

# **PETERSON PTA MINUTES**

**Thursday, September 13, 2018**

**Time: 9:30 am**

## **A. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME**

## **B. EXECUTIVE REPORTS**

### **Joann Frisby, President**

- Joann introduced the PTA board members: Joann Frisby (President), Sarah Siffer (VP), Julie Sassano (VP), Jessica Elliot (Treasurer), and Van Ruggeri (Secretary).
- Changes have been made to this year's PTA Membership. Members can participate in two new PTA MEMBERSHIP EXCLUSIVE EVENTS (PTA Welcome Night 9/20/18 and PTA Member Night 1/23/19). In addition to the exclusive events, members also receive early access to sign up for the WATCHDOGS program. The first PTA Member Exclusive Event is an ice cream social. It is an open house on 9/20/18 from 6-8:00 pm.
- Membership includes 70 Golden-Paw and 59 Purple-Paw members.
- The Peterson PTA is set up as a charitable organization through AmazonSmile. Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to the PTA. Please take advantage of this opportunity.

### **Allison Landstrom, Principal**

- Mrs. Landstrom discussed how to boost spirit day participation. Winners will be determined by percentage (primary vs. intermediate). The winning primary and intermediate classes will earn an extra recess. The highest participating grade will earn free choice seating during lunch. More information about purchasing Spirit Wear will be posted on Mrs. Landstrom's Sunday email.
- Mrs. Landstrom will present a survey to parents about what they would like to learn more about. For example: AimsWeb, Google,...etc. Be on the look out for the survey and indicate what days & times are best for parent participation.
- During arrival, parents may drop off children anywhere between the signs and can be up to 15 car lengths. This will speed up the process in the car line. During dismissal, students should listen carefully for their assigned number when being called.
- The district will paint a line to help ease traffic for arrival & dismissal.
- The principal has domain for ALL of the school property, but the domain ends at the city streets (i.e. Honey Locust). Parents are parking on Honey Locust, and although it is discouraged &

unsafe for drop-off and pick-up, the principal cannot enforce any rules.

- Parent suggested a “Dismissal App” which would apply to bus & car riders. The district has been looking into apps. Mrs. Landstrom will pass any information along to the district and would like Peterson to possibly pilot it in the near future.
- There are no updates regarding crosswalks, but Mrs. Landstrom will follow up. The completion date was supposed to occur before the first day of school.
- Two additional bike racks have been ordered.
- Parent inquired if bus route changes have been finalized. Advanced notice regarding changes in transportation is important to avoid any confusion. Mrs. Landstrom communicates with parents as soon as she receives word of any bus changes that would impact her students & families.
- Bingo is a school wide incentive program. When the board is complete, the students receive an award. All grade levels earned an extra 10 minutes of recess (tagged on to their regular recess) on 9/12/18. The next reward is having a DJ during recess.
- If you need to meet with your child’s teacher, you do not have to wait for parent-teacher conferences. Contact your teacher as needed.

### **Sarah Siffer, VP**

- The 2018-2019 fundraiser is The Orange Ruler Fun Run. The philosophy for Orange Ruler is “You Always Measure Up”. Several District 204 schools have had successful experiences with this company & event. More information to follow.
- Orange Ruler Kick Off Assembly, 10/30/18
- Online donations, window is 2 weeks, turn in date 11/13/18
- Orange Ruler Fun Run event, 11/15/18
- All personalized bricks arrived and were installed before the start of school. We sold 30 bricks and made \$1000 profit for the Peterson PTA. Look for more information about ordering additional bricks early in 2019 with a possible installation during spring.
- The Room Parent information meeting was on 9/7/18. We are still in need of some room parents, so if you are interested, contact Sarah. Room parents will not collect money for teacher gifts this year. Please continue to show teacher appreciation in other ways.
- Based on last year’s survey, room parents were utilized in a variety of ways, but it really depends on the teacher. Please reach out to the teachers and ask how room parents can provide assistance.

**Julie Sassano, VP**

- School Supply Kits ordered for the 2018-2019 school year yielded a \$2400 profit for Peterson. We will continue to use this company for the 2019-2020 school year.

