



**TOWNE MEADOW ELEMENTARY
PTO GENERAL BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
Thursday, September 20th, 2018**



Members Present

Nikki Raasch – Principal

PTO Executive Board:

Tishia Smith – President

Shaune Shelby - Vice President

Kim Berebitsky - Treasurer

Cybil Cottrell - Assistant Treasurer

Lauren Edmundson – Corresponding Secretary

Sharon Menachemi – Recording Secretary

Other Attendees:

Jill Hammer, Suzi Willetts, LaTonya Adesunloye , Becky Obermeier, Vidhaya Srinivasan, Jamie Corydon,
Sabine Schaffer

Call to order and welcome to everyone

Approval of Minutes from Prior Meeting

* Motion to approve minutes from last general board meeting on May 15th, 2018

* All in favor; none opposed

* Motion Approved

Treasurer Report – Kim Berebitsky

- Kim and Cybil introduce themselves
- Our PTO funds support so many school events – back to school social, teacher appreciation week, field day, the 5th grade musical, hospitality & staff lunches just to name a few
- Last year we spent \$16,000 on Recess & Refresh and another \$7000 will be spent this year
- The fall fundraiser has done well and raised 90% of our goal
- We hope to see more activity with Kroger community rewards
- Spirit wear is doing great
- Each teacher receives a \$200 per classroom budget and there is a \$200 per teacher per grade budget that is spent collectively. Each class receives a subscription.

TME PTO Treasurer's Notes

PTO General Meeting

September 20, 2018

%YTD Income 32.56%

%YTD Expense 43.58%

Treasurer Notes / Income Highlights:

1. Fall Fundraiser: \$24,000 goal after expenses. So far, we have raised **\$21,853.19** (91.05% of goal). We have exceeded goal when including the PayK12.
2. Community Rewards: **\$161.64** (8.08% of \$2000.00 goal) with Kroger, Box top, and Amazon Smile.
3. Spirit wear: Income: **\$1956.00**; Expense: **\$1963.00**

Treasurer Notes / Expense Highlights:

1. Teacher Allocations, Enrichment & Extracurricular

- a. Teachers have spent **\$2230.42** (21.97%) of their classroom allocation money and **\$1,152** (7.18%) of enrichment money
 - b. Each teacher including Speech Therapy, Life Skills and Special ED gets \$200 per classroom, with specials (art, music, PE, media,) getting different amounts. Principal and Assistant Principal discretionary funds.
 - c. Each grade gets enrichment money – Money used collectively by teachers in grade level - \$200 x (# of teachers in grade level)
2. Classroom Subscriptions: **\$665.00** (15.13%) spent to date. Each class gets a magazine subscription.
 3. PTO funds also pay for: Back to school social, field trips, SAC, Free & Reduced Lunch snack fund, Fall party, Valentine's Day party, Convocation speaker, Online Directory, Math Bowl, Spell Bowl, Teacher and staff appreciation, Field Day, Orff, Choir, 5th Grade Graduation, 5th Grade play, Frames for Art Display, Hospitality (Bus Driver appreciation, staff lunches and meeting snacks), teacher grants and other larger ticket items such as Recess and Refresh.

Major PTO Purchase in 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 School Year:

1. Recess and Refresh- **\$16,371.50** (2017)
2. Recess and Refresh- **\$6,710.50** (2018)

Vice President Report – Shaune Shelby

- Friends of Coyotes
 - The group was created to get dads into the building to participate and support initiatives
 - 65 dads attended Donuts for Dads in the spring
 - The first daddy/daughter dance was hugely successful
 - Upcoming events include lunch with dads and Kickin' it with Dads
 - Dads who want to help will need a background check
- Recess & Refresh
 - The PTO decided to invest money into this campaign. Parents can see exactly how their money is being spent
 - We replaced wood tables with fiber, put up shade structures and the biggest component is the fitness equipment for ages 2-12
 - We recently had a big kickoff with a ribbon cutting and there will be an article in the current.
- Carmel Education Foundation Ghosts & Goblins Run
 - We want to support The Carmel Education Foundation. Among the things they do is give grants to teachers and support high school scholarships.
 - The run is a fun morning and all of the schools participate
 - Our goal is to have 100 participants so that we can get 10% of the registration money back for our school
 - Our school theme is "Be Kind" so we will ask participants to wear black & yellow like bees
- Question from Suzi – How do dads sign up for Friends of Coyotes and are there events on the weekends?
Response from Shaune: Most events are during the week but he is working on some other ideas, including an adults only social. Shaune is open to adjusting the day and times of events to accommodate all dads.

