

Echo Hill PTO Agenda / Meeting Minutes September 13th, 2021



Call to Order Time: 6:30pm

Introductions: Board and Principal

Quorum: Corwin Hay Hegland McDonald

Presentation - PTO 101 - What is a PTO? What do we do for the teachers/staff? Where does the money we fundraise go for?

Upcoming PTO Events -

- Homecoming Parade this week on Wednesday 15th at 5:15 at the high school
- Dash for Cash- September 22nd during the school day. What is Dash for Cash? Why donate money? What do the kids get to do for this event?
- Trunk or Treat- happening in October. Jessica Becker volunteered to help coordinate this event. Looking for individuals to decorate the back of their car for the evening. The event will be for 1 hour and candy will be provided. Looking for a sponsor for the candy for this event. If we don't find a sponsor the PTO will cover the cost out of our budget. If you know of a company that would be willing to sponsor this, the PTO will happily display a sign/their company banner at the event, as well as advertise a big shout-out 'thank you' on our website.
- Breakfast with Buddies- This event was to take place this fall at the school, but due to COVID cases and restrictions from the district, this may be cancelled this year. More discussion on this will happen during the October PTO meeting.

Principal Report - CJ McDonald - Thank you to all volunteers that have helped our staff from classroom projects, to amazing treats, donating extra classroom items. Given the year and no volunteers in the building, the teachers are very appreciative for all that we do to support them.

Treasurer's Report - Stacey Corwin - [See PowerPoint slide for full expense report]

VOTE - Teacher Stipend - Teachers were previously receiving \$60.00 from the PTO to use towards anything in their classroom. Hayley motioned to increase this amount to \$75.00/per teacher/per year which would cause an increase of \$560.00 on the budget line item. Martha Garcia-Wegener seconded the motion and all that attended voted yes in favor. The teacher stipend going forward this year will be \$75.00 for each teacher.

Committee Reports:

Hospitality - Jessica Witt - Jessica wasn't able to attend, but Hayley gave an update report for her. She organized coffee and breakfast treats for the staff for a 'Welcome back to the school year' appreciation. She also oversees volunteers that provide a small treat to each staff member with a birthday for each month.

Volunteer Coordinators - Amanda DeSalvo/Carrie Hay - Carrie gave a report from the coordinators. Workshop at the park took place on September 1st. They had a lot of projects to complete and they had some volunteers stay at the park to assist on bigger projects and had others that picked up projects curbside. All projects were completed and returned in a timely fashion. Thank you to those that attended. Also, new volunteer orientation took place on September 13th. Carrie was thankful to those that attended and asked for

all to continue spreading the word about what volunteers do and if interested, please contact her/Amanda at EHVolunteers@linnmar.k12.ia.us

Amazon Smile/Box Tops - Becky Garms is the charitable donations coordinator for this year. Stacey gave an update on this, on Becky's behalf. Echo Hill can be your charity of choice when ordering items from Amazon (Amazon Smile). A percentage of your purchase provides money for our school. Please consider using this option. Box tops are all done electronically. If you haven't already, please set up an account and scan your receipts each week. You can only submit receipts that have been purchased from the last two weeks, so don't wait on scanning them. Thank you for helping us provide money for our school in this way.

Hy-Vee receipts - Nicole Vennie - Nicole wasn't able to attend, but Hayley discussed the Hyvee receipts report for her. The money that these receipts provide for the school is given to the principal in the form of gift cards. Last year, CJ used these gift cards to help provide treats for the staff on special appreciation days. Keep collecting these receipts for our school and send them in with your child or contact Nicole at nicgvennie@gmail.com for an alternate drop-off location.

New Business/Open Discussion:

Sarah Fridono will be helping our PTO this year by being our event photographer. She will be unable to attend the Dash for Cash obstacle course day due to the restrictions of no volunteers on campus during school hours. The staff will be taking photos of the children during the day and will post these on a google folder that will be used for the yearbook. We look forward to future events with Sarah.

Amy Stouffer has joined the PTO team this school year in a marketing/communications role. She has spent hours volunteering her time in revamping our Echo Hill PTO website. If you haven't yet, please visit the site and explore it @ echohillpto.com. Thank you Amy for all of your volunteer hours on this behalf. Amy has also been our homecoming parade organizer/coordinator. Please come walk with our float this Wednesday @4:45 to support our school.

Currently, our VP for the PTO board was unable to complete the year so the PTO VP spot is now open. If you are interested in joining our board please contact Hayley at echohillpto@yahoo.com.

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: October 4th, 2021 @ 6:30pm

- Guest Speakers Melissa Wehr & Deb Bundy: Childhood Anxiety

Adjourned Time: 7:30pm

September 13th, 2021 PTO meeting attendees: (Names from sign-in sheet/ Zoom names displayed)

Name	Name	Name
CJ McDonald	Hayley Hegland	Carrie Hay
Stacey Corwin	Amy Stouffer	Heather Lough
Katie Lipsett	Emily Pettit	Martha Garcia-Wegener
Jessica Becker	Jenny Herzberger	Liliane Atty
Sarah Fridono	Zoom: Becky Garms	Zoom: Alyssa ?
Zoom: Sanderson		