

Echo Hill PTO Meeting Minutes January 19, 2026

Virtual Meeting



Call to Order Time: 6:35 pm

Welcome & Introductions:

President Noelle Wittkop welcomed us all to the Zoom meeting; we skipped introductions as we all knew each other and names were displayed. !

1. General Business

- a) Treasurer's Report: Molly Mulholland reported on the financial status of the organization, noting that approximately \$30,086 was in the PTO bank account currently. Molly shared that she had made almost no payments in December, but in January has paid out for homecoming float reimbursements, one teacher stipend, and the trunk or treat expense.
- b) Just 10 of 34 teachers have submitted info to receive their stipends. Molly suggested that Noelle send an email to teachers, reminding them that this is free money for them to have. Amy added that reminders placed in mailboxes could also be beneficial. Amy to locate and send the quarter-sheet reminder cards to Noelle & Molly for their consideration.
- c) Some income from Molly's report included: \$174 for Fun Station fundraiser night; \$289 for the apparel sale proceeds; \$151 in BoxTops for Education; no requests coming in yet for the field trip budget line item.

3. Principal's Report: Mr. McDonald reported that the staff had professional development today. They started their day Linn-Mar's new performing arts center, which is an impressive new 1,200 seat fine arts venue, just opened days ago. He also added that FAST testing is almost complete. Teachers are planning field trips for Spring 2026, thanks to the new financial support from the PTO. He noted that the 4th graders will again go to the Herbert Hoover Museum in West Branch, and the kindergarten classes were hoping for the Iowa Children's Museum in Coralville. Finally, Mr. McDonald noted that the 10-year plan is just in its early days. It's within this plan that we'll know more about the funding and scope of the new playground that will come to Echo Hill. He will let us know more as soon as he can.

4. PTO Events & Activities:

- a) Winter Social with Echo Hill Singers: Sarah Lisenbee reported that it was a really good evening. She purchased a hot pot/dispenser for the hot cocoa and it was well received; she has cups left over to be used in 2026 (or as needed). She noted that they changed the set up just a bit for easier traffic flow and it went well. She placed all leftover games and books in the Teacher's Lounge for them to use. She will go back soon to donate whatever is left.
- b) Bingo Night – coming on Friday, February 6th at Echo Hill. Kim Graulein will step up and lead this one if nobody else does. Amy Stouffer to check the past minutes to see if someone else already volunteered for this role.
- c) Samantha, the new hospitality person, will be taking over for Spring Conferences. She will need assistance with clean up, etc. Watch for sign-ups for these roles as we get closer to the date (February).
- d) Noelle reported on the next community fundraising night, which is February 25th at AirFX. The venue has some signage to provide for this event, and they can also accommodate a PTO table inside if need be. Noelle is able to work the 4-6pm shift, and Sarah Lisenbee agreed to take 6-8pm.
- e) Breakfast with Buddies is coming again on March 25-26. Amy Stouffer and Staci Sperfslage will again coordinate; Amy White to help if she's able. More details to come.
- f) Noelle reminded the group that we have the Casey's Slice of Pizza certificates. The group discussed many ways to use the certificates: as prizes, as incentives, or just for fun (National Pizza Day is Feb. 9). Noell to email CJ to firm up details and let us know.
- g) Lastly, STEAM Night is Friday, April 17. Noelle is leading the group again this year and is looking for volunteers in all capacities: scheduling, presenters, event helpers, etc. Noelle recapped the list of presenters who have already agreed to speak; she said she would let us know at the next meeting how speakers were lining up for this amazing event.
- h) Amy White gave a visual presentation of her involvement in the Box Tops and HyVee Receipts areas. She held a receipt challenge in December, and Mrs. Polniak's class won the price — which will be handed out at school this coming week. The next challenge is set for February around conference time. Box Tops have totalled \$113 so far this school year.
- i) Kim Graulein spoke about Community Fundraising opportunities. She asked the group for feedback about restaurant nights, and the group provided lots of options for her to explore.
- j) Volunteer Coordinators were not present at the meeting, but Noelle reminded us on their behalf that the next workshop is Thursday, Jan. 22, in the Echo Hill cafeteria.

Meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm.

Monday, Jan. 19 - PTO meeting attendees:

Name	Name	Name
Noelle Wittkop	Amy Stouffer	Molly Mulholland
Mr. McDonald	Amy White	Kim Graulein
Staci Sperfslage	Sarah Lisenbee	