



Meeting Minutes

Linn Grove PTO

Meeting Date & Time: Tuesday, October 3rd at 6:00pm

Meeting Place: Linn Grove Media Center

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: 13

(Officers in attendance: Kara Larson, President; Kelly Ackley, Vice President; Angela Lincoln, Secretary; Sheri McCormick, Treasurer)

Minutes: Minutes from September 2017 meeting were accepted

1. Building Update:

Principal Chad Buchholz: It's been busy and kids are well into the routine. Conference season adds another layer into the work we do. It's a good time. Encouraged teachers to keep communication open and often so there are no surprises at conferences. Time of conferences is really a chance to check in. Would love to see more kids involved in conferences, so that's in our conversation, feel free to bring your kids and give them that chance to share what is going well and what they need help with, chance to set goals together at how we want to work together for your kid. Getting kids more invested in what their learning goals are...that's why kids are welcome and encouraged to come to conferences. Thanks for the support, 95-98% of families attend conferences...sometimes they go to people's houses so we can keep that partnership working together. We haven't had a lot of family time in our building yet so this month we have a lot. Great to have families come and be here and experience stuff together, free stuff, they can come and do things as a family. Just a note, our Halloween Parade is at 2:15pm around the track and we will only allow registered volunteers in the building. We are keeping focus on security in our building and no extras coming in. On Halloween day, 5th graders will be paired up with our kindergarten students. If it's wet weather, we probably won't go outside for the parade. No masks, no weapons, no makeup/paint.

2. Current Business:

PTO Events Recap (Vouchers, McTeacher Night, RBTA): Vouchers: We have 10 out of 39 not turned in, tomorrow is our hard deadline, 3 will use theirs on books, best turn in so far. McTeacher Night: Great night! We had almost \$100 in tips, total for the check was \$450. RBTA: Kids seemed to like the brag tags, even though it was hot the kids still ran a lot, maybe a few less laps but not many less. They did a great job! The night event was cancelled this year.



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Box Tops: Presented by Kelly Ackley. The Book Fair Contest goes until this Friday. We currently have over 1500 turned in for this contest. We have 5 classrooms that haven't turned in any so trying to push that so every class gets one. On Oct 16th the next Staff contest and Pumpkin Patch Popcorn parties kick off.

Hy-Vee Receipts: Presented by Carmen Bell. Our total today is \$82,942.73, which is up \$14,000 from last year at the same time.

Holiday Bazaar, Dec 9th 10-2pm: Presented by Carmen Bell. Contracts are ready and available. Last year's vendors have been emailed the link for the contract. Big change this year is that we are not going to provide tables. 10x10 area. Flyers will go out to students in November before break. Cutoff is Nov 27th.

Write One for Linn Grove: This will be going out soon and the push will be October-November. The "dodgeball" incentive we will be trying to do during the school day. We will accept donations until April 15, 2018 and our online link will be open until then. We will reevaluate the fundraiser in December/January and see where we may have to cut the budget if the money isn't coming in. It was suggested there be a thermometer in the foyer so everyone can see our progress. Announcements will give updated totals sometimes too.

Staff Incentive Drawing: Kara explained how staff can earn tickets and had some prize baskets on display at the meeting tonight. Kara used an online randomizer app and Mrs. Knopp is the winner for September! There will be a drawing at the end of every month.

3. New Business/Volunteer Requests:

NFL60 - October 10th: Linda Foens presented. This event is next Tuesday, 10/10, 5:30-6:30pm with 8 stations, 5 mins each. Fuel up to Play rep contacted us and we are missing out on lots of fun things like grant money and NFL summit, kids earning points to do things, nutrition food-related outing, dairy-related, farmer-related outings. This is our third year. Teacher contact is Natalie Shaffer. Out of her \$1K she is getting us granola bars and some things. We need more volunteers! School can wear favorite team apparel on that day. PTO is providing water. Last year we had 53 kids.

Conference Dinners 10/12 & 10/17: On the 12th we are getting 8 pizzas donated by Kum & Go for the teachers, hoping for donated spaghetti from Zio Johnno's, then we will ask for donations for sides. Then we will have about \$50 to use for the 17th and ask for donations as well. Hoping this helps relieve some pressure of donations all the time. In the future, we may offer parents the opportunity to call Zio Johnno's and pay for a gondola or pizza, etc.

Culvers Night 10/24, 4:00pm-8:00pm: Asking staff to sign up to help, shortly after Conference Night, so will ask for parents/kids to help too depending on staff involvement.



Trunk or Treat 10/28, 4:30pm-6:00pm: Flyer going out today/tomorrow, have a good doc ready for people to sign up to decorate a trunk. We'll have candy donations to help refill buckets when people run out. Chad will reach out to high school about doing a trunk. (Poms Clinic is that night).

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4. Teacher's Requests:

Little Lions AM Classes Field trip - \$60. Last month we approved pm classes and this is for am classes. Trip to Wickiup Hill, inside and outside, \$2/kid. This was approved, voted in.

5. Officers' Report:

Treasurer's Report presented by Sheri McCormick

6. Open Discussion:

Why do we have a 5 day weekend in October? PLC Conference scheduled for all Linn Mar Staff on Thursday and Friday. We are bringing 5 presenters to LM district-wide so all staff has chance to go through PLC experience. Some fantastic national presenters are coming. Monday is comp time for staff. Would like it every year or every other year, it opens up a lot of conversations about how we're doing things in the classroom.

Production lab is coming per Lindsey Scheibe! She also thanks PTO for storing two totes in the storage room for Volunteer Workshop.

Do we have enough candy donations for the parade? Yes. Leftovers can be used for Trunk or Treat.

Fitness Stations Update? There will be 6 stations installed. We are anticipating installation to begin before the end of October, however we are waiting on refund information from Boland. Linn-Mar Foundation grant request for \$2500 that Chad submitted for purchase of stations, we got email that it will be reviewed within the next couple of weeks. Fairfax Greenhouse will install the stations.

7. Meeting adjourned At: 7:09pm.

8. Upcoming Events:

NFL60 – 10/10, 5:30pm-6:30pm

Culvers Night – 10/24, 4:00-8:00pm

Trunk or Treat – 10/28, 4:30-6:00pm (set up starts at 3:30pm)

Linn Grove Movie Night – 11/3, 6:00pm doors open, LEGO Batman movie

**Don't forget to turn in Box Tops & Hy-Vee receipts!
Next PTO meeting is Tuesday, Nov 7th!**

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