

Jefferson Elementary School PTA
October 21, 2020 Meeting Minutes

* NOTE – this meeting was held virtually via Zoom

Attendees:

Jenny Elder, President

Katie Jones, 1st Vice President

Brett Bielewicz, 2nd Vice President & School Principal

Amanda Rost, Treasurer

Anne Clarke, Recording Secretary

Nicole Lust, Corresponding Secretary

Jill Kushnir, Historian

Sarah Olbrich

Megan Zadecky

Alia Scherr

Alexander Konitsky

Lynn Ersquine

Sarah Olbrich

Dawn Keezer

Elizabeth Smith

I. Call to Order

President Jenny Elder called the meeting to order at 7:01pm and welcomed all members in attendance.

II. Executive Committee Reports

A. President's report – Jenny Elder

Mrs. Elder began by offering her thanks to the following individuals:

- Val Baer for planting the flower pots in front of school;

- Kristin Archbold and Melissa Maher for the work they have been doing on the read-a-thon;

- Katie Jones for the work she has been doing to set up various PTA fundraisers; and

- Elizabeth Smith for the work she has been doing with regard to the PTA membership drive.

B. 1st Vice President's report – Katie Jones

Mrs. Jones submitted the following report:

She has been trying to set up various fundraisers. She has established a Chipotle fundraiser which will occur next Wednesday, October 28th. Information regarding the Chipotle fundraiser is listed on the PTA website and a reminder will also be sent out through the PTA toolkit and on Facebook. Mrs. Jones further reported that she has also been trying to get hold of Café IO with the aim of having a Saturday lunch fundraiser sometime in November or December.

She informed us that she had participated in the most recent PTA Council meeting where she learned that school lunches will be free for all students for the remainder of the year. She also noted that on their website they have a good collection of helpful covid information.

C. 2nd Vice President's report – Brett Bielewicz

Mr. Bielewicz reported that it was great to see the children back in school again. He stated that the students had done a great job following the new procedures that had been put in place when the school went to the hybrid mode; that the children had been doing well with wearing masks and that he and the teachers could not be happier with the rollout so far. He went on to report that it is his intention to be as transparent as possible with regard to any cases of COVID and the need for any of the children to quarantine. For Halloween, he came to learn that the middle school was allowing their students to come in costume on Friday October 30th so he has revised his earlier decision and will now allow the elementary students to also dress in costume on that date.

D. Treasurer's report – Amanda Rost

Mrs. Rost reported the following:

- Taxes for 2019 have been filed. All of the forms reflecting this have been submitted to the state PTA so we are in good standing.*
- Mrs. Rost presented the September 2020 PTA finance report. [Click here for a copy of the report.](#) (Nicole, I have Amanda's report but don't know how to attach*

E. Recording Secretary's report – Anne Clarke

Mrs. Clarke submitted the following report:

Mrs. Clarke noted that the minutes from the September 2020 PTA meeting have been distributed to all via the PTA's email of October 21, 2020. She asked for a motion to approve those minutes. Mrs. Katie Jones motioned to approve the minutes and Mrs. Elizabeth Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed.

F. Corresponding Secretary's report – Nicole Lust

Mrs. Lust submitted the following report:

Mrs. Lust reported that the newsletter went out on October 19th.

G. Historian's report – Jill Kushnir

Mrs. Kushnir stated that she had nothing to report to submit at this time.

III. Standing Committee Reports

A. Membership – Elizabeth Smith

Mrs. Smith reported the following:

As of today, she is still working to increase the number of people who have joined the PTA.

Currently, the membership is:

75 memberships overall. Of that number, there were 63 families and 12 faculty memberships.

Mrs. Smith also thanked Mrs. Lust for her help in providing all of the information for the memberships.

B. Homeroom Parent Coordinators – Marisa Hupe

Mrs. Hupe texted into the meeting. She reported the following as read by Mrs. Elder:

She has been able to secure a coordinator for each homeroom. At this time, she has asked the coordinators to reach out to the teachers to introduce themselves. She also asked all coordinators to draft a letter that the homeroom teacher can email to all of the parents in their class asking the parents to forward the coordinator their contact information.

C. Read-a-thon – Kristin Archbold and Melissa Maher

Mrs. Elder read the report generated by Mrs. Maher & Archbold. Mrs. Maher reported the following: The read-a-thon will take place this year from November 13 through 20. The theme is a time machine – reading

can take you anywhere. She will work with the class teachers and the librarian to provide the 2nd bundle of library books to each of the students. She is looking into the possibility of having a “zoom” type of live read alouds and that instead of minute tickets, all minutes will be submitted online. She is hopeful that the school / teachers will be able to hold live online assembly to announce the winners.

D. Fifth Grade Farewell – Marisa Hupe

Mrs. Hupe texted into the meeting. She reported the following as read by Mrs. Elder: So far the donations to the fifth grade farewell total \$470. She is waiting to get all of the remaining fifth grade orders before placing the order for the T-shirts. She is still hopeful to have various fifth grade events in the spring but will keep all posted.

E. Reflections – Megan Zadecky

Mrs. Zadecky reported the following:

She received 2 entries for the reflections contest. Both were photograph - one submitted by a 1st grader and another submitted by a 5th grader. Each was accompanied by a little paragraph. She will move both entries onto the district level judging.

F. Gardening Club – Valerie Baer

Ms. Baer had nothing to report tonight.

G. Square 1 Art Fundraiser – Katie Jones

Mrs. Sweitzer coordinated with Mr. Bielewicz to make this event/ fundraiser happen. It will be done virtually. The children will do their projects during their art special. She will send out an email with the information regarding how to submit the project to the Square 1 website. Deadline will be next Friday (October 30, 2020). Parents can still upload their children’s projects after that date. Mr. Bielewicz will mention this fundraiser in this week’s newsletter.

H. Shopper Rewards – Jenny Elder

Mrs. Elder reported the following:

Loss of Giant eagle programs: This program is no longer being offered.
Amazon smile: There are currently 13 people signed up on the PTA amazon smile account. She would like the number to be 75-80 people. She encouraged everyone to encourage friends and others around us to sign up for this program to benefit the PTA.

I. Yearbook - Amanda Rost

Mrs. Rost reported the following:

We are currently at 1/3 of our goal for yearbook sales. Usually we sell 250 yearbooks. We are at high 80's at this time.

She will start mediafire folders for the teachers to post pictures from the students in the classroom – even with masks on. She will also have folders for cyber students.

Mr. Bielewicz reported that middle school is having school photos taken this year. Wayne's World will also be taking elementary school pictures. His intention is to make the photos happen sooner rather than later. Parents will also have the opportunity to purchase the yearbook at the same time as when they purchase their child's school photos. He believes that we will not be able to do a class picture due to social distancing. They are thinking to maybe have grade level pages. He believes that Wayne's World should be able to take all of the photos over a two day span, which would include hybrid and cyber children. He further stated that only 30 students from Jefferson Elementary School opted into the cyber academy.

V. **Other Business**

Veterans day

A template will be sent home for the children to fill out and send back into school to be posted on the bulletin boards so that they can celebrate the special veteran in their lives. Also Mrs. Gummo is having the children record themselves singing patriotic songs which she will compile into a video.

VI. **Adjournment**

Mrs. Elder offered a final word of thanks to everyone in attendance and adjourned the meeting at 8:00 pm.

***The next PTA meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on Wednesday
November 18, 2020 via Zoom.***