

Mellon Middle School PTA Meeting

October 11, 2023

8:45 a.m.

Approved Minutes

Call to Order at 8:47

Kristen Weir

Approval of the Sept 13, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Motion made Gillian Stohner and 2nd by Lindy Becker. to approve Minutes as written

Treasurer's Report

Gillian Stohner

- Balance \$11,568.68
- A vote to utilize \$40.00 of reserved funds for oaktag for the gym teachers was approved. (1st Danika Lagorio, 2nd Tess Carter, unanimously approved).
- The Treasurer will be holding our annual teacher drive. A sign up genius will be posted throughout October. Donations should be dropped off at Gillian Stohner's house on the appreciate date

Faculty Representative

Amanda Saxman

The executive board sent a sympathy card to Ms. Saxman. We are all so sorry for the loss of Amanda's mom.

Executive Committee Reports

President

Jen Larence

- Shana from the council level of PTA is excited to work with our Mellon Environmental coordinator on some exciting new projects for the next coming years. Please be on the lookout for exciting ways you and your children can get involved to make Mellon more sustainable.
- Kristen has opened the floor for ways that the entire community can utilize Screenagers. Although Mellon PTA purchased it for our school we would like to offer it to the whole community. Dr. Wolfson suggested that we have a private viewing of the films with Mellon PTA members and decide from there on how we want to offer it. Some other suggestions: having the films offered several nights in the auditorium, inviting the school counselors to a PTA meeting on ways to use the film, or maybe screening it at the Highschool. All wonderful ideas.
- Although the membership drive has closed please know that you are always more than welcome to join our fantastic organization anytime.
- At this time we have 291 members (45 faculty members, 247 parent members) We also received 89 donations totalling in 2,379.00.

1st VP

Katie Graybill

Nothing to report.

2nd VP

Tess Carter

Please enjoy the Principal's Coffee danish and beverage spread provided today!

3rd VP

Chris Wolfson

- English / Language Arts PSSA
 - April 22 – 26
 - Mathematics & Science* PSSA
 - April 29 – May 3
 - Keystone – Algebra 1*
 - May 13 – 24
 - Most likely in 2nd week
 - * Denotes 8th grade only
- Principal's Coffee after the PTA meeting will provide testing results, successes of the new PBIS program, new hires and more. All is going well at Mellon.

Secretary

Danika Lagorio

Nothing to report.

Historian

Lindy Becker

Nothing to Report.

Committee Reports

Council Delegate, Amy Grella

- Dr. Friez updated, and at Oct 9 th board meeting, district approved addition of School Based Behavioral Health provided by The Bradley Center. This is a county provided resource that will allow referrals of students thru the district's student assistance program. Benefit to students is that it can be done during school day and a referral resource for counselors to ensure students receive the behavioral health support they need. Will be rolled out in the next 6 months; K-12. We were only one of 2 schools in the county NOT to offer it.
- District completed their Middle States Accreditation Audit at the end of Sept (discussed last month). The Audit team is recommending accreditation without stipulation. Awaiting formal vote in the Spring.
- Presentation from MLFE – Mt Lebanon Foundation for Education. Non-profit that raises money for innovative teacher projects. Asked us for help to increase awareness and get name out there. Spirit wear sale going on – blankets; and Lebo hoodies. Sale link is here: https://my.cheddarup.com/c/mlfe-blankets?cart=48dc30bc-d741-4014-afa8-161ce61b00ad%21%2165068509&fbclid=IwAR02lt0o5UC7F7ZIW810hWece6iZMHYFjgDUcP4gcluipUGqjWdht2Po_Xg
- 4th Ward Commissioner Craig Grella shared info on municipality's goal to expand safer walking especially around schools. A sidewalk study was completed, and there are 7 proposed areas to add sidewalks. There is a link to share to complete a petition in support of adding sidewalks. 3 of the 7 streets are "Mellon" – i.e. Howe & Foster neighborhoods. The link went out in this week's district newsletter. By Nov 3rd.

Book Fair, Kara Monocello and Corinne Vanderzee: Will send volunteer Sign-Up soon. Date is Thursday Nov 2nd. The fair will run until 5:00pm

Cultural Arts, Sarah Everhart and Ann Bozick: The committee is still waiting to hear back from Pittsburgh Public Theater but at this point they think we should just move in a different direction. The committee is looking into Cello Fury, Liberty Magic or CLO. All are fantastic options for the students!

Writing Lab, Shana Slaybaugh: The writing lab volunteer orientation went great! So excited to have such a nice sized group of dedicated volunteers (both new and old to help with this great program.)

Old Business

Spirit Wear will open a sale late October/ early November and will run for two weeks. Items will be delivered before Christmas.

New Business

Nothing at this time

Adjourned at 9:45 am

DRAFT MINUTES prepared by Danika Lagorio