

**Perry Hill PTO**  
**October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023**

**Call to order/Introductions**

- Meeting is called to order at 6:32pm
- officers present: all officers present minus Kathy Dougald (VP), Principal Miner also present, no Dean of Students - Mr. Kochert
- attendance: 10 parents present as well as two staff, Mrs. Mitchell and Mrs. Aschleman

**Presidents Report:**

- Emily Coleman thanks everyone for their help with the Color Run! She calls the event a success and reports that for the first time we actually ran out of the powdered color and so there were no leftovers needing to be stored. This suggests that we use more than the recommended amount of color per participant, in total we will likely need to re-order a minimum of 400lbs.

**Treasures Report:**

- Taylor Frazier discusses the idea of using a platform called Cheddar Up and/or upgrading our PTO website to allow for payment collections to be made online using our page.
  - The Cheddar Up platform would allow PTO to collect payment online using our website without having to pay a subscription cost or processing fees - there are individually covered by the purchaser. The only potential cost would be if the event we are collecting for requires more than 5 purchase options per form. For example if the Carnival wishes to sell pre-paid food for attendees there can only be 5 choices for the purchaser to choose from (whole pizza, pizza by the slice, a la carte fruit, soda/water, chips) unless we want to pay the \$12 per month fee which would allow for more than five choices per form. This runs alongside the current webpage or "on the site" and does not change the address or other functions of the page.
  - With our current website we pay \$276 for the year to operate the domain, if we wish to increase that annual payment to \$324 then we can use what's called "Commerce Basic" which would allow for us to collect money online with no additional fees to us (aside from the overall increase in subscription cost) or the purchaser. It was unclear if there were other perks from this Commerce Basic site that would benefit the PTO directly.
  - After open discussion the consensus is to move ahead with the Cheddar Up platform and begin collecting Membership Dues as a trial. Also the Parents Night Out/Movie Night can be a beta run for this application as well. Cheddar Up allows reports to be pulled which can assist PTO in collecting data on users/purchasers for future contact and other purposes.

**Committee Reports:**

- Cougar Fun Night : Emily Coleman ↔ Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> from 5:30p-7:30p @ the roller dome, will be \$3 to rent skates or bring your own
- Parent's Night Out/Movie Night : Taylor Frazier ↔ January 19<sup>th</sup> 2024
- Winter Wonderland : Sarah Roberts Hoos (Ashlee Burns no present) ↔ Natalie's Elf Shelf, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023
  - Will encourage people to vote for our school online in NES decoration contest to potentially win kickbacks but will not request increase to decoration budget.
  - Been in touch with Natalie, after reviewing the small amount of inventory sent back after last years sale and also the amount of product sold and revenue made, convinced Natalie to send additional 15% of product for this years sale. Also due to signing up early and securing date, we

were given chance to select 2 bonuses which we chose as: \$75 Amazon gift card and also Elf Bucks (financial assistance for those kids unable to afford to shop - amount uncertain at this time). The question is raised by Emily C how the elf bucks might be disguised so as to not appear unique or to draw attention, and SRH confirms that they bucks are coded for entry at checkout so "making our own Perry Hill version" wouldn't work. Additionally we can likely determine the incoming value of those elf bucks and then give them to Ali Pannabecker to place in the NES supplied envelopes which would make checkout discreet. SRH and Ashlee to investigate actual amount of Elf Bucks to be awarded and pass along to Ali ASAP.

- Carnival : Sarah Roberts Hoos <> March 22<sup>nd</sup> Backup date of April 12<sup>th</sup>
  - First meeting tonight following the PTO meeting: will discuss theme for this year and review roster as well as open committee positions, possibly discuss any budget adjustments depending on timing.
- LaBraid : Emily Coleman <> fliers and order forms have started going home, pick up date November 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Membership : Emily Coleman & Taylor Frazier <> so far approximately 60 members have paid and turned in slips, of course as was determined by vote in the years past all staff are also considered members of the PTO, collection is ongoing throughout the year and with the help of Cheddar Up it may be possible soon for people to send in their dues online as well!
- Communications : Taylor Frazier <>
  - Deadlines for content submission if wanting something to be added in to the PTO monthly newsletter or mid-month newsletter are: MONTHLY - 25<sup>th</sup> of previous month, MIDMONTH - 15<sup>th</sup> of current month \*this will ensure your content goes out in the newsletter in a timely fashion\*
  - Sarah Roberts Hoos reminds those present that Taylor sent a content request email earlier this week, so if that's something anyone at the meeting should have received but didn't, please see Taylor and SRH to update your contact info.
- Sponsor Your Child : Taylor Frazier <> fliers are ready!
- Box Tops/Business Rewards/Amazon Smiles : Allyson Fortman <> Allyson volunteers in meeting to lead this committee, Emily C requests that Allyson stay at the end of the meeting to discuss specifics.
- Restaurant Night : Emily Kestner <> Culvers Nov 14<sup>th</sup> AND Panda Express Dec 12<sup>th</sup>
  - Emily inquires about the needed people for serving at the Culvers night and Mr. Miner informs her that traditionally there end up being more people than needed but that's a better problem to have than not enough people being on hand. He reports that the evening is typically busiest from 5-7pm and then slows down quite a bit during the 7-9pm window. Mr. Miner commits to sending out the staff volunteer email and recruiting people for the event.
  - Emily reports that she has also been in contact with the Donut Experiment and they are happy to collaborate with us, though Emily states we need to "pick a Saturday maybe in January or February after all those New Years Resolutions" to nail down the date, she also anticipates that it might be helpful to create an informative flier about how to order to better prepare people for what to expect at the event and keep things moving rather than overwhelm the space and workers - this is an excellent idea. Emily has also been in contact with Salsa Grille and Icing for Isaac who are willing to work with us as well. Emily requests that if anyone else has any suggestions to please reach out to her.
- School Supply kits : Emily Coleman <> \$768, next year they will also have tickets for sale
- Staff Appreciation : (Emilee McBride and Ashlee Burns not present) <> October 20<sup>th</sup>, Pizza and Salad during Parent Teacher Conferences, Emily C states that she will confirm with Ashlee and Emilee M that there will be a gluten free option for those with particular dietary needs.

