

Minutes for PTO Meeting
Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Attendees: 12

Faculty: 2

PTO Board Members: 4

7:01 PM **Welcome** - Co-Presidents Ankita Achra and Daniela Santana

7:02 PM **Pledge of Allegiance**

7:02 PM **Faculty Liaisons**

Mrs. Erin Ferrara – GBMS

- 1/11 – picture retakes will take place
- MAP Testing will take place on Wednesday and Thursday of this week
- 1/16 – there is no school
- 1/24 – 8th grade curriculum night will take place at WHRHS at 7:00 PM
 - This event is for parents only
- 1/25 – winter concert will take place
 - Select band, orchestra, and chorus groups will perform
- 1/26 – 2nd marking period ends
- On Friday the ski club will take a trip to Shawnee
 - Mr. Mojta, Mr. Weeks, and Mr. Esposito are chaperoning the trip
- Mrs. Subervi provided GBMS shirts to all staff
- Rehearsals for the spring musical “Matilda” are ongoing
 - Matilda will be held on 3/30 and 3/31 at GBMS
- Peer Leaders Update
 - Sai Bhavsar and Ashley Ciasulli are attending tonight’s meeting
 - Spirit Week was held at GBMS in December
 - \$400 was raised from the selling of candy grams and was donated to the Green Brook Fire Department
 - A scavenger hunt was held
 - Each grade watched a holiday film
 - Each student’s movie ticket was a colored picture which was then provided to Colors of Smile
 - Colors of Smile provides the pictures to seniors, troops, and anyone who just needs a smile
 - 7th and 8th grades watched “The Grinch”
 - 5th and 6th grades watched “Christmas Chronicles”
 - A gingerbread house contest was held
 - Mystery teachers sang holiday carols
 - Peer leaders will be teaching a lesson to the IEF 1st graders
 - On 2/24, the peer leaders will help at the Harlem Wizards game

- Another spirit week will be held in the spring

Mrs. Debbie Rizzoli - IEF

- Thank you PTO for hosting Whoville
- From the 4th grade classrooms:
 - 4th graders are participating in a Duck Donuts donut creation contest
 - 1 winner will be named in each class
 - Each winner will have their donut featured at the Green Brook Duck Donuts
- From the kindergarten classrooms:
 - Kindergarteners have learned all of their ABCs
 - They will hold a A-Z Fashion Show on Friday with the 4th graders as their audience
 - Each student was assigned a letter
 - The runway will be the 4th grade hallway
- Mrs. Baffige is asking everyone to participate in her spin on a New Year's resolution
 - Come up with a word or phrase that describes your yearly intention
 - Place the word or phrase on a post-it and place on the bulletin board outside of her class (Room 114)
- From the 3rd grade classrooms:
 - 3rd graders visited the Native American exhibit at the Morris Museum
 - They also participated in Sparks Lab which has different experiments
- 4th grade peer leaders provided refreshments to the IEF teachers last Friday
- It's honesty month at IEF
 - 4th grade students will be featured on the announcements sharing their experiences with honesty
- MAP testing will take place on Monday and Tuesday of this week
- 1/11 – picture retakes will take place
- Peer Leaders Update
 - Nick DaGraca, Avianna Ferlito, Siyana Achra, and Izabella Santana are attending tonight's meeting
 - Peer leaders delivered snacks to the teachers via a snack cart
 - The theme was New Year's "pop" snacks
 - Leaders rotated to deliver the snacks to the classrooms
 - The cart was held to show the teachers appreciation
 - Peer leaders made signs for the Holiday Express (Whoville) that explained the event
 - 4th grade peer leaders will shadow 8th grade peer leaders as they visit the 1st grade classes

7:19 PM

Board of Education Report –Mr. Andrew Zimmer

- The last Board of Ed meeting was held on 1/4 at GBMS
 - It was the annual reorganization meeting
- Zhi Chen, Michelle Cruz, and Janine Potter were re-elected to the Board of Ed in November
 - They were sworn in at the meeting

- Jean-Louis Kong was elected President of the Board of Ed
- Janine Potter was elected Vice President of the Board of Ed
- A rug was donated to an IEF classroom via Donors Choose
- The next Board of Ed meeting will be held on 1/18 at 7:00 PM at GBMS

7:21 PM **Q&A for Administrators and Liaisons**

- No questions were asked

7:21 PM **Upcoming Events/Activities**

JANUARY

- Teacher Luncheon
 - PTO will be providing lunch to the teachers at IEF and GBMS on 1/16
 - Volunteers are needed for GBMS
 - 10:00-10:30 AM – food pick-up will begin
 - 11:00 AM-12:00 PM – lunch will be served
- 4th Grade Committee Fundraiser
 - Will be held on Friday, 1/13 at Chuck E. Cheese in Bridgewater from 3:00-9:00 PM
 - Up to 20% of the sales will be provided to the 4th grade class for their year-end activities
 - The Chuck E. Cheese mascot will be at IEF at dismissal time on Friday to greet the kids
 - 6/9 – 4th grade class trip to Branchburg Sports Complex
 - 6/13 – 4th grade Moving Over Ceremony will be held at Arthur Lewis Park
 - Rain date is 6/14
 - Selected theme is “At the Movies”
- WizFit Challenge
 - 1/20 – kickoff with the Harlem Wizards will be held at IEF during 8th period
 - 1 big assembly will be held this year with all students in attendance
 - WizFit is a program where the kids participate in activities through the Harlem Wizards
 - Pre-registration message will be sent soon that explains the challenge and donation process
 - Students registered by 1/20 will receive a light-up bracelet
 - Once signed up, messages will be sent from the Wizards
 - 2/3 – finale celebration will be held at IEF
 - There will be 2 groups/times
 - The Wizards will perform the WizFit shuffle with the students
 - An account will be set-up for GBMS parents to donate
- Food Fundraiser
 - Stay tuned for details

