

Echo Hill PTO Agenda / Meeting Minutes February 7, 2022



Call to Order Time: 6:30pm

Introductions: Board and Principal

Quorum: Hay Hegland Mcdonald Becker Lough

Family Bingo Night Review -

There was a great turnout for the January family bingo event. 29 Echo Hill families attended that night, which filled the cafeteria. Thank you again to Thrive Care for sponsoring some of the prizes for this event as well as Jessica Becker and Hayley Hegland for organizing and running it. The total cost for the event was \$342.61, which came in slightly under the budget of \$350 (PTO line item \$150, \$200 sponsorship). A recommendation for next year would be to have candy or other small trinkets for those children who didn't win a bingo prize. Therefore, everyone walks away with something. Thank you for coming and we can't wait to see you at the next family event!

Upcoming PTO Event, 222

Becky Garms updated us on Giving 222's Day -- a day for Echo Hill students to give back to the community by collecting 222 items for Waypoint Services in Cedar Rapids on Tuesday, 2/22/22. Waypoint provides proactive solutions and resources for those experiencing homelessness, poverty, and violence, or needing affordable child care. Students may bring their item(s) to school on February 22 and fill the tote located in their pod. Together we'll tally up the donated goods and report the total on February 23 before delivering to Waypoint.

February Dine Out for Echo Hill- Chilled Freezer Meals

This month we are trying something new. Chilled Freezer Meals is based in Center Point, Iowa, and offers pre-made frozen meal options for pickup, local home delivery, even nationwide shipping. Whether you're looking for single serve items, meals for a small family, or enough dinner to feed a crowd, Chilled Freezer Meals has options for you! All through the month of February 2022, Chilled is giving 10% back to Echo Hill -- just use promo code ECHOHILL at checkout. Please see the Echo Hill PTO website for more details on ordering. [Volunteer Organization | Echo Hill PTO | Marion, Iowa](#) Thank you to Curran Lipsett for organizing this.

Principal Report - CJ Mcdonald -

It has been great having volunteers in the building over the last month. FAST testing for reading

has been completed and the overall scores for Echo Hill are quite high. So proud of the hard work the students and staff are doing to represent Echo Hill. The four 65" TV's that were purchased with PTO funds are mounted in the building. One in the entryway, one by the gym, one in the purple pod and one in the green pod. We are now waiting for electricians to obtain power sources for each TV and then the IT department can download the software that is needed for us to use them. These TVs will be used to improve communication to kids, staff and parents as well as highlight positive behaviors or other events.

Treasurer's Report - Stacey Corwin -

Teacher stipends- Thank you for submitting these and if you haven't, a reminder to do so. There is \$75 allotted for each teacher to use on classroom items. Thank you to Abby Huston for contacting the teachers that haven't spent their money and getting the forms or items needed for them to do so.

We received a donation from Chipotle for the amount of \$128.09. Thank you to those that participated in this event.

Teacher request: Kendra Starkey (1st grade teacher)

Kendra is requesting \$525.91 for 9 pieces of flexible seating (such as wobble stools) for her classroom. She spoke of how these seating options really help the students have their bodies moving, so their minds can focus on tasks at hand. Also, these seating options really help with core stability. Although these items are being purchased at the request of a teacher, they will become general property of Echo Hill elementary once acquired. Hayley motioned for the money requested and Jessica Becker second the motion. All in person and online attending the meeting voted in agreement. Motion is granted. Thank you Kendra for attending and sharing with us.

STEAM night: update from Allison Adams, STEAM Night Coordinator

Get ready for fun, hands-on learning in the areas of science, technology, engineering, arts, and math -- all in one night!

Allison had a meeting with volunteers that have reached out to her. They are working on contacting presenters for the event. They are targeting to have 20 presenters. They are looking for individuals involved in Arts as well as other companies willing to participate. They are hoping to have the presenters finalized by early March and sign ups ready by the end of spring break. Please contact the PTO at echohillpto@yahoo.com for any questions or if you are wanting to present or assist us with this event. The last STEAM night we hosted brought in 300 students (which included 5th graders at the time). It is a well attended event and takes a lot of support to pull it off. Thank you for supporting Echo Hill and STEAM night. A big thank you to Allison for coordinating this event for the PTO and all the parent volunteers on the STEAM committee who will be helping with this over the next few months.

Miscellaneous:

Sarah Fridono is interested in bringing back Breakfast with Buddies in March (which was canceled in November due to Covid restrictions). Stay tuned for more information on this coming soon. Thank you Sarah and Jessica Becker for volunteering for this event.

Committee Reports:

Hospitality - Hayley Hegland on behalf of Jessica Witt

Conferences will be on February 24th and March 1st. The PTO and the hospitality committee are supplying and organizing meals for these two days. Thank you to Katie Lipsett with Sisters Marketing & Co. for providing Chick-Fil-A sandwiches one evening. Check the PTO website and Facebook pages for further details on how you can contribute coming soon!

Thank you to Molly Mulholland for helping Jessica with hospitality for the remainder of this year and will be taking it over for the 2022-2023 school year. We are so thankful for your willingness to help Molly! Welcome aboard!

Volunteer Coordinators - Hayley Hegland on behalf of Amanda DeSalvo/Carrie Hay -

February workshop took place last week Feb. 2nd. Thank you to those that attended and offered to help. We got many projects completed in only 2 hours. Please remember to log your time for all volunteer opportunities with projects, classroom time, PTO meetings, etc. Thank you kindly! The next volunteer workshop will be on March 2nd. See you then!

If you are not an active volunteer and you do not receive volunteer opportunity emails from Amanda and Carrie and would like to, please contact them at ehvolunteers@linnmar.k12.ia.us

Amazon Smile/Box Tops/Hy-Vee receipts -

We are seeking Hyvee receipts! The deadline to turn them in for this school year is March 31st. Please send them to the school with your child. The money we receive from these, CJ uses to purchase treats and special days for the teachers. Also, thank you to Nicole Vennie who has been our Hyvee receipt representative and a thank you to Amanda Snyder that will be taking this position over for Nicole. We thank you both for your volunteerism at Echo Hill.

Yearbook:

Jessica Becker gave an update on yearbooks. Please visit our PTO website to purchase a yearbook for your child. The deadline to purchase a book and input customized pages for your child will be April 8th. Also a reminder to teachers, please review the classroom layout printouts left in your mailboxes and upload classroom pictures to the Google drive for Jessica and the yearbook committee to begin working on them. She asked for CJ to send another reminder to the teachers as well.

April annual meeting:

Coming in April at the PTO meeting will be our annual review meeting. In April we will vote on board members for the 2022-2023 school year and review our Annual Financial Report presented by our Treasurer. Please join us in reviewing and voting for these items. We will also be reviewing the bylaws and rules of our organization in March in preparation for the annual meeting.

Questions

Where is the best place to find information and updates on PTO events? Echo Hill families of Iowa page on Facebook as well as our website at echohillpto.com

Next Meeting: March 7, 2022 @ 6:30pm

Adjourned Time: 7:15pm

February 7, 2022 PTO meeting attendees:

Name	Name	Name
CJ McDonald	Hayley Hegland	Carrie Hay- zoom
Amanda Snyder	Amy Stouffer	Heather Lough
Becky Garms	Noelle Wittkop- zoom	Allison Adams
Jessica Becker	Mr. Snyder	Abby Huston-zoom
Stacey Corwin-zoom	Sarah Fridono	Kendra Starkey