

Echo Hill PTO Meeting Minutes

August 28, 2023



Call to Order Time: 6:30pm

Introductions - all in attendance

Quorum: McDonald Hegland Becker Wittkop Stouffer

PTO President Hayley Hegland welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the 2023-2024 school year. She gave a presentation entitled "Echo Hill PTO 101" that included information about what the PTO is, what it does, what it does not do, PTO budget overview, items that the PTO has purchased recently for the school, volunteer coordinators & workshops for the year ahead, and looked at some specific events coming up soon.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Abby Huston was not present, so President Hegland gave a budgetary overview in the treasurer's absence.

- Summer was spent updating financials, making sure all checks were cashed, closing out the 2022-2023 financials
- On 5/3 we received the final deposits from Amazon Smile for \$121.49 and on 5/19 for \$255.97. This program has now ended.
- We received a \$300 check from TreeRing (yearbooks) and the Kernels check was \$378
- Zoom and website memberships renewed over the summer.
- Stipend email was just sent to staff today
- Prepping for Dash for Cash Fundraiser
- Working on setting up the match programs through Benevity and GivingTrax
- Givebutter will be used again this year to collect Echo Hill family donations

Committee Lead Updates

Dash For Cash - Hayley Hegland

Dash For Cash is Echo Hill's one big fundraiser for the school year, the one on which the PTO's annual budget hinges. 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 will be circulated soon; it takes many volunteers to make this day a big success. The fundraising goal for 2023 is \$15,000.

Homecoming 2023 - Sarah Fridono

Sarah has selected a Taylor Swift theme for the Echo Hill float in the homecoming parade on Wednesday, Sept. 13. A donated trailer has been secured; Sarah says she does not need any helpers for creating the float, but encouraged Echo Hill families to walk alongside the float in the parade. Reminder that if you wish to throw candy in the parade, please bring it yourself. Kids must be accompanied by an adult to walk in the parade; no drop-offs. Meet at the high school parking lot between 4:45-5:00pm on parade day to assemble and walk in the parade.

Volunteer Coordinators - Kim Graulein and Kira Cannon

Kira nor Kim were available to attend the meeting. Hayley reported that the next volunteer workshop will be held on Thursday, Sept. 21, 9:00am-10:45am in the Echo Hill cafeteria.

Hospitality - Molly Mulholland

Molly reported that she offered a back-to-school breakfast for teachers during the first week of school. She noted that the teachers really appreciate these efforts. She will continue to bring teacher birthday treats to school during the first week of each month and distribute as needed.

Trunk or Treat - Hayley Hegland

The PTO is looking for volunteers to step up to coordinate the Trunk or Treat event, proposed for Sunday, Oct. 22 in the Echo Hill bus loop. Ideally we would have 14+ trunks to make this event successful, and we also need sponsors for the candy. If you'd like to sponsor this or coordinate this event, please speak up.

Apparel Sale - Hayley Hegland

Echo Hill's apparel sale will be sometime in October/November 2023, with orders fulfilled in time for the Christmas season. Amanda Snyder will again coordinate this sale; watch for additional details coming soon.

Hy-Vee Receipts- Noelle Wittkop

Noelle reported that the Hy-Vee receipts efforts are underway for another school year. Check the Hy-Vee "thermometer" in the Echo Hill lobby for updates on our fundraising. CJ McDonald noted that he is grateful for these funds as they supplement his building budget and are used to support teachers and staff all year long. Noelle noted that she is looking for additional receipt counters for the year ahead.

STEAM Night- Noelle Wittkop

STEAM Night is not until April 2024, but it takes many volunteers and lots of lead time to make it successful. Noelle will lead the charge on STEAM Night and is looking for many helpers who want to be involved in this event. Watch for more details as the date gets closer.

Principal McDonald's School Update:

A good but wild start to the year with the heat-related early dismissals. The district has never done three hours early dismissal before, which required a lot of flexibility on staff, students, and parents..

A Marion police officer observed traffic flow on Echo Hill Road & Alburnett Road on one of the first days of school. The traffic congestion can be significant in this area during drop off and pick up times. Mr. McDonald reported that the officer commended the school administration on doing the best job they can to keep traffic moving and kids safe.

Next Meeting: Monday, September 18, 2023, 6:30 pm in the Echo Hill Art Room

Adjourned Time: 7:24pm

August 28, 2023 PTO meeting attendees:

Name	Name	Name
Hayley Hegland	Amy Stouffer	Noelle Wittkop
Angie Meholensky	Jessica Becker	CJ McDonald
Alex Hierl	Becky Garms	Tiffany Rinderknecht
Marissa Hamilton	Molly Mulholland	Susan Rustwick
Amy White	Katie Lipsett	Sarah Fridono
Staci Sperflage		