FEBRUARY

- WizFit Finale Celebration
 - Will be held at IEF on 2/3
- Valentine's Homeroom Parties
 - Will take place the week of 2/13
 - Homeroom parents should contact their homeroom teacher to confirm the date and time of their party
 - A maximum of 2-3 parents can attend the party
 - Confirm with your teacher if food can be served
 - **REMINDER - NO CANDY IS ALLOWED DURING THE PARTY OR TO TAKE HOME**
- Harlem Wizards Game
 - Will be held on 2/24 at GBMS at 7:00 PM
 - Ticket prices have been finalized and will be the same as last year
 - A communication will be sent this week via Parent Square with further details of the game and ticket pricing
 - Volunteers are needed (minimum of 10-12 people are needed) to assist with items such as decorations, tickets, food truck, etc.
 - Meet & Greet with Wizards players will take place in the GBMS auditorium from 6:00-7:00 PM for those that purchase courtside tickets
 - Green Brook team is starting to form
 - 8th grade peer leaders will help at the game
- Food Fundraiser / Parents Night Out
 - Stay tuned for further information
 - PTO is hoping to pair up a food fundraising night with a parents night out
- Book Fair
 - Will take place at IEF 2/28-3/2
 - Set-up will be on 2/27
 - Parent shop night will be held

7:50 PM

Old Business

- Holiday Boutique
 - \$1,803.50 was raised
 - This is approximately \$500 more than last year's event
- Whoville / Donation Drives
 - Great job to the Family Fun Committee on holding a wonderful event
 - The turnout was incredible
 - The Mitten Tree was a success
 - Items were donated to the North Plainfield Food Pantry
- Gingerbread Contest
 - There were 9 participants
 - Pizza Brothers and Hionis Farms donated the prizes
- Related Arts Holiday Gifts
 - More than \$3,000 in donations was received

7:55 PM

Chairs Still Needed

- Teacher Appreciation Week
 - To be held on 5/1-5/5 at GBMS and IEF
 - Chairs are needed for each school
 - Planning needs to begin soon
 - May survey the staff asking what they would like that week
- Parent Fun Night
 - If no chair volunteers soon, this event won't take place
- Middle School Night Out

7:59 PM

New Business

- PTO Bright Minds Programs
 - These would be enrichment programs at IEF and GBMS
 - The program was introduced at faculty meetings at both schools in November
 - Programs would be held after school
 - PTO contacted teachers to see who would be interested in hold a program
 - Teachers were asked to complete a survey with their interest and what program they'd like to offer
 - Programs would start in the spring
 - 8 teachers are interested
 - 6 at IEF and 2 at GBMS
 - Those that are interested were asked to provide a proposal of their idea by 1/13
 - The proposal would include grades to offer the program, price, number of sessions, etc.
 - 10% of the program fees would go to the PTO
- Parent Workshop
 - Lisa Ferreira contacted the PTO for a parent workshop that would concentrate on GBMS parents and kids
 - The workshop would be in conjunction with a clinician at Rutgers concentrating on mental health wellness
 - It was suggested to have the clinician speak at a PTO meeting but the PTO exec board is suggesting the clinician pairs up with the PTO to hold a workshop
 - Topic ideas are transition from 4th to 5th grade and stress/anxiety
 - It was proposed to send a survey to parents asking what topics they would like to hear about at a workshop
- 8th Grade Dance Committee
 - Next meeting will be held on 1/11 via Zoom at 7:00 PM
- 4th Grade Moving Over Committee
 - Updates were provided during the 4th grade committee fundraiser

8:19 PM

Reminders

- Spirit Wear
 - Sale will be held 1/16-1/29

- Orders of \$75 or more receive free shipping

8:20 PM

Treasurer's Report – Andy Chen / Miranda Konz

- Andy reviewed the Statement of Assets, Revenues & Expenses for the fiscal period ending YTD December 2022
 - Total Assets: \$60,277.51
 - Total Revenue: \$10,341.58
 - Total Expenses: \$ 1,731.98
 - Total Profit: \$ 8,609.60
- Harlem Wizards game deposit has been paid
- Family Fun Night received a \$200 donation
- Deposit was paid for 4th grade end of year activities
- \$1,000 donation was received by Green Brook Chevy for Teacher Appreciation
- A motion to accept the reading of the financials was made. The motion was 2nd. All were in favor.

8:22 PM

Secretary's Report – Tammi Wiley

- A motion to waive the reading of the minutes from the November 15, 2022, PTO Meeting was made. The motion was 2nd. All were in favor.

8:29 PM

Q&A Session

- PTO Stamp Card
 - Collect stamps for participation in PTO activities
 - Raffle is held for participants
 - New card is coming
 - Alyssa won a Capital Craft gift card

8:26 PM

Adjournment

- Natalia was the winner of the raffle prize
 - She won a gift card for Capital Craft
- A motion to adjourn the meeting was made. The motion was 2nd. All were in favor.

The next PTO Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at 7:00 PM in the IEF Media Center.

Thank you for supporting the Green Brook School District!