

# Miscoe Hill PTO General Meeting Minutes

Date: 09/04/2024

Location: Miscoe Library

Meeting Called by: Victoria

Time: 6:40pm

Attendance: Victoria Wilkinson, Melissa Morse, Jessica Tilley, Jessica Dunner, Meg Halfpenny, Stephanie Freeman, Erika Hall

---

## Call to Order

1. Approved 05/01/2024 general meeting minutes by email.

## Opening Reports

- President, Victoria Wilkinson
  - Welcome and introductions
  - Overview of PTO goals
    - The PTO strives to support the students and staff of Miscoe through providing cultural arts programming and enrichment, scholarships through our Good Neighbor fund to make sure all students are included, teacher requests, staff appreciation, student socials, and more. In order to be successful, we rely on our community to participate through volunteering and fundraising efforts.
  - There will be a CNO at DQ on September 26 from 5-8pm. Please consider stopping by to support the PTO.
- Treasurer, Jessica Dunner
  - We are starting with \$2000, so fundraising needs to be successful this fall.
  - Fundraising will kick off with Money for Miscoe. We do not like to ask kids to sell things so we will find other means throughout the year including selling concessions at events, Chef's Nights Off, admission for socials, Super Bowl Squares, Box Tops, RaiseRight gift cards, and others.
    - Meg suggested a Penny War, the group agrees this is a fun idea.
    - Erika suggested a pickleball tournament for the spring, or some sort of an "-a-thon."
  - Ideally, we would start a school year with closer to \$5000, so we will try to amp up fundraising throughout the year to provide a cushion for next school year.

- Nature's Classroom scholarships are a heavy demand on our budget at the start of the school year, typically around \$3000 (we can check with guidance for a better estimate for this year).
  - We do not currently have enough funds to sponsor all of this year's scholarships to Nature's Classroom. We need to ask the office to send out a dedicated plea in order to hold true to our mission to make sure no child is left out due to finances. We will time it with the paper fliers going home for Money for Miscoe.
  - Let's think about finding a way to fundraise scholarships for Nature's Classroom when communications go out to parents in the late spring and early fall. Parents make payment to MURSD for their own children, but can we add an option to send an extra donation to the PTO to support families in need?
- Principal, Robin Benoit
  - Not present

**Old Business:**

- None

**New Business:**

- Volunteer opportunities (Victoria)
  - Many committees could use more support, including:
    - Fundraising
    - Staff appreciation
    - Cultural arts
    - Student socials
    - Family events
    - We Care Miscoe
  - Please reach out to the PTO if you have interest in helping in any of these areas, or have other ideas to share. Email [ptomiscoehill@gmail.com](mailto:ptomiscoehill@gmail.com).
- Teacher dedicated fundraising (Erika)
  - The PTO at the school where Erika works offers donations to be earmarked for individual teachers. This money is used to reimburse staff members when they buy items for their classrooms.
  - It is managed by spreadsheet, but may be taxing on the treasurer.
  - Members would like to consider launching this around the holidays to avoid conflicting with the Money for Miscoe campaign.
- Teacher requests (if any)

- Mr. Hansen has asked for some materials for a paper making project focused around teaching kids the 3 R's- reduce, reuse, recycle. He has asked the PTO to fund paper making screens, a bin for the paper, and a blender. We will try to source a used bin and blenders from the community groups. The PTO members vote to support the purchase of the screens once we have the money in the budget (pending Nature's Classroom expense).
- Open to members or guests to share an idea or make a motion
  - The spirit wear store has been reopened, so we can continue to promote.
  - There are 2 nights of Open House (Sept. 24/25). We will need volunteers to stay posted at our table to talk to interested parents.

### **Announcements**

- Remember to check for updates on our Facebook Page (Miscoe Hill PTO - Current), Twitter (@miscoeptto), Instagram (#miscoehillpto), and our website ([www.MiscoePTO.org](http://www.MiscoePTO.org)).
- Sign up to receive communications by sending us an email: [PTOMiscoeHill@gmail.com](mailto:PTOMiscoeHill@gmail.com).
- Our next general meeting will be on October 2nd at 6:30pm in the Miscoe Library.

### **Adjournment**