

PTO Meeting Minutes

September 6, 2022 7pm

Welcome: First meeting of the new school year was called to order at 7pm by Allison Symmes. Present: Anastasia Kalashuikova, Jeremy Kuhar, Ron Cupp, Nicole Cupp, Chris Cooley, Caleb McClure, Samantha McClure, Allison Symmes, Suzanne Spokus, Rachael Gibbon, Maria Kretz, Sylvia Lee, Destiny Morris, Marcos Showaker, Kate Carter, Jamie Thomson, Danielle Shelton, Tamera Stickle, Logan Stickle, Ryan Gastley, Ashley Heefner, Kim Smith, Ashley Hudson, Tim Funk, and Jennie Harrison. (25)

Minutes from May 3rd, 2022 were approved

Treasurer Report End of year (2021-2022) treasurer's report was received. The balance at the last meeting was \$8,695.23. Deposits were made for field trip chaperones and Hersheypark tickets for a total of \$3,571.50. Withdrawals were made for Teacher Appreciation Week, Wax Museum, 5th Grade Memory Books, Teacher Stipends, Bussing for field trips, May Fair, and Gift Card winners for a total of \$7,628.25. The final balance for last year was \$4,638.48.

Beginning of year (2022-2023) report was also received. There were no deposits. A withdrawal was made for the May Fair deposit totaling \$776.98. The balance as of today's meeting is \$3,861.50.

Principal's Report: Mr. Wells was not in attendance due to an unexpected half day away. PTO was notified that you may resume eating lunch with your child this year (COVID restriction lifted).

Mrs. Cooley presented some ideas from the teachers as part of "Family Engagement" with Title I, they were the following:

1. September 29th, 2022: Family Movie Night, 6 – 8pm. They will make flyers and schedule a presentation – if you stay for the presentation, you get your "movie ticket." Roll this into a fundraiser for the PTO with a food truck that sells ice cream such as Kona Ice (no popcorn) with a percentage of the sales going to PTO (or bring your own snacks). There is also a donut truck that the PTO could ask, as well as a hot dog truck. A movie needs to be picked and a custodian needs to be lined up.
2. October 27th, 2022: Trunk or Treat. Get businesses in community to participate with coupons to their stores/"swag." Again, 15-20 minute presentation (Lexia) – if you stay for the presentation, you get a "bag" to take to the Trunk or Treat event.
3. November 15th – 19th, 2022: American Education Week. During "WIN time" (What I Need) in class, Schedule 45-minute blocks of time for parents to come and sit in class with students to observe, rotate the grades this week so the parents are coming to opposite sides of the school (reduce chaos).
4. Spring – really far out, TBD, a book event with the library (needs more details currently, just a thought).

New Business: Allison Symmes announced the need for a secretary and invited interested persons to see her following meeting. (J. Caleb McClure volunteered). It was reported that there are some remaining Hersheypark tickets (PTO gets a great deal at \$42 dollars a ticket, or so, versus \$76 at the gate). A Parent's Night Out event is scheduled for October 1st, 2022 at Dubb's Karate. Four hours for the event total, \$5 per child. There will be information about this event on Facebook – dinner is provided, pizza and water. All money is donated to PTO.

Committee Reports:

Fall Fundraisers: Jennie Harrison and Maria Kretz provided the report for the Fall Fundraisers, announcing two:

- The fall Mum Sale was announced. Flyers were to be sent home to every child in the next few days. Sponsored by Taylor's Greenhouse – 35% of sales go to the PTO. 10\$ per nine-inch potted mum. Orders are due by Wednesday, September 21st and mums will be delivered to JGE on October 11th from 4 – 6pm. A volunteer is needed for every 100 mums delivered.
- Believe Kid's was announced – PTO will be doing this again but with the full catalogue. The fundraiser will run from October 3rd – 24th with delivery in November. PTO was reminded that if you just want to make a straight donation to the PTO, simply write a check out to the JGE PTO.

