

Meeting Minutes Timber Trail PTO January 23, 2023 – TTE Library

Introduction – Lindsey welcomes everyone and an ice breaker is done. The February PTO meeting will be cancelled because it is in two weeks. We will have our next meeting March 6th.

Principal Update – Michele wished the group a Happy New Year and thanked everyone for the red envelopes. A status update is given on Tracee, our librarian, and it is shared that she is done with her IV chemo. She has been released from the hospital and is doing well, but must stay at home in isolation and we don't know if she will return this year. Kathy Patterson will fill in and train the teachers to check out books. We also have 3 permanent volunteers to help shelve the books.

Square One is starting up in the spring with Dr. Draper. More information to come.

The Spelling Bee occurred a couple of weeks ago. Charlotte Hart was the winner and will represent TTE at the district spelling bee on Saturday, February 4th. Claire Keesey was the runner-up.

Our enrollment is up. The school received 4 new students before break. 12 started on January 10th with four more scheduled to start over the next few weeks. We do not receive funding for any new students starting because the true up count is in October. We have had lots of kindie enrollments for next year, more than we have ever had at this time of year. Please remind your neighbors because the sooner they are enrolled the better prepared the school can be. The budget will be issued at the end of January. We are projecting 370 students for next year.. Anything after October we don't get funding for.

Webmaster Update – Leah had no updates.

Treasurer Update – Desiree passed out the budget and it has been updated for cutting the check for the Timberwolf Trot funding TTE technology needs. She shares that she has established a partnership with American Furniture Warehouse. Anyone shopping there can mention the school and we get a percentage back. AFW will retro-actively donate for purchases made a few months earlier so please check back if you recently made a purchase there. Posters will be put up in school and we will post on social media to get the word out. Additionally, the check has been received for The Board Local, but has not been posted to the budget yet.

An attendee asks if important PTO information can go higher in Kelly's weekly email blast. It is stated by the PTO board that the email has a lot of information and we encourage families to read all of it. If there is important PTO specific information, an additional direct message will go out to families.

Volunteer Update – Thank you to everyone that participated in counting money for the red envelopes. It was a huge success. Dawn and Desiree delivered the envelopes to the staff. The staff was very thankful.

For volunteer updates, Dawn will be sending out info about lunch bunch, it will be on a Wednesday, this will be set up with Kelly. Dawn will shut down the library volunteers sign up since the 3 permanent volunteers have been selected.

Room Parents – The first grade 100th day party is the January 31. The communications have already been sent out to the first grade parents.

For the Spring Fling baskets, because many classes collected low fund amounts, we have opted to reduce the basket values to \$50. There will be a sign up for the baskets later in March.

Community Events – We have connections at the Backpack Society that serves Douglas County and we will be partnering with them for community outreach. They serve a huge need combatting hunger in our county. Some background statistics are that they sponsor 35 school pantries, distribute 180 food bags, and 50 family food boxes per week. We are participating in the Knock Down Food Challenge the week of Feb 6th which will be a food drive. Cereal, crackers, mac n cheese, etc. will be collected. This event is a contest between schools and there is a “domino” component to symbolize knocking down hunger. A flyer will be sent home in next week’s Thursday folders and a reminder will be sent out in the blast.

Dining Out Update – Amy gives an update. We dined out at Costa Vita last week and made \$140. Next up currently is a play opportunity at CandeeLand, which is a new indoor play place, on Arapahoe. The owner reached out to the PTO we will hold a school event there on Friday, March 31st. They don’t charge parents, are giving back 30%, and the event will be 4-9 pm. Their location is suitable for children that are 1-12.

It is asked if we ever do a partnership with Peak for their Parent’s Night Out events. Lindsey said she will reach out. We have Main Event scheduled for April 20. It’s a Thursday before a Friday off school. More restaurant nights to come- they are fun and save people from cooking. The Spring Fling team will also be reaching out to the restaurants in Castle Pines so people can go to dinner before and have an additional give back to TTE.

Spring Fling Update – Victoria informed that the volunteer group has started meeting. The theme is Sparkle and Shine. It will be Saturday April 29th at 6:00 pm. Tickets will be available thru Myschoolbucks. There will be baskets for raffle and an opportunity to sponsor books for the library sine 400+ are missing. Décor and volunteer roles have been planned, as well as fun details like a photo booth, and craft. There will also be a new partnership with Lindsey Marrone’s floral company, Bliss Bouquet Bar, to make corsages and flower arrangements easy to order. Lindsey has also graciously offered to do a give back to school!

An attendee asked if a survey that was requested at the last meeting has been prepared. It is discussed that because the last meeting fell right before the holiday break, that a draft of the survey has been created and will go out between this meeting and the next. The attendee asked that the survey be unbiased and general and was assured this would be the case. He stated that the dance is special to him and was assured that the dance will continue to be special.

Secretary – Meeting minutes went out for December. The notes were seconded and will be available on the website.

Misc. Items

Battle of the Books – The battles started on January 24th. They go on for 4 weeks.

Year Books – Cassandra and Paige will take over for next year. They are being trained now.

Spirit Rock – This will go to the PTO to run.

Questions/Comments

-What is the update on Field Trips? Michele shared that the district's policy continues to be the same as it was at the beginning of the year. Due to a severe driver shortage, the district is not providing buses for field trips except for 5th grade Outdoor Education. This driver shortage is even impacting day to day transportation with bus routes being canceled several times a week. We are contracting with a company for 5th grade Young Ameritowne next week, because this is their last year at TTE. Teachers are holding internal field trips and are doing a great job setting those up. Examples are shared that kindergarten has Butterfly Pavilion coming and that 4th grade had Colorado History Museum. Teachers will communicate internal field trip information directly with families.

Tonight is the Rock Canyon High School incoming Jags meeting at 5:30 pm. It is an open house. Information can be found on the Rocky Heights webpage.

Should we post more on our Facebook page? Is anyone viewing this page? The board stated that the amount of information that goes on the page is appropriate. The RHMS page is brought up and it is shared that if page managers would like to post more, they absolutely can.

Closing – The meeting is wrapped up and Lindsey thanked everyone for coming.

Attendees:

Dawn Medina (Volunteer Coordinator)
Jenny Randell
Aimee Valuck
Craig Putnam
Paige Sanford

Jana Krell (Secretary)
Jill Alexander
Amy Griffin
Kimberly McCarthy
Jenna Wilson

Stephanie Clay
Taryn Bagroski
Michelle Higgins
Jessie Kenny (Co-President)
Lindsey Gertz (Co-President)
Michele Radke (Principal)

Cristina Hulley (Room Parent Coordinator)
Desiree Gentile (Treasurer)
Erin Ellis
Michael Woolridge
Claire Bryant