

Grundy PTO Meeting – Monday, September 23, 2019

Meeting was called to order by Erica Kennedy at 6:30pm. Those in attendance were Angel Fisher, Toni Martiens, Becky Bazzetta, Tim Kennedy, Erin Clayton, Julie Fauber, Sara Dally, Anna Bennett, Erica Kennedy, Michael Saunders, Denise Martin, and Dan Beckler.

Attendees went around the table introducing themselves.

The Minutes from the August 26, 2019 PTO meeting were reviewed and approved.

Committee Reports:

Accelerated Reading – Sara Dally, present, and Elise Pate, not present. AR Prize Patrol is planning on having 3 stores this year for 2nd through 6th Grades – Jan 17, March 20, and May 16. They have emailed the volunteers to touch base.

After School Clubs – Mr. Saunders, present. Running Club just finished up and about 30 runners participated in the Pumpkin Festival this year. Lego Club has started with about 25 kids signed up. Chess Club is starting in October. Mrs. Eisenman is planning on Sports Club to start after Christmas and will have 2 or 3 sessions, focusing on a variety of sports for each session. There is some discussion of a potential Cheerleading Club to include all the grades. The District is running a Robotics Club which met with enough interest that it had to be scaled back to 5th & 6th Graders for the competition sessions this fall. They are planning an exploratory club in the spring for interested 4th Graders.

Book Fair – Andrea White, not present, Gina Strubhar, not present. The Spring Book Fair will be in conjunction with the Open House again on March 9.

Box Tops for Education – Erica Kennedy, present. Letters will be going out by Oct 1 giving information about the October collection. Info will be distributed to the families and posted on Facebook. Box Tops collection dates will be Oct 22 and Oct 23.

Carnival – Holly Manthey, not present, Mike Manthey, not present. The carnival date is currently scheduled for Friday, Feb 28, 2020. They still need someone to coordinate the donation baskets. They are planning on scheduling a preliminary meeting with the subchairs in the next few weeks.

Fannie May – Gina Strubhar, not present. The kickoff assembly is scheduled for Oct 4 at 1:30pm, orders would be due Tuesday, Oct 15, candy pickup tentatively scheduled for Nov 5 & 6, and money to be collected and turned in by Monday, Nov 18.

Fast Food Nights – Dan Beckler, present. Kona Ice event was held at Grundy on Aug 22 and brought in \$119. The next event will be at Great Harvest in Morton on Tuesday, Sept 24 all day with 15% of sales accompanied by a flyer donated back to Grundy. The Pizza Ranch event will be Monday, Oct 21 and a Sign-Up Genius will be used for volunteer sign up.

Grundy Gear – Mr. Saunders, present. A large order was placed and we expect the order to arrive in roughly 2 weeks.

Laugh Olympics – Jayne Eisenman, not present. No update.

Mystery Science – Anna Bennett, present. All supplies have been purchased and the lessons are ready to go for teacher use.

Picture Person – Sara Dally, present. We still need a volunteer to present lessons to 6th Grade but many other presentations for the other grades are occurring this week.

PTO Publicity – Andrea White, not present. Andrea is asking for any items for the October bulletin board and/or Facebook to be sent directly to her.

Room Parent Coordinators – Tiffany Parrott, not present. Initial communications to volunteers expected to go out soon. We are still needing a head parent for 6th Grade.

School Supply Kits – Ashley Smith, not present. No update.

Teacher Appreciation – Krista Donnelly, not present. 5th Grade will be holding a lunch for teachers on Oct 11. Kshe Bernard has volunteered to coordinate teacher birthdays, which will involve a \$5 gift card and candy selection.

Maintenance of List of Donations from Businesses

- McDonalds – donated PTA coupons to be used by families
- Caseys on South Main – donated school supplies and cash

Budget Report:

Sara Dally present, Julie Fauber, present. Received \$119 from Kona Ice, \$100 donated from a family. Outgoing expenses include gym equipment.

Old Business

- Explore options for families to contribute to Grundy PTO via card payment
It is looking like Paypal may be the best option for us at this time.
- Determine what steps to take to modify PTO committee sign-up process during Registration
 - Remove the school year from the sign-up form so the forms can be reused in later years.
 - Have a PTO representative available during Registration or at least list contact information so that interested families can follow-up if there are questions.
 - Provide more information about the committees, typical time commitments, what the busy times are throughout the school year.
 - Add the committee descriptions to the back side of the sign-up sheet.
 - Provide more information on how potential volunteers could connect with committee chairs.
 - Follow-up email soon after Registration, “thank you for volunteering” that can provide some of the “connection” information and validate to the families that the form was received and processed.

