

PENNWOOD PTO MEETING MINUTES
December 13, 2018 – 9:30 a.m. – Student Dining Room

I. WELCOME – BETH MCNAMARA

- PTO registrations
- Introductions

II. STUDENT REPORTS

- Student Council – Parker Murray (Student Rep) – not in attendance.
- NJHS (National Junior Honor Society) – Mrs. Gallelli (Teacher Rep) – not in attendance.

III. ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

- PTO Teacher Reps – Mrs. Pursell (Reading Specialist) - not in attendance.
- Principal's Report – Mr. Majikas
 - a. Students and staff volunteered to ring the Salvation Army kettle bell in front of Macy's on December 8th. Students and staff will do it again at Redner's on December 15th.
 - b. NJHS is collecting Toys for Tots.
 - c. Last Thursday was the Pennsbury School Districts, PTO recognition night.
 - d. The construction is mostly done at Pennwood. Mr. Majikas and Mr. DePaola are working on going through the punch list of things that still need to be finished.
- Asst. Principal's Report – Mr. DePaola –
 - PW is now using Remind. It is another way to keep parents informed. 301 subscribers at this point, up from 8 earlier in the fall. (The PTO will include information on how to subscribe in the next PTO newsletter and on the facebook group.)
 - The best buddy program is up and running this year. Unfortunately, the first party was supposed to be on the day we had off due to the water issue, but it has been rescheduled. There will be four other events throughout the year and kids will have to make bi-weekly communication with their buddy.
 - The Flying Falcon 200 Board is close to having its second set of winners, hopefully before break. The first set of winners got their pictures on the website and received a gift card to Chik-Fil-A. Hopefully, the kids are talking about the programs.

- Teachers are meeting regularly to think of how to promote positivity at the school. They organized a We Are Thankful event before Thanksgiving.
- The Mini Mini Thon (which all three middle schools will participate in) will be on Friday, February 1st with a snow date of Friday, February 8th.

IV. OFFICERS REPORTS

- VP/Fundraising – Carolyn Fogel
 - a. Carolyn Fogel reported on the PAC meeting. There is a new website (futurereadypa.org) that has school comparisons regarding meeting academic criteria. There are blue, green and red circles. Blue means exceeds the goals, green is meets, and red means does not meet. The majority of Pennsbury schools are in the blue and green areas.
 - b. In the PAC meeting, Makefield Elementary representatives talked about a 5K they are doing on April 28th. They are asking everyone to participate. It is a fundraiser, but they also want to give back to the Yes, Yes You Can Run group.
 - c. PHS is holding their Mini Thon and has asked the middle schools for donations. Our PTO is donating \$200 towards the Mini Thon. Thank you to everyone who has raised money for our PTO so that we can provide this donation to the Mini Thon.
- VP/Communications – Elaine Koziak. Nothing to report.
- Recording Secretary – Kathy Snyder. Nothing to report.
- Treasurer – Corri Workman. Nothing to report.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS – EVENTS AND FUNDRAISERS

- Sunshine Committee – Jenna Churchray, Joanna Steer
 - Joanna Steer reported that the wings are up in the girl's gym hallway and that they look great. The committee was happy to see how many positive things were written on the feathers that were completed by the students. They plan on doing something similar near the boy's gym. The bulletin board will also be changed to a winter theme.
- Book Fair Wrap Up – Colleen Veitz, Devina Golden
 - Colleen Veitz reported that they met their goal for the Book Fair and raised \$889.23. This year Mrs. Purcell has divided up the money to teachers so that each teacher got \$90 to spend on books for their classroom.
 - They are planning another book fair in the spring and are still determining the date. It will be a Buy One Get One Free event. We have

a volunteer for organizing Bingo Night, which will take place at the end of the Book Fair week in the spring.

- Carolyn Fogel noted that the e-wallet worked great this year for the book fair. She was able to put money for her son and then the remainder went back on her credit card.
- Colleen Veitz is organizing treat trays for the staff at school. The treats can be dropped at her house by December 16th. They can be candy, homemade items, or store bought. Trays will be put out around the school as a token of appreciation.
- Beth McNamara noted that the hot coco was a huge success on PJ day. While not everyone was wearing PJs, a lot of students paid for hot chocolate. The food staff was also amazingly helpful in getting hot water for the parent volunteers. There is a lot of left over powdered hot coco, which can be used in the future.

ONGOING

- Box Tops – Natalie Hogan-Brounce – not in attendance.
 - PTO may plan another box top collection drive in the winter.
- McCaffrey's & ShopRite Receipts – Natalie Hogan-Brounce – not in attendance.
- Special Events/Dinner Night – Nicole Augustine, Amy Haas –
 - Nicole Augustine reported that they raised \$207 during the concession sale after the orchestra/chorus performance. They are all ready for the band/jazz band concert on December 19th.
 - A Chick-Fil-A night is tentatively planned to coordinate with NJHS induction evening on May 1st.
 - The committee is also looking into coordinating a dinner night with the play.
 - Carolyn Fogel noted that with Chipotle you can get 33% back but you have to bring in \$300 to get the money. When a Chipotle opens nearby that might be a good place to hold a fundraiser.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- No school 12/24 – 1/1 Winter Break
- 12/19 Winter Concert 7:00 pm – PTO will sell refreshments after in SDR.
- Open Chair Positions –
 - Beth McNamara reported that we are still looking for a Spring Fundraiser chair, as well as a 8GH Decorations chair.
- Question, comments, etc.

- There is a parent meeting for the play on December 13th at 6:00 pm. There was some confusion about where to get information about the play, particularly about the stage crew. Mr. Majikas will look into it and send out a school blast about the play and the parent meeting. Mr. DePaola said that there is information about the play on the school website. Click on Parent Information and then there is a link to information on the musical.
- A parent reported on the gifted program. They are working on getting the GIEP more individualized in the district and there is going to be a lot more education available for the gifted teachers, as well as changes to the professional development for teachers. There will also be training for parents regarding doing a GIEP (including a cheat sheet of acronyms and the jargon). Any questions should go to Sherri Morett.
- Mr. Majikis discussed using chrome books during snow days saying there is no official stance at this point and not discussed at the scheduling meeting.
- Mr. Majikas noted that they won't add on any days at the end of the year for the water emergency day off.
- A parent noted that the PHS curriculum night was really well done and thanked PW for putting out an email with a link to the presentation.

VII. Upcoming PTO meetings –Jan 10, Feb 14, Mar 14, Apr 11, May 9. All meetings are at 9:30 am in the Student Dining Room.

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS

1. <http://www.pennwoodpto.com> is a direct link to the Pennwood PTO website.
2. For “daily announcements” go to www.pennsbury.org, click on Schools, then Pennwood, the Parent Information, then daily announcements on left.
3. PTO email blasts, with PTO membership
4. Like Pennwood on Facebook!
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1997500920491941/>
5. Email the PTO at ptopennwood@gmail.com

IX. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 pm.