

FRELINGHUYSEN TOWNSHIP PTO
Meeting Minutes
(Meeting was held via Google Meet)
April 9, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

The Zoom meeting was called to order at 7:10pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

QUORUM CHECK OF EXECUTIVE BOARD

Nicole Wladich - present
Cynthia Mardin - present
Louise Neate - present
Kristin Keesser - present
Tammy Arfken - present (late on at 7:10pm)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1st Motion: Kristin Keesser 2nd Motion: Cynthia Mardin

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

1st Motion: Nicole Wladich 2nd Motion: Cynthia Mardin

CSA REPORT

Thanked PTO for everything we do and for all the hard work. Book Fair was a success. Solar eclipse glasses were a hit. Spring Clubs going well. Look out for announcements alot going on in April, May, and June.

FUNDRAISER / EVENT UPDATES

- **Spirit Wear** - Coor. Nicole Wladich. Ongoing. Commission checks sent to Franklin Borough have been properly addressed. Last check received was \$2.80 for December.
- **Box Top\$** - Coordinator is Tammy Arfken. Current total \$127.70.
- **Chess Club** - Won 2nd place in Warren County Tournament and had a pizza party. Dan Shaffer more than likely stepping up to run the chess club next year.
- **Display My Art** - Coordinator Aimee Kronmiller. Order forms have already been sent. out and only online orders can be placed.
- **Crochet Club** - Positive feedback and all is going well.
- **Lego Club** - All is going well so far.
- **Storytime/Steam** - Had one meeting so far and it went well. They read a story and did a steam challenge which included making hopping bunnies out of paper cups.
- **Spring Book Fair** - Complete. Approximate total was \$3600. Unfortunately we did not make the quota to get the cash option so we received all Scholastic Dollars approximately \$1500 worth. We need to determine how we are going to spend these dollars. Cynthia mentioned stocking the library since we were told there are many

outdated books in the library. Nicole mentioned giving books as a Welcome Back for the teachers for their classrooms. Mrs. Veras mentioned the need for decodable books. Katherine agreed with replenishing the library books. Put it to a vote and all in favor of spending the Scholastic Dollars for the classrooms and our school library. Mrs. Veras is going to talk to the teachers about what books they need based on the new reading curriculum. Nicole mentioned possibly going with a new vendor next year considering Scholastics poor selection of books. Mrs. Guida mentioned looking into UsBorn Books and Lisa mentioned Literati as she has seen these advertised on some media pages.

UPCOMING EVENTS - ON THE PTO HORIZON

- **Roadside Cleanup** - 4/13/24 - Scheduled. We only have 2 volunteers to date. Town has not informed us which road we will be cleaning.
- **Beefsteak/Tricky Tray** - 5/4/24 - Chairs Cynthia Mardin and Kelly Corsi. We received a \$200 donation from James Alexander. Eleven tickets sold so far and possibly another 17 tickets sold to Newbaker Funeral Home. Cynthia said she would send out a flyer. April 24th is the deadline for JCs for the headcount. Baskets are coming along great according to Cynthia. Nicole mentioned getting word out in Blairstown and recommended contacting Nellie Bee, Taylor Casey, and the Township. Cynthia said she put up a flyer at Acme and she put some yard signs up.
- **Mother's Day Plant Sale** - 5/9/24 - Chair Raelyn Kempinski - Ten Pre-Orders so far and due date is 4/15/24. Paper order forms should be going out shortly.
- **Spring Clubs** - Garden Club starts on 5/7/24. Six spots still available to the 5th and 6th grade class. Jamie will send out a message to the 5th and 6th grade text string.
- **Ice Cream Truck** - Set for 5/15/24 and 6/14/24.
- **Teacher Appreciation Week** - 5/6/24 through 5/10/24 - Chairs Cynthia Mardin and DJ Baird. Only two donations received so far so we will be sending out a reminder via a Blast and class FB pages.
- **Field Day** - 5/31/24 (rain date 6/3/24) - 6th grade contest for the field day t-shirt design to be handled by Raelyn and the faculty will vote on same. The students will work on their shirt designs during art class.
- **Miner's Night** - Date TBD - Chair is Eleni Peterson. No new updates.
- **Graduation** - All set. No new updates.

BUSINESS

- **Basketball Backboard** - Scheduled for 4/13/24 at 9am.
- **Fall Lifetouch Photos** - Never received the check. Total was \$336.75 and the check was supposedly issued to the school. Kristin will follow up with Carolyn.
- **Membership Enrollment** - Ongoing enrollment. No new members.
- **2023-2024 Assemblies** -
 - **NJ Snakeman** - 03/20/24 - Coordinator Louise Neate. Great feedback from students and staff. Nicole asked if there will be grant money moving forward to put towards assemblies and Mrs. Veras said there is no grant money that she knows of that can be put towards future assemblies.
- **Drama Club/School Play Proposal** - No new updates. Kristin still needs receipts and an itemized list of costs for reimbursement before she cuts any checks. Louise has the

lead on the concession stand that will take place during the Willy Wonka performance. She will be sending out a Sign Up Genius requesting donations.

- **Executive Board Nominations/Election** - Nominations went out and Nicole followed up with the individuals and most were not interested in holding a Board position. DJ stepped up to be Vice President, Chrissy Pilkington stepped up to be Secretary, and Siobhan Weidner expressed interest in the Treasurer position; however, she has yet to reach out to Nicole or Kristin for additional information on the position. Nicole stated she needs definitive confirmation on the Executive Board positions by April 22nd. Accountant told us we can donate money to another 501c3 and/or possibly donate the money to the school if PTO folds.
- **North Warren Scholarship** - Four applicants and there was a tie vote between two applicants. Nicole proposed splitting the \$500 between the two winners or giving them each \$500. Kristin said we should just do one \$500 winner. Cynthia said we should recirculate the two applicants to the Board and revote. Unanimous decision that the Board and Mrs. Veras will revote so we have one winner that will get \$500.

CORRESPONDENCE - None

OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION

-Nicole mentioned possibly having to cut the budget for next year considering our fundraisers and volunteer involvement are falling short. We also discussed possibly letting the PTO go dormant. Kristin will ask the accountant about dormancy.

-Nicole discussed the proposed cannabis cultivation facility and she discussed approaching the BOE Board at Wednesday's meeting. Looking to discuss getting an armed resource officer during the entire school day and installing air conditioning and filtration units.

-Nicole mentioned putting together an end of the year wrap up that we can send out and DJ is going to take the lead on putting it together.

-Nicole mentioned the broken gaga ball pit and she asked for an update. She also asked if the life size chess board outside was being used by the students. Mrs. Veras will look into it.

-Nicole asked if the field trips are going to be paid for by the school. So far they have been paid for. The school had some money set aside for field trips this year so they are covered. Nicole asked Mrs. Veras to confirm with Greg no money is needed from PTO.

ADJOURNMENT - Meeting was adjourned at 7:58pm.

IN ATTENDANCE : DJ Baird, Jamie Alleyne, Mrs. Veras, Mrs. Guida, Michele Lohman, and Katherine Kostovski

Respectfully submitted by: Tammy Arfken, Secretary

****NEXT PTO MEETING VIA GOOGLE MEET - 05/14/24 @ 7pm**