- Ask for committee chairs to reach out to pertinent volunteers at the beginning of the school year even if the committee doesn't become active until later in the school year.
- Post committee information on the Grundy PTO Facebook page each month, spotlighting the activities and time commitments for each.
- Communicate to families that there is a Grundy PTO Facebook page.
- Discuss the addition of One School One Book (OSOB) funding as an annual line item in the PTO budget.

A decision was made to table a vote in favor of additional discussion and gaining additional understanding how decisions are made involving OSOB. The increase of cost from \$1,700 to \$3,200 due to the selected book only available in hardback, was unexpected and the extra money to purchase the books came from PTO savings. Going forward, this would be unsustainable for future years, so alternate funding mechanisms would need to be researched and incorporated if Grundy continues to participate in this program in future years. It was suggested that a representative of the OSOB community committee introduce the upcoming program for that year in the May PTO meeting, so that a budget estimate can be evaluated and planned for during the August PTO Budget Review several months later. It was also suggested that a Grundy PTO officer also be more involved in the OSOB committee if the program will continue to rely on the PTO for funding. It was also discussed that after the program runs this year, feedback be given back directly to the committee, including the direction to limit their choices to paperbacks.

Mr. Saunders related that he fully supports OSOB, but annual costs need to be considered and evaluated each year so that other PTO efforts aren't significantly impacted. He would also hope that if the community intends to participate in OSOB annually, that additional funding mechanisms, such as grants or District funding, can defray the costs for the PTOs.

New Business

- None

Teacher Input

Becky Bazzetta, present. The teachers appreciate all the families do to support them. They also appreciate that the PTO listens when teachers need help. Thanks for the lockers – the 5th & 6th Graders love them! And thanks for the great kids!

Principal's Report

On Oct 8, Julie Farber will be accompanying her father as a Guardian on an Honor Flight to Washington D.C. for veterans. While in D.C., the 75 veterans and 75 Guardians will be touring some of the memorials. There is a rally planned at the Peoria Airport at 9:30pm when the veterans and Guardians returned to welcome them home from the trip. On the flight back, there will be "mail call" where the veterans will be handed letters of appreciation from volunteers to open and read on the flight home. Julie will be coordinating with Mr. Saunders for some of the students to participate in the letter writing – those will need to be turned into the office by this Friday, Sept 27.

Sept 24	Grundy Day at Great Harvest from 7:00am-6:00pm
Sept 25	"See You at the Pole" from 7:40-8:00 at the flagpole; Kindergarten field trip to Ackerman Farms from 8:30-10:15
Sept 27	Pint Size Hero assemblies at 1:45 (K-2) and 2:00 (3-6); Honor Flight letters for Ralph Mattia (grandfather of Kylie and Tinley LeMasters) due in the office
Sept 30	Announce Students of Character for Respect
Oct 1	School picture retakes; Board at 6:30
Oct 2	Dismissal at 11:55
Oct 4	Fannie May candy sale kick-off assembly at 1:30; MHS Homecoming Game vs Metamora
Oct 7	One School One Book assembly at 2:00; Fall Music Program (3 rd and 4 th) at 6:30
Oct 10	5 th grade field trip to Pekin from 8:35-2:20
Oct 11	End of 1 st Quarter; Dismissal at 11:55; Staff luncheon at 12:00 sponsored by 5 th grade parents
Oct 14	Columbus Day-no school
Oct 15	Dress Code change; Fannie May orders due
Oct 16	Report cards go home
Oct 17	Parent-Teacher Conferences from 8:00am-7:00pm; Blood Drive from 1:00-6:00
Oct 18	Parent-Teacher Conferences from 8:00am-12:00pm
Oct 21	Red Ribbon Week begins; Grundy Night at Pizza Ranch from 4:00-8:00; Choir concert at 6:30
Oct 24	Orchestra concert at 7:00
Oct 28	PTO at 6:30

Meeting adjourned at 7:18pm. Minutes respectfully submitted by Dan Beckler.