



Meeting Minutes

Linn Grove PTO

Meeting Date & Time: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 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: 19

(Officers in attendance: Kara Larson, President; Kelly Ackley, Vice President; Angie Lawrence, Correspondence Secretary; Angela Lincoln, Recording Secretary; Sheri McCormick and Kelly Anderson, Co-Treasurers)

Minutes: Minutes from January 2017 meeting were accepted

1. Melissa Alexander, Linn Grove Librarian/Media Specialist

Mrs. Alexander shared the plan for the library update using vendor Storey Kenworthy (Westfield & Indian Creek used the same company), visual provided to give an idea of what it will look like when it's done. Phase 1: Computer Tables; we have the money from PTO to do these right away. Phase 2: Fun Seating; can start with some PTO money. Phase 3: Replace Wood Tables; these will be on wheels, different shapes. Books: Linn Grove currently has 23,718 copies available, which averages to 40 books/child. The general recommendation is 27 books/student. Reason for empty shelves is partly because they ordered shelves aggressively when Linn Grove was built so they had matching shelves. Linn Grove gets lots of books from doing Book Fairs. Other updates will be shared as available.

2. Building Update:

Bri Baranowski, School Facilitator:

- Conferences starting in three weeks. We are proud to have 95%+ parent attendance and thank you in advance for providing such great meals.
- Couple ways we support kids in non-academic settings: 1) PBIS – Lots of teacher training, re-teaching expectations, bus training. Office major referrals down significantly, minors down as well. Students having 3 or more office referrals = Nov-5, Dec-2, Jan-1. 2) Café Conversations – Friday mornings, optional for staff to attend, different socio/emotional situations and their strategies. May want to bring parents in on that. Examples of topics include trauma, visual supports, using social stories to teach kids, calm down sports. Typically this is on the first Friday of the month at 8am; however, looking at 2/24 this month.

3. Teacher's Requests:

There are no requests this month.



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4. Officers Report:

Presented by Sheri McCormick.

5. Current Business:

January Events Recap: Cuddle Up & Read did not have a big turnout. CR Ice Arena had lots of new skaters that never skated before, positive feedback on pricing, we'll do another event next year (priced not to make money). Super Skate was not as busy as before but lots of people there. High School Open House pictures were posted on PTO Facebook page, amazing facilities. Planet X was not intentionally scheduled at same time as Super Bowl; however, it was busy and the parking lot was packed. The food drive items were left there and need to be picked up and delivered to Marion Food Pantry.

Fitness Station Committee: First meeting is scheduled for 2/20. Talk to Kelly Anderson if you're interested in joining committee. They will be coming up with funding plan, one station is already paid for, and donations can be private as well as business. Donation forms are located in the school lobby, minimum \$100 donation.

Family Fun Night: Need to schedule another meeting. Flyers will go home this week.

Spring Conference Dinners: Becca will chair this, meals on 2/28 & 3/2.

Box Tops: 2,279 received in Dec/Jan. Mrs. Bruce's class won the contest and Kara Larson was requested to have rainbow hair. February is the Book Fair Contest. YTD = 13,800 (excludes 5K bonus).

Hy-Vee Receipts: Current total as of 2/3 is \$155,969.85, which is about \$86000 less than last year at this time. End of this year's program is March 31, 2017, and we'll need to have all receipts by April 5th.

6. New Business

District News: There are meetings with Quintin about every three months, Lunchtime Learning & Coffee Conversations. The State passed 1.1% supplemental aid. Quintin says it's less than half of what we need. He sees them giving flexibility with other funds possibly. He envisions in two years for teacher leadership to be hit as well, year three we need to start cutting programs (probably high school level like show choir). He thinks they'll give 2 or 3% after that, after all programs already cut. District PTO trip to DSM to voice opinions, will take as many people as possible, date TBD. Kara passed out enrollment numbers.

Bond Leadership Team (aka Facilities Committee): This team includes staff and parents, next meeting is March 8th. Can talk to Kara Larson about the restructuring plan, hoping to have someone come to our April/May PTO meeting to talk about it. Vote has been moved to September. Big question is what's the second plan if it doesn't pass and there is no plan, then it's critical. Mobile units will be at Indian Creek next year no matter what. These have no bathroom or running water. These have been at Wilkins and Novak. They are put out front where everyone can see them, and they are noisy too. The team will also tour historic buildings to give feedback on updates. New website has Q's News and Quintin will be addressing things on their. If problems with new website, you can email Matthew May and he'll fix problems.

LG Budget & Fundraising 2017-2018: We will have discussions during the next two months regarding changes for next year (e.g. One and Done). We have to vote on changes by May PTO meeting.



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5th Grade Send Off, Mr. Todd Walker: Camp Tanager, May 19th, \$600. Send off shirts – trying to figure out best price, goal \$6/shirt, Cotton Gallery is probably best option. Ice Cream treats are being donated by Culvers. Posters are being donated this year. Because shirts are used for Track & Field Day as well, recognized by schools, may need to change our budget ad litem next year to 5th Grade Activities.

Science Night 2/21 6:00-7:45pm: Put on by Mount Mercy. It's completely free. They provide pizza, water, 10 small STEM activities, 45-minute show. 48 slips have RSVP'd already. May need volunteers to help hand out pizza (6 adults).

7. Open Discussion

Anyone interested in PTO President board position please let Kara Larson know because she would love for someone to shadow her next year. Same for any other board positions.

8. Meeting Adjourned At: 7:37pm.

9. Upcoming Events

Chick-Fil-A Night – 2/9, 5:00pm-8:00pm

Coffee Conversation – 2/11, 8:30am @ Oak Ridge

Kindergarten Round-Up – 2/13, 6:30pm

Science Night – 2/21, 6:00pm-7:45pm

MANE Event 3/24, 6:00pm

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

Next PTO meeting is March 7th!

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