

## Echo Hill PTO Meeting Minutes

September 18, 2023



**Call to Order Time: 6:30pm**

**Introductions** - all in attendance

**Quorum:** McDonald Becker Wittkop Stouffer

**PTO Vice Presidents** Jess Becker and Noelle Wittkop conducted the meeting for President Hayley Hegland, who was not present.

### **Budget Voting**

a) P.E. Mats for Mr. Hugo

Mr. Hugo was present and submitted a formal request for the use of PTO funds (\$876.06) to purchase new P.E. mats for the gym. Mr. Hugo explained that the existing mats have reached the end of their useful life and are original to the building; the ones he's requesting are from a comparable, reputable company, more functional for today's use, and much lighter to move around while still offering adequate protection. These mats are not covered in the district's budget, and the school's budget doesn't have the funds to replace them at this time.

VP Jess Becker motioned for a vote to approve this purchase for \$876.06.

VP Noelle Wittkop seconds the vote.

Vote: motion passes.

b) Budgetary increase for Dash For Cash expenditures

General discussion held about the need for additional funds (\$300) to be allocated to the existing Dash For Cash budget (\$500). This increase would bring the total to \$800 for the event. Some relay race materials needed replacing this year and printing costs were much higher than anticipated.

VP Jess Becker motioned for a vote to approve an additional \$300 funds for Dash For Cash.

VP Noelle Wittkop seconds the vote.

Vote: motion passes

### **General Business**

**Treasurer's Report** - Abby Huston

- Abby shared that six teacher stipends have been paid out so far this school year.
- The back-to-school breakfast from Week 1 of the school year had expenses of \$159.
- Received a refund check from EPI (school supply pack vendor) for \$300+; will confirm what we need to do with this check after Hayley's return.

- Dash For Cash is set up and ready to receive donations. GivingTrax platform that provides company matches for Aegon and TransAmerica employees has been very frustrating and is not working well as of the meeting time. Abby has been working with GivingTrax to find a suitable way forward to maximize donations through that platform.

### **Principal's School Update - CJ McDonald**

- CJ McDonald reports that school is off to a great start; no major hiccups and all is going well. Lots of school spirit for homecoming week.

### **PTO Activities & Events**

- Homecoming Float: looked great and had nice participation from walking families. Thanks to Sarah Fridono (and her daughter, Shea) for leading this activity.

- Dash For Cash fundraising window this year is Sept. 20-29; Dash For Cash Fun Day is Friday, Sept. 29, during specials time at school. Rain date is Friday, Oct. 6. Volunteer sign ups to assist with relay games and other Fun Day elements has been circulating and slots are filling quickly. Info packets go home this week with students; the fundraising goal is \$15,000.

-Student Directory is being updated this year by volunteer Laura Taylor. Should be completed and circulated soon; thanks to Laura for her work on this again this year.

-Trunk or Treat: saving the date for Oct. 22 at school for this event; specific time TBD. Coordinators have been identified; will need parents to step up with a minimum of 14 trunks and also need a candy sponsor to make this event successful.

-Hospitality: no update

- Apparel Sale: Coordinator Amanda Snyder reported that new apparel will be available for order October 16 through November 3; items delivered to school second week of December – in time for Christmas. Both Echo Hill and Linn Mar designs will be offered this year on hoodies, joggers, hats, tshirts, blankets, and more. Watch for more information coming soon.

- HyVee Receipts: VP Noelle Wittkop reports that receipts so far have totalled \$32,801.54, resulting in \$164.01 for Echo Hill. She is thinking about doing a spring and winter contest to keep interest piqued; assorted prizes and perhaps a traveling trophy was discussed as potential options. Mr. McDonald said that kids love to see themselves on TV, so maybe include that as a prize option/recognition.

- Community Fundraising & Activities: Curran Lipsett was not present, but his wife Katie shared that Curren has been in communication with Bart's Farm and is considering a date for this fall.

- Volunteer Coordinators - Kim Graulein was present and shared that there have been a lot of volunteers stepping forward to help this year, which is much appreciated. Next workshop is set for Thursday, Sept. 21, 9:00-10:45am in the cafeteria. Lots of projects to do first thing in the

school year.

**Next Meeting:** Monday, October 16, 2023, 6:30 pm in the Echo Hill Art Room

**Adjourned Time: 6:55 pm**

**September 18, 2023 PTO meeting attendees:**

Name	Name	Name
Jessica Becker	Noelle Wittkop	Amy Stouffer
Kim Graulein	Amanda Pierce Snyder	Susan Rustwick
Ashlyn Wailand	Abby Huston	Carly McMannus
Charlie Hugo		