



# Meeting Minutes

## Linn Grove PTO

Meeting Date & Time: Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:05 pm

Meeting Place: Linn Grove Cafeteria

### Mission Statement:

The PTO is a volunteer organization that works exclusively on behalf of our children through the cooperative efforts of our families and school staff.

### The PTO shall do this by:

- A. Fostering closer working relationships between school, parents, and teachers.
- B. Providing a forum for discussion and communication between parents, administrators, teachers and the community.
- C. Enhancing the educational facilities and opportunities for the students of Linn Grove Elementary.

Meeting Called to Order by Kara Larson

Attendance: 12

(Officers in attendance: Kara Larson, President; Becca Louison, Vice President; Mindy Walderbach, Recording Secretary; Angie Lawrence, Correspondence Secretary, Sheri McCormick & Tara Anderson, Co-Treasurer.)

Minutes: Minutes from September meeting were accepted, with changing Hy-Vee receipts to \$67,127.07

### 1. Building Update:

**Susan Knight - Nutrition Services:** Susan went over how many years she has been in the district and how many meals and kitchens we have. She then went into what goes into making the menu. She primarily talked at an Elementary level and the funding they get from the Federal Government. They do not get money from the district. Please see page 3 for more detailed information

### 2. Teacher Requests:

**Little Lions, ECBP:** Requesting \$148 for a field trip on 10/22 to Indian Creek Nature Center. Voted and approved.

### 3. Officer's Report:

Sheri presented Officer's Report

### 4. Current Business:

#### **Recap Events:**

- ❖ Staff Vouchers – still getting turned in. Vouchers are for \$35. Extend deadline for Mrs. Knopp.
- ❖ NFL60 – 71 kids attended. Event was moved to the gym due to hot weather. In the future, always reserve the gym as backup.
- ❖ Maid-Rite Night – great turnout and LG received \$85
- ❖ RBTA / Fun Run – Income was \$3856.05 before fees (\$3769.67 after). Run moved to 9/25 due to rain. Total miles walked was 1140 (950 for day event, 80 for night event).
- ❖ Skate Night – middle schoolers need to skate slower; there were two injuries at skate night.
- ❖ Homecoming Parade – Linn Grove was voted 2<sup>nd</sup> best in the parade! Over 80 walkers. Would like to get more staff involved so the kids can

be supervised better. Potentially next year hand out red tickets while we are waiting for the parade to start as this can be a long wait for the kids

- ❖ Friends & Family Breakfast – Thursday 86 adults signed in & Friday 163. Over both days, approx. 600-700 served. Keep options open on where to get donuts. Donations received were \$120. Next year check scheduling conflicts with orchestra and choir.

**Garden Club with NewPi:** Looking for volunteers to form a committee to take care of the outdoor classroom garden. Scott at NewPi has \$500 to donate in helping with this. Angie & Jon Lawrence will get it prepped for winter. NewPi recommended starting a soup and salad garden.

**Coffee Conversation/Board of Education:** Discussion on preschool, moving to another building? Creating a committee and discussing options. Cell phone usage at HS level.

**Box Tops:** September contest – winner from each classroom got \$5 gift card to book fair. Total turned in was 4,498 box tops. POD winner: 1C & 3A. Teacher got \$25 gift card to the book fair for their classroom. Traveling Trophy winner was 1C.

**HyVee Receipts:** current receipt total is \$113,062.20

## 5. New Business

**Conference Dinners:** hosted by Lindsey Scheibe. Held 10/6 & 10/8/15

**McTeacher Night:** Held 10/15 at McDonald's by WalMart.

**Casey's Pizza Card Fundraiser:** Starts 10/21, ends 11/12. Kickoff will be in 3 groups.

**PTO Movie Night:** 11/6, Showing Inside Out. Doors open at 6 PM. Bring canned food for admission!

**Coffee Conversations** – 10/10, 8:30 AM, High School, Door 1

**Board of Education:** 10/12 & 10/26 at 7 PM at LRC

**Added Events:** Disney on Ice – admission is \$15. Flyers going home this week. Event is 11/19. Happy Joes Day – date is 12/16, event is ALL day. Bring flyer!

**Board Elections:** All PTO board positions will be available. Apply by March and vote will happen in April. New board takes over in May.