**Jessica Elliot, Treasurer**

- Jessica could not attend today's meeting, but Joann presented the PTA budget.
- Parents reviewed the spreadsheet, and Joann asked for budget approval. Jen T. made a motion to approve the budget, and Kristina B. second the motion. Budget was approved.

**C. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Hospitality- Welcome Back Breakfast, Val & Amy**

- The Peterson staff will receive bagels and coffee from Panera, plus additional items that will be donated on 9/19/18. A SignUpGenius has been sent out. The link will also be posted on the Peterson Elementary FaceBook page.
- Some parents stated they did not receive an email regarding donations. Joann clarified that the PTA uses Membership ToolKit to generate our volunteer list. For those interested in getting more involved, please make adjustments to Membership ToolKit if you'd like to volunteer or donate items.

**Watchdogs, Leslie S.**

- All Instructional WATCHDOGS slots are full, however there are many lunch & recess slots available. We still need morning volunteers to greet the dads when they arrive for the day. This does not require much time. Please take this opportunity to volunteer through SignUpGenius.
- WATCHDOGS t-shirts have arrived. T-shirts will be delivered when checks have been received.

**PTA Welcome Night, Joann F.**

- The first PTA member exclusive night will be on 9/20/18 from 6:00-8:00 pm. Please come and get to know other members while enjoying an ice cream sundae bar. It is an open house, so feel free to come & go as you please. Look for a Google doc to RSVP to this event.

**Monster Mash Bash, Angela S. and Joann F.**

- This event is on Saturday, October 13 from 1:00-3:00. They are at the early stages of planning for this event and have new ideas. More information to follow and plenty of volunteer opportunities.

**After School Activities, Kathy E.**

- Chess Club began on 9/6/18 and Engineering For Kids began on 9/14/18. New fliers will be distributed for the next session.

**Spirit Wear, Emily B.**

- There were 230 orders. There is a hard deadline and orders will not be accepted after the given date. This will allow her to process the existing orders. The shop will reopen on 9/13/18 and will be open for two weeks. To place an order, go to Membership ToolKit. The first Spirit Day is 9/14/18.

**Dinner Nights, Aarti and Ekta**

- They will begin planning dinner nights for this school year.
- Mrs. Landstrom shared Mrs. Goc's fun idea of having the staff participate in McTeacher Night at McDonald's.

**Box Tops, Eileen N. and Kavita**

- The Box Tops containers are not currently in the classrooms, but will be soon. The children can begin bringing in the Box Tops. Competitions will be discussed.

**Recycling, Joann F.**

- Staples will provide the PTA a \$20 voucher for every 10 ink cartridges turned in each month, limit 10 per month.
- Peterson will no longer have a printed directory, therefore no committee head is needed. An online directory is available through Membership ToolKit. It is a free application.

**PDAC, Neha**

- All Peterson families are welcome & encouraged to attend.
- World Cafe, TBD
- Multicultural Night is on April 24, 2019.

**IPPC (Indian Prairie Parents' Council), Jen Tedrow**

- The IPPC is organized under the authority of the Illinois PTA for the purpose of conference, leadership training, and coordination of the efforts of the local PTA/PTSA units.
- It also helps guide the district Reflections program.
- There will be a district wide coat drive for the month of October. It is not limited to coats & jackets, but any winter gear such as hats, gloves, scarves, and boots. These items will help children in need who are currently living in District 204. In the past, this coat drive has been successful. Boxes will be located in the front foyer for donations.
- There are 5000 students in District 204 on “free and reduced lunch” and 167 homeless students.
- BMO Harris Bank helps District 204 recognize one volunteer a month. If the volunteer is chosen, \$1,000 will be donated to the school. More information can be found on the district website.
- A+ Award recognizes the positive impact of educators. More information can be found on the district website about nominations and the required essay. Miss Amanda Yee received this award for the 2017-2018 school year.

**Reflections Program, Joann F.**

- Joann attended the kick off meeting. We are in need of a committee chair. This is the 50th year the PTA has participated in this art program. Students can participate in dance choreography, film production, music composition, photography, drawings,...and much more.

**D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**E. NEW BUSINESS**

**F. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Chanda L. informed the PTA of another option for raising money for Peterson. Ask employers if there is a program about giving grants to schools for volunteer hours.

**G. ADJOURNMENT**

- Meeting adjourned at 10:09 am