- Enrichment : Michelle Palmer <> reports that she was surprised to see that signups were a bit down in terms of numbers but that may have been some of the offerings, specifically no one signed up for the creative writing class and also the sandwich class had to be cancelled as well. Michelle raises a question regarding prices and inquires as to whether or not PTO thinks the costs might have been too high? Consensus is that the prices were appropriately set. Overall there are 119 kids signed up.
- Spring Reading : Laci Schleb <> reports that PTO received its first communication with the TinCaps for the program and so hopefully this means we will have the option to pick a better date than what we had last year which might improve participation and attendance. Also Laci is confident that she can maintain contact with local providers for prizes as that was an improvement last year she intends to repeat.
- Legacy Book Club : Michelle Palmer <> nothing to report today.
- Color Run : Emily C <> 350 registered, 327 participated (see today's President's report for additional update).

#### **Principal's Report:**

- Mr. Miner states he was excited to see all the participation at the color run and that it was fun to hear the kids all talking about it come Monday as well. It's been "a joy" to witness their enthusiasm as they partake in the school's events and he looks forward to what more there is coming up.
  - With parent teacher conferences approaching Mr. Miner is hopeful that the students and staff will navigate any identified hurdles together with the assistance of families.
  - Looking to the future Mr. Miner discusses the administration's decision to extend Fall Break next year, the pros and cons, and the impact on year long learning and calendar.

#### **New Business:**

- World Teacher's Day : Thursday Oct 5<sup>th</sup> - Emily C discusses how her family along with the families of Sarah Roberts Hoos and Michelle Palmer are collectively making a donation of an apple nacho bar, coffee etc. restock, and paper product restock as a thanks to all teachers in the building and invites any other interested families who wish to donate as well to join the cause and let Sarah Roberts Hoos know prior to Thursday at 9am.
- New Fundraiser ideas : Sarah Roberts Hoos introduces a team rivalry competition between Purdue University and Indiana University that would be school wide and classroom independent. The original concept is discussed amongst those present at the meeting and it's decided that to make the idea simplified for teachers and students that it should ultimately be: one week long (Nov 13 - 17, winners announced Nov 20, prizes delivered Nov 21) and consist of a monetary fundraising element as well as a school spirit element. Classes will have the opportunity each day to collect \$\$ in designated team vessels (these will be collected each afternoon by Emily C and Michelle Palmer) as well as the chance to "stuff the jar" with pom poms (one per spirit displaying student) for their team of choice as well. Emily C and Michelle will tally each room's monetary contribution (total \$\$ raised) and spirit contribution (% of class that participated) for the OVERALL head to head classroom competition. Emily C and Michelle will also keep a daily tally for each class of Purdue University vs Indiana University \$\$ collected and spirit students which they will document on a slip that will be returned in the collection vessels for the next days contributions. This allows PTO to monitor which class will WIN a pizza party for most overall money raised, and which class will WIN end of the day treats based on highest percentage participation in spirit display. The inner-class PU vs IU rivalry can be discussed by teachers each new collection day as a motivator to represent the university of choice and perhaps inspire more giving and more participating. So long as a student demonstrates university spirit in one of the following ways each day they will be allowed to stuff the jar with a pom pom:

wearing predominant school colors, wearing the school logo/mascot/design, sharing an interesting fact about a famous university alumnus, sharing a historical fact about the university, showing a picture of themselves at a university function (must be evident in picture which school)!

- **Perry Costume :** Sarah Roberts Hoos presents a comparison page of three different mascot costumes based on extensive research regarding the replacement of the current Perry costume. The comparison shows three images depicting the look of the costume, the cost for each, it's features as well as possible accessories or additives, and the contact information for each manufacturer. The three possibilities were chosen based upon customer reviews, "age appropriateness" of mascot appearance, expense regarding proposed budget, and communication had with vendors/manufacturers. After open discussion the PTO agrees to seek further feedback from other members and table this decision until next meeting. Sarah Roberts Hoos encourages any others who may wish to offer suggestions to conduct their own independent research as well.
- **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Ideas :** Emily presents the idea of a "birthday/anniversary" cake made to be served in commemoration,

**Old Business:** Winter Wonderland Décor Budget - no request by Sarah Roberts Hoos (also proxy Ashlee Burns) to increase budget, will instead make best use of available funds and encourage voters to support school in online contest for NES kickbacks.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 7:50pm