

**Hill-Roberts Elementary School  
PTO Minutes  
Tuesday, January 14, 2020**

**Location:** Hill-Roberts, School Library

**Attendance:** Jen DiPietro, Beth Dimond, Amy Young, Carrie Montgomery, Cathy Giannetti, Katie Scott, Andrea Phillips, Lynn DellaGrotta, Christine Taylor, Evan Chelman, Suzanne Brough, Caitie Medeiros

**MINUTES**

1. Meeting called to order at 6:30pm. Pledge of allegiance.
2. **Portrait of a Graduate presentation**  
Denise Levesque, teacher at Hyman-Fine, and member of the council, asked for feedback on what kind of learning we'd like to see in schools. This is part of a Portrait of a Graduate program, which is "a collective vision that articulates the community's aspirations for all students". See [portraitofagraduate.org](http://portraitofagraduate.org) for more details. This is a move towards collaboration and project based learning.
3. **Principal's Report by Mr. Chelman**
  - a. Assessments and access testing is happening this month. Tutoring will start soon.
  - b. The Audubon Society and NE Aquarium are working with Grade 4 this month. There have been two visits as part of a grant-funded program. Both places will leave materials that can be re-used.
  - c. The Give a Hoot about your Bus Route program is going well. Reminder that, for each of the school buses, if the driver gives a thumbs up in the morning about students' bus behavior then on the Give a Hoot board that bus number moves forward. After 20 positive rides, there is a reward. Two buses are about to win a reward and students will have the opportunity to play kickball with Mr. Rich and Mr. Chelman.
  - d. Quarter 3 starts January 27<sup>th</sup>, day 90 of school. The Specials schedule will shift. The one students have twice a week now will change.
4. **Approval of November Meeting Minutes**  
Motion to approve November meeting minutes. Motion approved.
5. **President's Report**
  - a. NE Generals fundraiser night brought in 50% of ticket sales for a total of \$505! We are still awaiting the total for 15% of food sales. The fourth grade performance was excellent.
  - b. We're in need of more PTO board members. Motion to approve Andrea Phillips as Volunteer Coordinator. Motion approved. Open positions: Corresponding Secretary and Fundraising Coordinator.

- c. Race for Education: Need planning committee for 2020. Looking for volunteers to be in place by May for next year's events: Race for Education, Fall festival, Meet Your Teacher event, etc. Please contact the PTO if you are interested.
- d. Upcoming events:
  - i. Possible family night (Bingo?) Lots of bingo supplies in the PTO closet.
    - 1. Do we need a special custodian? Custodian costs \$34.55 per hour at a minimum of 4 hours (\$138.20) for an event.
    - 2. Complete a building use form and send it to Mr. Rich.
    - 3. ABACUS is open until 6pm – can't use the cafeteria until after 6pm.
    - 4. Bingo night to be Friday 2/28 from 6:30-7:30 to coincide with the Book Fair. Suzanne and Carrie to co-coordinate.
    - 5. Motion to approve \$100 for bingo night expenses. Motion approved.
  - ii. Kindergarten Info Night – March 5<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-7:30. Should the PTO have a table? Yes! Volunteers needed. Share PTO info, fb, remind, events, boxtops.
  - iii. There's a Providence Bruins night coming up. \$15 per ticket.
  - iv. Someone Special dance is scheduled for Saturday May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Looking for a committee.
  - v. Field Days K and G1-4. Ms. Andrade likely to coordinate again. Last year was very successful. Volunteers needed.

## **5. Treasurer's Report**

- a. Currently \$13,312.74 in funds plus \$505. Minus expenditures like first grade fieldtrip, 4<sup>th</sup> grade fieldtrip, t-shirts, have about \$10,000 left. Goal is to leave \$5,000 for start of next year events.
- b. The outdoor classroom planning continues. A parent volunteered to do plant care. Still looking at seating options and storage for supplies.
- c. Boxtops funds will go towards specials teacher requests that will benefit all kids in the school. Music, art, gym, etc.

## **6. Committee Reports**

### **a. Scholastic book fair**

- i. Next book fair is Feb 27 through March 6. (no school 3/3)
- ii. Disbursement of book fair profit. Must be decided before the fair.
  - 1. Sales goal for Feb/March is \$5,400. If take cash option, it is 25% of sales, \$1,350. If we take the scholastic dollars option, as we have in the past, it is 55% of sales, \$2,970, or the total can be split. For example, \$1,000 in cash and \$700 scholastic dollars. Regardless of what's chosen, the PTO still gets 15% multi-book fair bonus of \$810 scholastic dollars.
- iii. Of note, next year we can no longer use scholastic dollars to order Scholastic News for classrooms.
- iv. Current bank of scholastic dollars is \$8,000.

- v. Motion to take the cash option for the Feb/March book fair. Motion approved.

**b. Yearbook update**

- i. In need of photos. Keep sending them in as events happen. Spirit day pictures welcome.

**7. New Business**

4th grade chorus shirts. Mrs. Giannetti, music teacher, brought up the city-wide 4<sup>th</sup> grade concert on Feb 11th. Normally she loans t-shirts to the class for this concert. Each school wears their school shirt. Mrs. G doesn't have enough shirts anymore and this year's 4<sup>th</sup> grade is a large class. Is there time to order shirts?

- a. Motion to approve \$500 (earned from the NE Generals fundraiser) to pay for Hill-Roberts t-shirts for all fourth graders. Motion approved.
- b. Students will keep the t-shirts and wear them not only for 4<sup>th</sup> grade chorus, but also for field day, and the end-of-year tradition of signing each other's shirts on step-up day.
- c. Caitie to look into ordering, prices, and coordinate with teachers to select sizes. There isn't time to send requests home for sizes.

**8. Announcements**

- a. STEAM night at AHS: March 10<sup>th</sup> (raindate 3/12)
- b. 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Chorus performance at AHS: February 11<sup>th</sup>
- c. Next PTO Meeting Date: February 25th at 6:30pm in the library.
- d. NO MARCH MEETING
- e. 2020 meeting dates: April 14<sup>th</sup>, May 12<sup>th</sup>, & June 9<sup>th</sup>.

**9. Motion to adjourn at 8:30pm.**

**Helpful links**

Website: [www.hillrobertspto.wixsite.com/hre-pt](http://www.hillrobertspto.wixsite.com/hre-pt)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/hillrobertspto](https://www.facebook.com/groups/hillrobertspto)

**REMIND** Download the app to your phone, or text @hrepto1718 to #81010 for updates and reminders for spirit days, reading minutes, events, etc

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