

Minutes for PTO Meeting
Thursday, February 16, 2023

Attendees: 10
Faculty: 0
PTO Board Members: 6

7:00 PM **Welcome** - Co-Presidents Ankita Achra and Daniela Santana

7:01 PM **Pledge of Allegiance**

7:01 PM **Faculty Liaisons & Peer Leaders**

Mrs. Erin Ferrara – GBMS

- Mrs. Ferrara was unable to attend, so her report was presented by Ankita Achra
- 5th grade had a field trip to the planetarium at RVCC
- 2/14 – students found messages on their lockers and received a raffle ticket for a chance to win a prize
- 3/16 – assembly with Jared Campbell
- 3/20-3/24 – Spirit Week will be held
- 2/20 – no school
- Peer Leaders Update
 - Olivia Videla and Grace Schroeder are attending tonight’s meeting
 - Valentine’s Day
 - All students had Valentine’s on their lockers along with a lollipop and raffle ticket
 - It was an effort to be sure everyone receive a Valentine
 - There was a group trivia game
 - There is a Black History Month display in GBMS
 - A March Madness Spirit Week will be held

Mrs. Debbie Rizzoli - IEF

- Mrs. Rizzoli was unable to attend, so her report was presented by Ankita Achra
- From the 3rd grade classrooms:
 - Students designed Black History Month posters
 - Students designed homes using STEM materials to see if they could withstand environmental events
- From the kindergarten classrooms:
 - Students celebrated the 100th Day of School with centers run by parents
- From Mrs. Panico:
 - March is Youth Art Month
 - IEF will have art prompts set-up around the school to inspire students
 - Weekly activities will be offered for students during their free time
 - Email Mrs. Panico for information
- From the 2nd grade classrooms:

- Students wrote letters to the patients at the Abington senior living center in Green Brook
 - 107 letters were written
- Peer Leaders Update
 - Izabella, Arjun, and Gianna are attending tonight's meeting
 - Positivity Tuesday will be held on the 1st Tuesday of each month at IEF
 - 4th grade peer leaders designed a t-shirt for the PTO that contains positive messages
 - Izabella and Danica will be playing in the Harlem Wizards game
 - Read Across America Week is coming
 - There will be a Spirit Week in conjunction with Read Across America
 - March Madness book reading will take place
 - There will be a school vote for the favorite book
 - Peer leaders will be visiting grades K-3 classes to read for Read Across America

7:14 PM **Board of Education Report –Mr. Andrew Zimmer**

- Mr. Zimmer was not able to attend

7:14 PM **Q&A for Administrators and Liaisons**

- No questions were asked

7:15 PM **Upcoming Events/Activities**

FEBRUARY

- Wiz Fit Challenge
 - Achievements earned
 - Spirit day of mismatch and crazy hair for reaching 50% registration
 - Choice of movie or game day within each homeroom for reaching the 50% dollar goal
 - Visit from Jenkinson's Aquarium for reaching the 100% goal mark
 - This event will be held later this year
 - Mrs. Larsen's class finished in 1st place
 - They have earned an additional party sponsored by the PTO
 - Their homeroom parents will be contacted to see if they would like to be involved
 - Mrs. Larsen will earn Scholastic Dollars from the PTO to use in her classroom
 - 3rd place individual winner is Chase Fortunka (Ms. Ciccarella's class)
 - His reward is reading the morning announcements and leading the school in a dance party later that day
 - 2nd place individual winner is Lucca Gamboa (Ms. Whalen's class)
 - His reward is to be a teacher for a period and 2 general admission tickets to the Harlem Wizards game

- 1st place individual winner is Gia Yanuzelli (Ms. Stetz and Marchese's class)
 - Her reward is to be a teacher for the day and 2 VIP tickets to the Harlem Wizards game
- All 3 of these winners will be recognized at the Harlem Wizards game
- Duck Donuts Fundraiser
 - 9 boxes sold
 - PTO earned \$45
- Valentine's Homeroom Parties
 - Food served at the parties should be healthy options
 - Sugar can't be the first ingredient listed
 - Fruit and pretzels are suggestions
 - Keep food allergies in mind
 - Ingredient lists are needed for food that will be served
- Family Fun Night
 - 2/17 at 7:00 PM at IEF
 - Simon the Magician will perform
- Harlem Wizards Game
 - 2/24 at GBMS
 - Doors open at 6:00 PM and game begins at 7:00 PM
 - Courtside ticket holders should arrive at 6:00 PM
 - Outback Steakhouse will be serving food from 5:00-7:30 PM
 - 10% of proceeds will go to the PTO
 - Volunteers will receive a \$15 food voucher and t-shirt
 - Green Brook Mayor will be in attendance
 - There are 33 players for the Green Brook team
 - Teachers have been getting to know each other on a personal level during the experience
 - 4 sponsors of the game
 - Title Sponsor – Green Brook Chevy
 - They will have 2 players in the game
 - Code Ninjas
 - Scalzo Maintenance
 - Capital Craft
 - They will distribute gift cards and sponsor trick shot
 - Green Brook players will be announced next week
- Book Fair
 - 2/28, 3/1, 3/2 at IEF
 - Parent Square message will be sent next week with general details
 - Volunteers are needed
 - Class schedules are TBD
 - 3/2 – parent shop night from 6:00-7:30 PM
 - Mrs. Fenton will read to the kids
- Parent Workshop
 - 2/28 at 7:00 PM in the GBMS Media Center