**Kids Bazaar:** Gifts will be \$5 - \$10. New items only!

**Box Tops:** October contest – winner will get an indoor picnic (pumpkin patch). Staff contest starts 10/12.

**HyVee Receipts:** Potentially having a contest in the future.

## 6. Open Discussion

*None*

**Meeting Adjourned At: 8:12 PM**

**Don't forget to turn in Box Tops & Hy-Vee receipts!**

**Next PTO meeting is October 6!**

**Record volunteer hours at <http://volunteers.linnmar.k12.ia.us/login.asp>**

## Susan Knight

Susan has worked in the district for 25 years and has been the manager for 16 years. They used to have a staff of 34 in 6 locations making 2,000 meals a day, but now have 75 staff members in 10 locations making up to 5,000 meals a day.

Breakfast always seems to serve about 500 kids total, the amount is between 6-7% of the kids in the district. The average of lunches they serve a day is 4800. Linn Grove serves an average of 400 a day and serves the most meals in the district (of Elementary Schools) 80% of our students eat school lunch, versus 65%-70% of the other schools.

Our kitchen makes all the meals in the kitchen and also makes meals for Wilkins who does not have a full kitchen, it is a satellite school. So in total our kitchen makes 700 meals a day. Only the new Elementary schools have a full kitchen to make meals in so they all make meals for the other schools.

The school lunches are not funded by district and there is no profit, they plan on breaking even. They watch expenses and budget their money. If they were to go negative the district would help out. It is funded by the price of meals and Government money, which is 1.2 million. That is \$950,000 given in cash and rest is used to purchase chicken and other items needed.

\$85,000 of the Fed money is spent on fresh produce and \$85,000 is spent out of pocket for fresh produce as well. We are in a buying Co-op which includes 22 other districts in Iowa, it helps keep costs low.

They will be rotating in some seasonal favorites coming up like soup, chili, turkey with potatoes and gravy!

Lion Cub Meal has been a HUGE hit, bigger than they even thought it would be. It's a great option for those kids who don't eat meat. Smaller kids like the small bites as well and it seems that if the kids don't like the other 2 options they go for the Lion Cub Meal as a backup.

The next page is about the Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act on what requirements they have to go by per the Federal Government. If we did not want to follow it we would lose the 1.2 million in funding. To make up for it prices would go up. It is recommended lunch costs go up \$0.10 each year; we have been given a waiver for 3 years so ours does not need to go up as we have a surplus of money to use so there is no reason to raise costs currently.

After they meet all requirements by the Government they need to look at what kids will eat, what they like and also what they can make 700 of, ship 300 of them to another school who can serve it as is. So even though there are things they wish they could make (egg casseroles) they would not travel and serve well when it gets to Wilkins. There is a lot more to think about than what tastes good and is good for the kids. Susan even said she wishes there was less processed food they use, but with some of the requirements and transport it doesn't work.

Anytime you have questions please do not hesitate to call or email Susan. After everything she spoke about for 45 min with the PTO members we all agreed we are glad we are not the ones who have to figure out school lunches, and that is just for the elementary schools.

Susan Knight - [SKnight@linnmar.k12.ia.us](mailto:SKnight@linnmar.k12.ia.us)

# Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act



## USDA Criteria for Meal Planning at Lunch, Grades K-5

**Fruit:** Minimum  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup offered daily

**Vegetables:** Minimum of  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup offered daily. Vegetables are broken down into dark green, red/orange, beans/peas, starchy and other. Weekly minimums are in place for each category.

- Students are required to select  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup fruit or vegetable

**Grains:** 1 ounce offered daily. All grains must be whole grain rich. Minimum of 8 oz. offered per week.

**Meat/meat alternate:** 1 ounce offered daily. Minimum of 8 oz. offered per week.

**Fluid milk:** 1 cup offered daily. Milk must be skim or 1%. Flavored milk must be fat-free. (For students with lactose intolerances or allergies, milk substitutes must be nutritionally equivalent to dairy milk.)

**Calories:** Daily average over one week required to be between 550-650 calories

**Saturated fat:** Daily average over one week required to be less than 10% per week

**Sodium:** Daily average over one week required to be less than 1,230 mg per week  
2017/18: Less than 935 mg per week; 2022-23: Less than 640 mg per week

### Additional Considerations:

Do students like the food?

Do the plate “colors” look appealing?

Can we mass produce and satellite the food items?

Will the items “hold” for service at satellite schools?