RIF: Jennie Harrison provided an update about RIF (Reading is Fundamental). There will be three events this year – one in the fall, one in the winter, one in the spring. The first will be on October 21st, 2022. A theme is still being determined; books are to be donated by the PTO and Optimist Club.

Restaurant Fundraiser: Maria Kretz reported about Restaurant Fundraisers for the PTO and opened discussion about what restaurants to use as potential fundraisers for the PTO. In the past PTO offered one every month or every other month. The ideas this year are to approach Dairy Queen (and possibly Mr. G's) to see about a coupon book. Other restaurants mentioned: Hoss's, Tommy's, Friendly's, McDonald's, and Sweet Frog. It was mentioned that there are many restaurants in town with many possibilities to further explore this in the coming weeks.

Box Tops: An update was given by Mrs. Spokus about collecting box tops for the PTO using an app to scan your receipts. The app is called "Box Tops for Education." The year-to-date total collected is \$39.00.

Spring Fundraiser: Maria Kretz and Jennie Harrison gave report about the Spring Fundraisers, so far the ideas are:

- Hanging baskets – PTO will use Taylor's for this (as done for the fall mums)
- A baked good drive/cupcakes – PTO maybe to partner with local bakery?
- "Subs" – PTO to have a food fundraiser (R&K), deliver and sort.

- Conversation moved to “food storage” and the inability of the PTO to store food at JGE (health codes).
- Community Yard Sale – PTO would sponsor a community yard sale of the “rent a space” variety. So individuals would be in charge of sorting and pricing but we’d be in charge of managing the spaces. Set a price per spot and raise money that way.
- The floor was then opened for other ideas – of note:
 - “Culture day:” food from various cultures.
 - “Donut drop off line:” Krispy Kreme would be ordered ahead of time, someone with a massive open seating van would pick up, bring to school and we’d hand out donuts in the drop off line before school starts.
 - “Paint night” – come to school and paint with a group.
 - Poinsettias at Christmas
 - Theme trivia night (there was a good buzz about this idea)
 - A lengthy conversation about Race for Education was had that also dived into non-profit status of the PTO (we are under the school system).

Holiday Craft: Allison Symmes gave report about the Holiday Craft: The PTO will sponsor a holiday craft in December (date TBD, typically on a Friday) – it will be during the day; no glue, no glitter. There will be one or two crafts, need planners.

Hospitality: Teacher Appreciation Week: it was reported that this week has food each day, that there are gifts and treats handed out to teachers that week (supplied/donated from families and local businesses in Gettysburg). The May Fair was announced: May 25th, 2023. It is the 2nd to last day of school – PTO goes *all out*. Bounce house, games, fun, snow cones, music. It was reported that May Fair is during the week (instead of on Saturdays) to allow for all students to participate.

Math-A-Thon: It was reported that a brainstorming meeting would be held at a later date – PTO wants to include teachers in this session; typical format is to make flashcards, send them home with students to study, then there’s the event, followed by an after school party.

Science Fair: Tim Funk introduced himself to the PTO and gave report on the science fair – this fair was historically a JGE fair, with voluntary participation in all grades up to 4th and mandatory participation from 5th grade. It has not happened in a while (COVID) and will be happening this year. The district wants it to be open to all schools (because of its massive success) – Tim assured the PTO that regardless of the broader scope working out or no, JGE would still be doing a Science Fair.

Proposed Budget Changes: Treasurer Maria Kretz reopened the discussion about the financial report for this year (2022-2023). The PTO will now be responsible for all transportation for field trips (bussing). This is a large line item that will need to be accounted for – an extra \$3,000. A proposed budget was presented that was out of balance by \$3,350. It was tentatively approved, out of balance, with the motion to table discussion until the next PTO once there was a better understanding of some of the

proposed and brainstormed fundraisers (also, the first one will be finished by the next meeting and the PTO will have a better position to make budget adjustments).

Announcements: The gift card winner was Logan Stickle, who then graciously gave the gift card back to the PTO.

The next meeting of the PTO was scheduled for October 4th, 2022 at 7pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm