

## Echo Hill PTO Meeting Minutes     March 24, 2025



Call to Order Time: 6:31 pm

**Quorum:** Wittkop Stouffer Mulholland Becker

### 1. Welcome & Introductions

### 2. General Business

- a) **Treasurer's Report:** Molly Mulholland reported on the financial status of the organization, noting that approximately \$33,808 was in the PTO bank account currently. Molly shared that she's mailed the \$1,600 check for Inflatable Day rentals, paid out five teacher reimbursements and the PTO fund-approved costumes for 4th grade teachers. She added that 24 of 34 teachers have claimed their stipend. This year she is also completing the biannual report for 501c3 tax compliance.

**3. Principal's Report:** Mr. McDonald gave a recap since last month, adding that time seems to be flying by with 59 days left to go in the school year. He noted some exciting opportunities coming up for students, including Author Day on April 8, Opera Iowa on April 9, and the Art Show on April 10. He also said that class list creation would be happening in the weeks ahead, working for the best outcomes for students. Historically, Echo Hill has had families stick with certain teachers for multiple kids in a family; this year's process will focus more on academic fit, regardless of which teacher families have had for children through the years. He said this will be a shift for our staff and families, but one that he knows is in the best interests of the students – adding that all Echo Hill teachers are excellent.

**4. Vote / Request for Funds:** Noelle Wittkop briefed the group on an item from last meeting: hiring Traveling Tom's Coffee Truck to come to Echo Hill as a special treat for staff sometime in May 2025 (specific date TBD, based on Tom's availability). Noelle coordinated with Amy Davis in the office and got rough numbers of 67 staff members x \$5-\$7 per staffer; Noelle said a simple Google form to take orders in advance would work well, along with optional financial support from parents via a GiveButter campaign. Noelle Wittkop motioned for the vote to reallocate \$400 of the PTO budget to this Traveling Tom's Coffee activity; Molly Mulholland seconded the motion. All people in attendance voted in support of this reallocation of PTO funds; vote unanimously passed. Noelle will coordinate with Molly, Amy Davis, and Traveling Tom's and keep us posted on details as they are worked out.

### 5. Activities & Events:

- a) Bingo Night recap: successful event; unsure of attendance.
- b) Conference Week Hospitality: Staci Sperfslage was not in attendance but sent an update to Noelle ahead of tonight's meeting. The link for conference donations will go out this week. The PTO (and any parents who wish to donate) will supply popcorn, trail mix, granola, and Domino's Pizza, along with breakfast items and most likely Stack Wellness Cafe for conference day foods on Feb. 25 and 27, respectively.
- c) Virtual Paint Night is Friday, March 7 at 6:30pm. This event is hosted by Hayley Hegland of Mix Blend Create (and an Echo Hill mom). The group discussed the paint supply kits that have been prepared and distributed by request for past events; the group decided not to offer those this year and see if this hinders participation. Amy Stouffer will create and distribute a Google form for participants to sign up on; Hayley will message participants with the supply list and Zoom link. Hayley has not yet selected the scene that participants will paint, but it will be spring themed.
- d) Breakfast with Buddies is March 27 & 28, coordinated by Amy Stouffer, Amy White, and Staci Sperfslage. More details to come.

## 6. Committee Leads Updates

- a) Hospitality - Staci Sperfslage reported that conference meals went well with two days' worth of meals for staff. She is delivering March birthday treats tomorrow. Teacher Appreciation Week is May 5-9 and she is planning more special touches for teachers during that timeframe (specifics TBD). Staci also added that she will need to give up her role for the 25-26 school year, so we'll be looking for someone to take over this important volunteer job. If you or someone you know is interested, please reach out to [echohillpto@yahoo.com](mailto:echohillpto@yahoo.com) for more info. Thank you.
- b) Virtual Paint Night - always a fun event led by Hayley Hegland. Next year, if we'd like to continue the event, we'll need to pay Hayley for it. This was her final year "donating" her time to lead the event.
- c) Breakfast with Buddies – Amy Stouffer reported that we're expecting another great year of this beloved event. 200 person capacity has been met on both Thursday and Friday; donuts are ordered, logistics have been coordinated & communicated with staff and families.
- d) Traveling Tom's Coffee Truck is coming on May 21 for teacher drinks. Noelle mentioned that she's working with Molly to establish a GiveButter campaign where parents can kick in funds for teacher beverages. Teachers can complete a Google form to request their drinks. More info to come.
- e) Noelle also shared that STEAM Night is coming up on April 25. The STEAM Team this year has done an excellent job finding some new presenters in the community and making a great

schedule for all ages. Sign up's open March 31; flyers are going home with students this week.

- f) Amy White reported some estimated totals for the HyVee receipts program (\$952) and added that the last date that receipts can be dated is Friday, March 31. She also said BoxTops has earned approximately \$232 for our school.
  
- g) Community Fundraising: Noelle quickly recapped some details, including that just 10 ice skaters showed up for the ice skating event on March 2, resulting in a \$20 donation to our school. The group suggested maybe trying SuperSkate next time (roller skating, not ice skating). April 16 is Your Pie Night for Echo Hill; Inflatable Day is May 30th, coordinated by Heather Lough and Sally Wiley this year; and Kernels Night is May 2. \$13 per ticket, with \$2 from each ticket coming back to our school. This is also the night that the Echo Hill Singers sing the National Anthem.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:10pm.**

**Monday, March 24 - PTO meeting attendees:**

Name	Name	Name
Noelle Wittkop	Amy Stouffer	Molly Mulholland
Mr. McDonald	Amy White	Sarah Lisenbee
Staci Sperflage	Jess Becker	Ashlyn Wailand