

Miscoe Hill PTO General Meeting Minutes

Date: 05/01/2024

Location: Miscoe, Rm 224

Meeting Called by: Victoria

Time: 6:38pm

Attendance: Victoria Wilkinson, Melissa Morse, Jessica Tilley, Kelly Lucier, Meg Halfpenny, Laura Devenney, Deb Lane, Robin Benoit

Call to Order

1. Approved 04/03/2024 general meeting minutes by email.

Opening Reports

- President, Victoria Wilkinson
 - Victoria presented at April's staff meeting to let them know how we can be a resource to them. We would love to have more of a "T" involvement in the PTO, so we are working on incentives to get teachers to attend meetings going forward.
 - The PTO can make an online request form to roll out this fall. It should be ready by August for welcome back communications.
 - Our goal is to make sure that teachers come to us with requests so they do not pay for things out of their own pockets.
- Treasurer, Kelly Lucier
 - We have a balance of about \$6000. After estimated spending, we should have a surplus of about \$3000. There is money left to spend if anything comes up, and we will be in a great position at the start of next school year.
 - Our Good Neighbor Fund has paid out about \$4000, or about 30% of our expenditures for the year.
 - Teacher requests have totaled about \$2200.
 - We've done more on grade level programming and cultural arts and have spent about \$5000.
 - In total, we will have spent about \$15,000 this school year, which is a significant increase over a few years ago. It's nice to see that our successful fundraisers have allowed us to increase spending on a variety of programming to support staff and students.

- Bay State Textile bins have brought in about \$3000. It is the easiest fundraiser for the payoff. We're still thinking about adding a third bin if we can find a spot for it, but parking spaces are at a premium.
- We've earned \$1200 through our partnership with MUEF on the Spooky Run and Wizards events.
- Our Money for Miscoe cash donation fundraiser has brought in more than past years' selling magazines and goods.
- Principal, Robin Benoit
 - As the weather warms up, there may be teachers in need of fans for their rooms. The PTO will help.
 - The second round of MCAS is coming up next week. The 8th grade has an additional civics test this year.
 - The plays are coming up next week.
 - The 8th grade team is working hard on planning their year end events.

Old Business:

- Spring staff appreciation (Deb)
 - Teacher appreciation week is next week. The PTO will provide stress balls on Monday, a grab and go breakfast on Tuesday, a luncheon on Thursday, and other surprises during the week.
 - School nurses and school administration will also be acknowledged this month.
 - Side note: we should consider doing a volunteer appreciation event.
- Teacher requests (Victoria)
 - Sara-Jean Higgins has requested funding for her self care initiative as part of mental health awareness month. Sara will work with Carla Murphy to create a display in the school and self care items will be raffled off to students. Each student will receive 3 tickets with the possibility for them to earn more throughout the month. The PTO has approved up to \$500 to support this initiative.
 - The PTO recently funded a request for clothing and snacks for the nurses' office.

New Business:

- Election for 2024-2025 board members (Jess)
 - Members voted, and the results are:
 - Victoria Wilkinson for President
 - Jessica Tilley for Vice President
 - Jessica Dunner for Treasurer

■ Melissa Morse for Secretary

- Volunteer opportunities for events and committees, 2024-2025 (Victoria/All)
 - Sign up went out in this week's Miscoe newsletter. Parents and guardians can contact the PTO anytime for more details, we welcome new members!
- Fall fundraiser ideas (Victoria/Joe)
 - We will likely do another flat fundraiser. If we get a large request, we can plan an additional fundraiser sometime during the year.
 - We will continue to support our textile bins as they have been very successful with minimal work.
 - We will continue with our small events such as CNO, Box Tops, RaiseRight, etc.
 - Penny Wars would be a really fun way to earn some funds. Kids really get into the competition aspect.
- Open to members or guests to share an idea or make a motion
 - Cultural Arts- Jess will try to get feedback from teachers on this year's programs to see if they should be rescheduled again for next year. It would be really nice to get a head start so things aren't rushed in the spring.
 - Field trips may start to come back next year, so the PTO should prepare for the added expense.

Announcements

- Remember to check for updates on our Facebook Page (Miscoe Hill PTO - Current), Twitter (@miscoept), Instagram (#miscoehillpto), and our website (www.MiscoePTO.org).
- Sign up to receive communications by sending us an email: PTOMiscoeHill@gmail.com.

Adjournment