

March PTO Meeting (3-13-23)

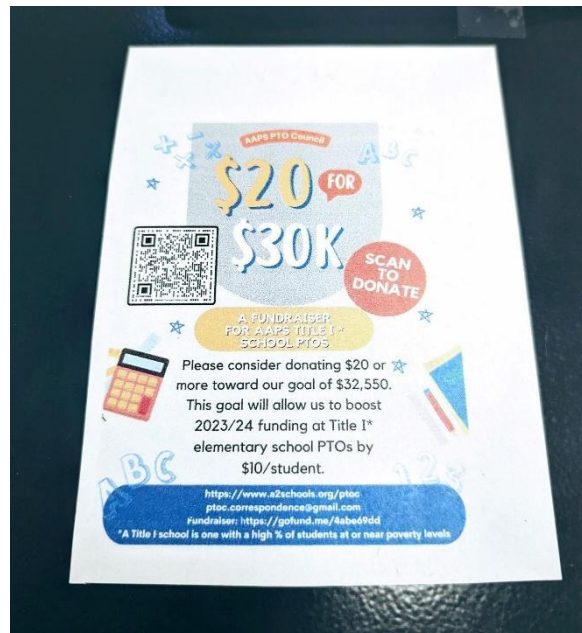
Here are the meeting minutes from the PTO meeting held on Monday, March 13th.

1. Principle Updates

- New preschool will be at Lakewood which is funded by the GSRP (Great Start Readiness Program). We will be getting a new playground and a fence for the preschoolers.
- The kids enjoyed the March reading month kickoff with Author Makiah Shipp and University of Michigan football players Blake Corum and Nikhai Hill-Green.
- Lakewood has become a certified green school in Michigan.

2. Annalee Appledorn

- The Student Council food donation drive is being held the week of March 13th. You can donate non-perishable food or money.
- Spirit week will be the week of March 20th.
- Annalee and Dana sat down with last year's chair to discuss Summer Celebration planning.
- The call for new board members went out in Principal Stewart's newsletter and on the PTO website.
 - There was a suggestion to ask people to consider nominating themselves with a friend
 - PTO should post time commitment for positions.
- The PTOC fundraiser "\$20 for 30K" is being held right now. The goal of this fundraiser is to decrease funding gaps for Title I schools. The flyer is below:



- Lakewood's Librarian, Shannon Lauer, would like the Book Bonanza (our Used Book Sale) to be earlier in the year. Could we have it at the end of September or the first week in October?

- Books were given out for Kindergarten Roundup which was appreciated by parents and kids. We need more books donated for next year!
- We could put out a book box for donations on Curriculum Night.

- The VIP Breakfast/Scholastic Book Fair could be held at the end of February (February 27th and 29th) next year. We could make bookmarks for the Reading Month then!

- We still need to address alternatives for Aplos (web-based budgeting software that is used to help the PTO manage the school's fund-raising money) are Money Minder, Wave, and QuickBooks.

- Aplos this past year has increased their prices from \$400 to \$1000 without warning.
- We need to transfer data from our current software to the new software eventually and may need a volunteer.

- We are considering switching banks from Huntington Bank and are having difficulties with the switch. Huntington is giving us the runaround. Possibly change to Chase Bank?

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3. Read-a-thon

- Should we have a tiered challenge for Readathon? Super soakers or a dunk tank? PTO voted for super soakers which won't be as expensive.

- Rewards for when the goals for the Read-a-thon are met:
 - \$10,000- Tape Principal Stewart to the wall.
 - \$15,000- Super soak Principal Stewart.

- Trophies (made by Ms. Kip Domm will be going around for the top three reading classes.

- Should we buy bookmarks from Amazon?

- The class who reads the most will have a "Popcorn and Movie" day.

- Business Sponsorships?

4. Fundraising Chair Updates (Bryan Goff)

- What will we do for the April Restaurant Night fundraiser?

- PTO decided to go with Dominoes.

- What about another "Art to Remember" fundraiser?

5. Teacher Updates

- Kids are enjoying the Read-a-thon!

6. International Night (Melissa Stull)

- We rented 25 tables at the last event (in 2019). The biggest expense for this event is the tables (it was about \$270 the last event). There will be a total of 51 tables.

- We will have Jewish Family Services, a charitable group, at the event. People can donate school supplies for refugee families.

- We will need money for paper products as well.
- We want to be careful about appropriation. Who is allowed to host a table? Does the person have to have full heritage, or can anyone host a table?
- We could display an interactive heritage map that kids can mark their family's heritage on.
- We will send out a Signup Genius for help.
- Do we need background checks for everyone? This will be unlikely as people have many family members attend.
- We are looking for someone to perform that night. In the past music and performance groups from U of M have come to put on a performance for the evening. That weekend, however, U of M will be having graduation. We could ask local high schools or colleges like Eastern University. We could ask the music teacher, Emma Sturm, if she knows anyone.
- Should we have a cultural fashion show that kids can participate in?
- Is there a flag budget? Yes, there is- we need to buy flags for the countries New Zealand and Nepal. All the flags represent students who have attended Lakewood.

7. Volunteer Coordinator Update (Jenny and Dana)

- The Sister Lakes Association (Lakewood Neighborhood Association) wants to help Lakewood. What can they help us with?
 - Suggestions include:
 - Help with "Adopt a Family" Event
 - Read-a-thon
 - They could volunteer as guest readers.
 - Help current garden volunteer with garden.
 - Help with upkeep of the front of the school by the gym.
 - Grounds cleanup
 - We can provide options for volunteers to pick.
 - Help with PTOC "\$20 for 30K" PTOC fundraiser.
 - Food Drive?
- Jenny Jacka and Amy Zampi will be putting the yearbook together.

7. PTO Budget (Sam Starcher/Kim Gardner):

PTO Checking: \$33,332.39

PTO Savings: \$10,005.28

- T-shirt balance is \$731 between in-office donations and Cheddarup.
- We still need to deposit a bag of change from the Scholastic Book Fair proceeds.
- Where are we with the T-shirts? We will provide an update for the parents.
- The PTO website – what is the cost to host the website? We can look at other host options.

8. Science Olympiad (Amy Marceau)

- 29 children have signed up for the Science Olympiad.

- We have 7 coaches for 6 events.
- The rooms for coaching have been booked through Rec and Ed.
- Kim Gardener will help with the Raffle Basket.
- Where are we with the T-shirts? We will provide and update for the parents.
- There will be 13 events. We can combine grades as well.
- The Science Olympiad will be held at the Huron Highschool on May 13th.
- When do practices start? Answer: the week after Spring Break.
- There should be one adult volunteer for every 3 students on the day of the event.