

December 2021 Meeting Minutes



Date: December 14th 2021 7:00PM

Attendance:

Juliana Kuszewski, Darci Andrade, Brianne Miers, Kristen Sabelis, Wendy Muchi, Deanna Elston, Mark Cignarella, Kathy Pelley, Jenifer Ohanesian, Kristen Smith, Michele Phillips, Sheila Hibbard, Melissa David, Jacki Chechile

Minutes:

- Last month's minutes were sent via email.
- *Motion made to approve last meetings minutes. Seconded. All in favor and approved.*

Principals Update

- Thank you to Lisa Meunier, Tara Furey, Lydia Lucas, the Tri-Community Church Collaboration, and community members for helping to provide sixty-one Burgess families with Thanksgiving dinners. The health office is currently coordinating the efforts of various local organizations as well as Burgess staff members and community members on providing holiday meals and gifts for forty-two families.
- Congratulations to retirees:
 - o Michelle Foulis on her retirement effective November 29th after nearly sixteen years of service as a Burgess paraprofessional.
 - o Bryan Mero on his retirement effective December 31st after more than twenty years of service as a Burgess custodian.
 - o Dr. Nosek on her retirement effective December 31st after thirty years in education, her last twelve here at Tantasqua/Union 61.
- Kathy spoke on risk and threat assessments, that they are mindful of recent events.
- After school tutoring is underway
- Basketball underway, open to Sturbridge based groups
- A few unfulfilled positions, particular need for substitutes
- Audit is coming up with focus on Civil Rights, Special Education, and English Language Learners

- Holiday virtual concert recording started today. Email link will be sent out for youtube link

Treasurer Report:

- Juliana Kuszewski gave treasurer report
- Account balance is around \$48,000
- Have only received 12 teacher reimbursement requests so far, please encourage teachers to submit if they have those
- Paid scholastic book fair invoice, profit of \$2,000 and 2,000 scholastic dollars

Jog a Thon & Fundraising Goals:

- School is asking for 108 Chromebooks with licenses and carts at a cost of \$33,000
- This is not a normal expense for PTO to take on, but we have available funds and feel that Jog A Thon is more successful with a specific fundraising goal
- Darci spoke with teachers throughout the school. Kindergarten team said additional devices would be beneficial for their learning
- Open for discussion- no questions or comments from members.
- Our Jog-A-Thon goal will be \$60,000 to account for above request and our operating expenses for next year
- *Call for Vote-Should the PTO give money towards the above Tech request? - All in attendance cast votes in chat. All were in favor.*
- We will be coming up with ideas of what else to fundraise for if we exceed our goal.
 - o Some ideas playground, fields, school signage, ideas to uplift and appreciate staff
 - o Kristen is hoping to have business sponsors around town help with fun incentives/perks
 - o If members have ideas on incentives, please email Wendy or Kristen
 - Some ideas mentioned- spirit week, sponser a class or teacher, food truck

Parent Teacher Helpers

- Christina LaFortune sent out an email to a handful of people who expressed interested in helping. Wendy will forward the request to all PTO members

- Christina will act as the coordinator when school needs volunteers.
- All volunteers must fill out forms- CORI (valid 3 years), Civil Rights Training

Scholastic Book Fair Wrap Up

- Michele Phillips gave update on book fair
- Book fair was extremely successful \$2,000 profit +2,000 scholastic bucks
- Planning is going on for spring fair

Square 1 Art

- \$9,130 in sales

Burgess Wear

- Supply chain issues, there are some people waiting for items
- Email Wendy what items are missing, and she will follow up with contact

Next Meeting: January 11, 2021