave Middlin. Liz Wynn will be heading communication for the auction committee.
- c. Volunteers are still needed for the First Grade Basket, Sherry Brubaker volunteered to coordinate the basket if no one in the 1st Grade volunteers and Kim Kratzer is coordinating the 8th grade basket. We encouraged parents to consider donating to baskets, even if not within their child's grade level.

Adjournment 7:22 pm

V. Next Meeting: Monday, February 12th , 2018 6:30 in the Music Room