



# Meeting Minutes

## Linn Grove PTO

Meeting Date & Time: Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup> 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: 11

(Officers in attendance: Kara Larson, President; Angela Lincoln, Secretary; Sheri McCormick, Co-Treasurer)

Minutes: Minutes from December 2017 meeting were accepted

## 1. Building Update:

**Chad Buchholz, Principal:** Mr. Gatto, Mrs. Farber and Chad are on a Homework Committee, designed to evaluate homework across all seven elementary buildings. The committee will be presenting their findings to the Board soon, then will share more with this group in the next couple months. We are heavy into assessments this week and next week at Linn Grove. Ready fluency screening starts next Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>. Snow has fallen so recess is a breeze because kids are having a lot of fun (some have asked to double recess time). Tristan Evans is officially the facilitator for the building and has been getting to know kids and staff. Kara will invite him to our next meeting.

## 2. Current Business:

**PTO Events Recap - Holiday Kids Bazaar:** Feedback on the holiday bazaar is we can cut the last hour next year. Kara is considering giving Carmen a survey to send out to solicit more feedback. Sheri thought having it all in the gym was awesome. Carmen thinks we should not have an early set up on Friday next year, except for internal people. Lana suggested for next year maybe Aurora Coffee can come in with an espresso machine. Carmen would like vendors to come in and pay a vendor fee then be in charge of themselves. Next year would be like 10am-1pm, set up starting at 8:30am per Carmen and Kara. It was also noted at the event this year there was a vendor with items over \$10...Carmen said they came in the night before. This year we struggled getting volunteers/people to commit. We have wrapping paper and tape for next year, but we need bags. Carmen said just ask for bags next year. Kara suggested having kids decorate white lunch bags for the small stuff.

**LaCantina Day:** We received a check for \$150.

**Buffalo Wild Wings Day:** We received a check for \$37.05.



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**Write One for Linn Grove:** If anyone notices problems with online donation website, please send us a message! We are still waiting on the check from the foundation. We have had a few more donations come in and we now have a family donation \$30/month! We are accepting donations until April 15<sup>th</sup>!

**Fitness Stations:** The stations have been installed, the mulch is down! Kids are playing on them but they're not sure how to use them yet. Mr. Harms will be giving instruction on those in the spring. Mindy is still working on the plaques and mentioned adding the station name to the top of each plaque (no additional expense to do so). The plaques are going to cost \$200-\$300 more than quotes because the poles they attach to were not included in the quote. Mindy is considering using aluminum tubes instead, which are cheaper and can be cut at her work. We don't have enough money in the budget to cover all that. Kara says we'll figure something out.

**Family Fun Night:** Meeting scheduled for Tues, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 6-7:30pm. Kara will create a FB event. All are welcome, no obligation to volunteer for the event. Have asked for some donations and some donations are coming in.

**Aurora Coffee Addition:** Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6am-11am. Kara/Kelly are thinking of having a couple runs to the school, so let the staff know we'll bring around 7:30am and 10:00am then they would run and get it. This event is for everyone, we would just like to get the staff involved as well. Just mention Linn Grove and we'll get back 10% of purchases.

**Urban Pie Addition:** Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 4pm-Close. No flyer needed, we'll receive 15% of sales. We'll see how it goes with both these new places!

**Box Tops:** Presented by Kara Larson. Current contest is for the Book Fair, goes through February 15<sup>th</sup>. For every 5 non-expired box tops turned out, the student gets their name in a drawing for \$5 book fair certificate (one winner per classroom). Kara believes the teacher with the most turned in is going to get a \$25 book fair certificate as well.

**Hy-Vee Receipts:** Presented by Carmen Bell. We have received \$18,049.94 since our December meeting, for a total of \$135,779.27. This is down about \$2,000 from last year at this time.

### **3. New Business/Volunteer Requests:**

**Science Night Update:** No update right now. There is a meeting next Tuesday 1/16. At this time, we are not sure if we're having it. Budget is \$100. As far as we know, nothing has been scheduled.

**MANE Event:** Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6:00pm. This year's theme is Kentucky Derby. We will have a Linn Grove table, would like to have two! We invite everyone to go, it's a lot of fun. This year's food is a buffet-style and presentation starts at 8pm. When you register online you can require to sit with LG table.

**Staff Incentive Drawing:** Winner is Mrs. Brinks so Kara will let her know.



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**4. Teacher's Requests**

This fund was zero'd out at our meeting last month; however, Kara is holding onto a teacher request she got until we have money back in this fund.

**5. Officer's Report:**

Presented by Sheri McCormick.

**6. Open Discussion:**

While discussing our WOFLG fundraiser this year, we discussed other schools doing other fundraisers like Marcos Pizza. We are outside the Marcos delivery area but Wilkins did make over \$500 the first night and also had a second night. Maybe another pizza place in our delivery area would do it for us and maybe we could send volunteer delivery drivers. Kara can have Kelly Ackley call and see about Marcos. Carmen said check with Kum & Go.

Mindy asked if a family is supportive of something at a school, can a family donate to a specific budget item (because of the budget cuts)? Kara doesn't see any problem with it and mentioned she was going to talk about it at our next board meeting. Mindy said staff appreciation was cut so much. Kara said any money coming in after January can now be put back into the budget, that we have two things we'd like to fund first but then others can be funded.

**7. Meeting Adjourned At: 6:57pm.**

**8. Upcoming Events**

*Pancakes, Pie and Pajamas at Perkins – 1/11, 4pm-9pm, 25% back to LG  
\*Update: This has been rescheduled to Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup> 4pm-9pm\**

*LG Skate Night, Pajama Party @ Super Skate – 1/25, 6pm-8pm, \$6.50*

*Aurora Coffee/LG Fundraising Event – 2/2, 6am-11am, 10% back to LG*

*Coffee Conversation – 2/3, 8:30am-9:30am, Novak Elementary Media Center*

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

**Next PTO meeting is Tuesday, Feb 6<sup>th</sup>!**

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