**PGES PTA Meeting Minutes**

October 3, 2023

**Location:** PGE School Library and Google Meet

**Attendees:** Erica Reinhardt, Laura Frederick, Amanda McNeeley, Kelli Arbaugh, Katie Meninger, Kelly Brittingham, Jami Bunis, Katie Kowal, Cari Santiago, Jessica Appel, Cassie Fick, Candice Matthews, George Buddemeyer, Hillary Martell, Erin Koolahan, Kim McCray, Kim Warner, April Brun, Katie Quinn, Andrea Wiseman, Aimee Hutchinson

**Virtual Attendees**: Jennifer Collins, Melissa Macefe, Meagan Denham, Steve Adams, Francesca Graziana, and Katie Norton

**Teacher and Staff Attendees**: Principal Lewis, Assistant Principal Edwards, Lauren DeMonbrun

Meeting was called to order at 6:33pm

1. **Welcome, Introductions, Guidelines**

President Cari Santiago welcomed attendees.

1. **Approval of Minutes for General Meeting on 9/12/23**

Kim McCray motioned to approve September 2023 minutes. Katie Meninger seconded. Attendees replied that they were in favor. No one responded “nay.”

1. **Treasurer’s Report**
   1. **Spending for September**
      1. Raised some funds from the sale of spirit wear
      2. Provided Back to School Lunch
      3. Spent on Sneak a Peak and Kindness Cart
   2. **Distribution of line item budget**
      1. Provides committees with budget
      2. Please talk to Hillary if you have any questions.
   3. **Fundraising Goal**
      1. This year’s fundraising goal is $25,807
2. **Principal’s Report**
   1. Principal Lewis thanked the PTA for the Kindness Cart which is always a welcomed surprise.
   2. She also thanked the Student Support Network for the Coach shoes.
   3. Students who earned Panda Pride for September earned a Hallway Dance Party.
   4. Classrooms with the best monthly attendance will earn the Attendance Banner to hang in their classroom.
3. **Teacher Report**
   1. Mrs. D, on behalf of staff, thanked the PTA for the Kindness Cart and Coach shoes.
   2. Mr. Pettit, school Social Emotional Learning teacher thanked the PTA.
4. **Student Support Network**
   1. **Coach Donation**
      1. The SSN received a donation from Coach. It had many pallets of adult sized Coach shoes.
      2. PGES staff got to pick shoes as a trial run for family distributions and because of the excess
5. **Committee Reports**
   1. Reading Incentive
      1. Bookmarks were distributed to all students on Monday, 10/2
         1. The new format includes a riddle that will be read at the end of the month.
   2. Family Events
      1. Family Events Committee would like to schedule the year’s events at the beginning of the year.
         1. Committee passed around a clipboard describing events and enlisting help.
   3. Student Appreciation
      1. Student Appreciation polled the staff for feedback on last year’s assemblies and asking for suggestions for this year.
         1. Laser Light Show was most popular
         2. Suggestions included: STEM (Eric Energy, Justin Berk), a play, a musical performance.
      2. Committee has planned a kindness laser show for 11/10 to close out the fundraiser.
   4. Spirit - Wear
      1. Committee is creating a store with Fully Promoted.
      2. Panda Magnets will be ordered and sold at a profit.
         1. Magnet game - flip panda upside down when you see one in the community.
   5. Teacher/Staff Appreciation Plans:
      1. Kindness Cart
      2. Thanksgiving Pies for staff in November
      3. Winter Breakfast
      4. Gifts in May
      5. Cari will follow up on an email to Wegmans.
   6. Advocacy
      1. Morgan was unavailable. Please email her if you have anything you’d like to discuss.
   7. Yearbook
      1. Yearbook is for sale online [here](https://yearbookforever.com/schools/pine_grove_elementary_school_000320/kJzT347j6PJpq5ObQ1KhbdNM?fbclid=IwAR3LtcZb7KKP-Emjc1_uXqbjK8qhLlsXZuClFevWARFmbecN5QaMRmRuDeI) for $20. It will increase in price on 11/1.
      2. 5th graders will be gifted a yearbook.
      3. 5th grade baby pictures and comments won’t be solicited until after the new year.
   8. Fundraising
      1. Laura
         1. The Kindness Fundraiser kicks off Friday, 10/13
         2. Beachmont Fundraiser is 11/3
         3. Savers Fundraiser is 11/11
            1. We need trash or contractor bags for collections.
         4. Parkville Lanes Fundraiser is 10/22
         5. Red Robin Fundraiser is 12/13
            1. Take out or eat in
            2. Tell your server that you’re with PGES if eating in
            3. Find link at the bottom of the page in the app if you’re taking out.
      2. Katie Norton
         1. What can you do?
            1. Brainstorm acts of kindness with kids
            2. Be a cheerleader for the fundraisers - be enthusiastic and spread the word.
            3. Collect items for fundraising incentive prize baskets. Donation request letter is [here](https://docs.google.com/document/u/0/d/1ESrm4sI8uWLjbEGnSCbs3ob1qpoln_7XQcNWswJGO1M/edit).
            4. Seek business sponsorships. More info [here](https://pinegrovepta.weebly.com/fundraising.html).
            5. Save your spare change 10/23-10/27
            6. Share and invite others!
6. **Unfinished Business**
   1. Trunk or Treat will not be held this year.
   2. Fun Run will be on 10/19 with timeslots for each grade.
      1. Parents can attend but should pre-register.
      2. If you volunteer, you will need to take the volunteer training [here](https://cos.bcps.org/departments/communications/family_and_community_engagement/b_c_p_s_volunteers).
   3. Prepared Panda Initiative
      1. Intended to cut down on trips to the office and encourage students to be independent and responsible.
      2. A checklist was sent home
      3. Students exemplifying Prepared Pandas will be nominated by their teachers. If they are nominated 3 out of 4 quarters, they will receive a bigger incentive.
   4. American Education Week
      1. Week of 11/14
      2. PTA will have a table in the hallway.
7. **New Business**
   1. Please sign in for the meeting.
   2. We will be updating Teacher Favorites list to include online wish lists in order to facilitate teachers receiving what they need for their classrooms.
      1. How can we bring back Room Parents?
         1. Can we email parents in the class?
            1. Teacher can facilitate this.
8. **Open Discussion**
   1. George has contacted Watson Detailing on Harford Rd by the Marathon gas station.
      1. They have purchased a Bamboo Buddy Sponsorship.
      2. They will give 10% off detailing for anyone who mentions Pine Grove PTA.
   2. Ravens Fundraiser - something to consider
      1. Opportunity to fundraise by working concessions at M&T Bank stadium for all Ravens home games plus several events for the 2024 season.
      2. It is an 8 hour day and you receive free parking and a free meal.
      3. We would need at least 8 people to staff a table.
      4. Each person working is guaranteed $100 for the organization and would keep all tips that we generate.
      5. Here’s some math:

$800/event guarantee for 8 people x 11 events = $8,800 minimum

Let's guess we'd earn $5,000 total (just to be somewhat conservative) in tips for the season

Total raised = round to about $14,000

64 total hours/event (8 hours x 8 volunteers) x 11 events +704 total hours

$14,000 / 704 = about $20/hr earning rate

* 1. Any questions?
     1. Is it possible to get a birthday cake from the Student Support Network?
        1. Not a bakery cake but they will provide a box, oil, icing, and candles as a package.

The meeting adjourned at 7:19pm.