Corresponding Secretary Report –Lauren Edmundson

- Gift cards were purchased for custodial and staff appreciation week
- Lauren explains her role and that she will cover all student and staff appreciation gifts

President Report – Tishia Smith

- Your PTO spends time organizing events and chairing committees. The PTO is parent run and right now we have 20+ committees. Currently all of the committee chairs are filled which is great. The silent auction committee is already starting to plan for the carnival.
 - Kim says we have a new position to run Dine to Donate if anyone is interested. LaTonya asks what it is. Tishia explains we need someone to set a date, communicate with the restaurant manager and be the central contact. TME gets anywhere from 10-20% of the proceeds.
- The math club is looking for volunteers. Tishia turns it over to LaTonya.
 - LaTonya's family just transferred to TME. Her son was in chess club at his former school so she decided to start a club here. She is willing to be the parent volunteer.
 - Their former chess club teacher from Park Tudor would be willing to come to TME Mondays after school for an hour. He runs tournaments and is very involved.
 - If he can get 11 Kids to sign up, the cost would be \$10 per session.
 - The club will be open to all ages but the students will be divided based on their chess experience
- Fall fundraiser
 - T-shirts are in and should come home soon. Each grade shirt is color coordinated with their pod
 - She's working with Nikki on a date to take a school photo
 - 75-80% of families have joined the campaign
 - Tishia explains to new families that the fall fundraiser includes the t-shirt and the kids wear them several times throughout the year.
- Coordinating Council meeting
 - Once a month Shaune and Tishia attend a district level meeting with the other Carmel schools PTO presidents and VP's. They have an opportunity to voice what is going on and speak on behalf of TME.
 - Dr. Beresford is the new superintendent and he is ready to take the district to the next level. Shaune says he is championing all the issues parents are bringing and is very responsive
 - Tishia welcomes thoughts from other parents. She is representing TME and let her know if there is anything you'd like her to talk about at the council meeting
- Family fun night & parties
 - Mark your calendars for the family fun night tailgate tomorrow from 5:30-8:00. We are still looking for volunteers. Jill asks if there is a contingency plan for rain? Nikki says we'll bring it inside.
 - Oct. 10th is the fall parties. Tishia says we are hoping to update the party bins in the near future

Principal – Nikki Rasch

- Thank you on behalf of the entire staff for the parental support. We've had a great and busy start to our school year
- Mrs. Leckrone is our new Assistant Principal and she has stepped in seamlessly. We're excited to have her
- As a building we have implemented conscious discipline. We're studying the book and how we help our kiddos grow and become intrinsically motivated. We're no longer doing rewards such as green paws. Parents have asked how to continue it at home so we're working as an SEL committee to set up a parent meeting. The SRO would talk about school safety and Mrs. Stock would talk about what she does with the kids throughout the year. We're still working on the date but excited to roll it out.
- Please check out the Friday flyer. Mrs. Prince puts a lot of work into it and we prefer not to send home a lot of paper. Most answers to questions are in the Friday flyer.
- When we make decisions and do things as a school, the one thing that drives us is what's best for the kids, even if it's not always the best for parents or teachers and pushes us out of our comfort zone.
- Tishia opens the floor to questions
 - Jamie asks if the PTO is responsible for the bulletin board because she's seen Tishia working on it. She wants to volunteer to help.

Next general meeting is Feb. 19th, 2019 at 7:00 pm

Meeting adjourned