- Topic is Navigating the Transition to Middle School
- The workshop will discuss support for the worries and stress of the transition to middle school
- Workshop will be run by Rutgers UVHC

MARCH

- PTO Bright Minds Program Launch
 - Mid-March launch
 - Thank you to those parents who completed the survey with their interests
 - teachers have submitted their proposals with the program costs
 - flyers and registration details to come
 - IEF programs – cheerleading, STEAM storybook read aloud. Lego
 - GBMS program - gardening
- PTO Expo
 - 3/7 in Ediosn
 - Held yearly by PTO today (free to attend)
 - PTO board members meet vendors
 - Ankita, Daniela, Miranda, and Michael will be attending
- PTO Officers Transition
 - We are planning ahead for officer elections which will be held in the spring
 - The following positions are up for re-election:
 - Co-President (Ankita's position)
 - Co-Treasurer (Miranda's position)
 - Recording Secretary (Tammi's position)
 - If you're interested in running for a position, come see us
- Fundraisers for Easter & St. Patrick's Day
 - Details TBD
 - Outback food night to be held in March
 - Chipotle food night to be held on 4/18

7:38 PM

Old Business

- Teacher Luncheon
 - Was held in January
 - Outback Steakhouse and Café Nune provided the food
- 4th Grade Committee
 - Held a fundraiser with Chuck E. Cheese in January
 - \$327.09 was raised and will be put towards the 4th grade year-end activities
 - Chuck E. Cheese mascot greeted the kids at dismissal on the day of the event
- Wiz Fit
 - Kickoff and finale events were held

7:41 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 ASAP
 - Volunteers are also needed for the committee
 - May survey the staff asking what they would like that week
- Parent Fun Night
 - Ideas and chairs are needed
 - If no chair volunteers soon, this event won't take place
- Middle School Night Out
 - If no chair volunteers soon, this event won't take place

7:46 PM

New Business/Updates

- 8th Grade Dance Committee
 - 6/7 at the Bridgewater Manor from 5:30-9:30 PM
 - Theme has been voted on by the students but not revealed yet
 - DJ and 360 photo booth are booked
 - The committee is working on donations, invitations, and decorations
- 4th Grade Moving Over Committee
 - 6/9 – 4th grade trip to Branchburg Sports Complex
 - 6/13 – Moving Over Ceremony at Arthur Lewis Park
 - Raindate: 6/14
 - Theme: Movie / Hollywood
 - Committee has asked parents to send 1-2 pictures of their child at a younger age and 1 current picture
 - Crafty volunteers are needed
 - May hold a design a t-shirt contest

7:53 PM

Reminders

- PTO Stamp Card
 - Volunteer at events and be entered into a raffle
- PTO Website
 - Updates coming that will include recognition

7:55 PM

Treasurer's Report – Andy Chen / Miranda Konz

- Andy and Miranda reviewed the Statement of Assets, Revenues & Expenses for the fiscal period ending YTD January 2023
 - Total Assets: \$51,956.20
 - Total Revenue: \$ 0.02
 - Total Expenses: \$ 8,321.33
 - Total Profit: \$ (8,321.31)
- Expenses were processed for Holiday Boutique, Whoville, and teacher luncheon
- A toaster oven was purchased for the teachers lounge from the IEF savings account
- A motion to accept the reading of the financials was made. The motion was 2nd. All were in favor.

- 7:58 PM **Secretary's Report** – Tammi Wiley
- A motion to waive the reading of the minutes from the January 10, 2023, PTO Meeting was made. The motion was 2nd. All were in favor.
- 8:59 PM **Q&A Session**
- Will admins come to the PTO meetings again?
 - If there are urgent issues, they will come
 - Is there an approved food list for class parties?
 - TBD
 - A letter and certificate are being distributed to those businesses that support the PTO
- 8:16 PM **Adjournment**
- Jacqueline was the winner of the raffle prize
 - She won a gift card for Just Subs
 - 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, March 14, 2023, at 7:00 PM in the IEF Media Center.

Thank you for supporting the Green Brook School District!