

Minutes for PTO Meeting Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Attendees: 28

Faculty: 2

PTO Board Members: 5

7:02 PM **Welcome** - Co-Presidents Ankita Achra and Daniela Santana

7:03 PM **Pledge of Allegiance**

7:04 PM **Faculty Liaisons**

Mrs. Ferrera – GBMS

- Conferences have taken place
 - Thank you parents for your participation
- 11/15 – report cards will be available on Genesis
- Please encourage your children to visit the lost and found for their lost items
- If students will be leaving early for the Thanksgiving break, please advise the office
- Wellness Day will be held on Wednesday, 11/22
 - Students will visit stations throughout the day which include nutrition, phys ed, meditation, yoga, and Family Feud game
- 11/22 – single session day
- Frozen Jr. will be performed on 12/14 & 12/15
- New enrichment classes started today
- GBEAF will be hosting a trip to Shawnee
 - Open to grades 6-8
 - Grades 7-8 – skiing and snowboarding
 - Grades 6-8 – snow tubing
- Ethics Bowl practice will begin soon
- Miss Kessler coordinated and ran Kindness Week
- LLCDC class visited Colonial Gardens
 - The students releases a travel bug that they will be able to track
- Peer Leaders Update
 - Jolie Williams and Kim Velasquez-Calles are attending tonight's meeting
 - Peer Leaders are making future plans via a map
 - A food drive for Thanksgiving is being held through Friday
 - Donut party will be held for the winning PGC
 - Spirit Week was held the week of Halloween
 - Events included a costume contest, pep rally, and staff vs. students soccer game
 - Spirit Week will be held the week of 12/18

Mr. Billman - IEF

- Thank you PTO for helping to coordinate the Zombie Run and thank you to those who supported the Run

- School wide morning meeting is held once per month and was held this past Monday
- Responsive classroom SEL was held
- Bucket Fill Challenge assembly was held
 - The challenge will take place through 11/18
 - Acts of kindness are rewarded
- 4th grade - created stickers for World Kindness Day which were given out at Dunkin' and Starbuck's
- Pre-K – working on their tree unit, letters, and numbers
- Kindergarten – Ms. Baffige's class sang "You're A Grand Old Flag"
- Spirit Days will be held on 11/17, 12/1, and 12/5
- 1st marking period has ended and report cards are coming
- 11/22 – single session day
- 11/23 & 11/24 – no school
- Peer Leaders Update
 - Melody, Varun, and Myles are attending tonight's meeting
 - Students wore pink in October
 - Spirit Day was held on Halloween
 - Peer leaders conducted a class party activity survey
 - Peer leaders decorated the school for Halloween
 - Peer leaders helped at the Bucket Fill assembly
 - Green Brook Spirit Day will be held every other Friday
 - Positivity Tuesday will be held on the 1st Tuesday of each month

7:21 PM

Board of Education Report – Dr. Beth Stanton

- At the last Board of Ed Meeting, Dr. Bigsby presented the annual state testing report
 - Dips occur in 5th and 6th grade, but this is common across the state
- MAP testing data is used at multiple points throughout the year
- Budget process for next year has begun
 - The Board is looking at possibly including transportation for Pre-K
 - The Board is looking to study the usage of the late bus at Watchung Hills for the cost effectiveness
 - The high school send/receive contract negotiations will be starting
- QSAC process has begun
 - State examines district information, policies, and procedures
 - School site visit will be in January

7:29 PM

Guest Speaker – Dr. Devin Boothe and Annie from Carbon Health

- Carbon Health is located on 22 East in Green Brook
- Urgent Care center that sees walk-ins and accepts appointments
- They also conduct drug screenings for new jobs and sports physicals
- Hours are 9:00 AM-7:00 PM 7 days per week
 - Closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Days
- They see patients 6 months of age and up
- A lab is on-site

7:36 PM **Q&A for Administrators and Liaisons**

- No questions were asked

7:36 PM **Upcoming Events/Activities**

NOVEMBER

- **Zombie Fun Run**
 - Was held on 11/4
 - Thank you Green Brook Baseball Club for your partnership
 - This was a community event with local vendors and sponsors
 - We're hoping to hold another Fun Run in the future
- **Bucket Fill Challenge**
 - Assembly was held on 11/13 which was World Kindness Day
 - PTO provided the buckets and prizes
 - The challenge will run through 11/17
- **Food Fundraising**
 - 11/9 – Duck Donuts
 - 11/16 - Outback
 - Parent Square with reminder will be sent tomorrow
 - Take out or dine-in
- **Principal Recognition Month**
 - Took place in October
 - PTO partnered with the art teachers at each school to create an art piece for each principal
 - IEF created a canvas with a tree and the students thumb prints are the leaves
 - GBMS created 3D flower art canvas and 3D bouquet of flowers
- **GBMS Wellness Day**
 - Will be held on 11/22
- **Bright Minds – Code Ninjas**
 - 2 sessions remain
 - Last session will be held on 11/27
- **Sunshine Committee**
 - Thanksgiving gift cards have been purchased

DECEMBER

- **Holiday Boutique**
 - Will be held 12/5 – 12/7 at IEF
 - Announcement will be sent tomorrow asking for volunteers
- **Holiday Lights Contest**
 - More information to come
- **Winter Party**
 - Will be held by the Family Fun Committee on 12/8
 - More details to come
- **Winter Homeroom Parties**
 - To be held 12/18 through 12/21
 - No party can be held on 12/22 since this is a single session day
 - Parties need to be inclusive
 - Should be a winter theme (no Christmas theme)

- No candy allowed
- Holiday gift letter to be sent this week to the homeroom parents
 - Optional to participate
 - Specialty teachers are included

7:53 PM

Committees

- Several chairs are still needed
 - Teacher Appreciation Week Chairs are needed

7:53 PM

Treasurer's Report – Miranda Konz & Bethany Dziedzic

- Bethany reviewed the Statement of Assets, Revenues & Expenses for the fiscal period ending YTD September 2023
 - Total Assets: \$51,808.46
 - Total Revenue: \$ 1,177.64
 - Total Expenses: \$ 579.67
 - Total Profit: \$ 597.97
- Book Fair profit is \$2,398
- Fun Run profit is \$520
- Harlem Wizards Game deposit was made
- A motion to accept the reading of the financials was made. The motion was 2nd. All were in favor.

7:59 PM

Reminders

- Spirit Waer is available year round
- Buddy Program
 - If interested, please let us know
- PTO volunteer protocols
 - Volunteer lanyard should be picked up in the office upon arrival and must be worn while in the school
 - No outside children are allowed while volunteering

8:01 PM

Secretary's Report – Tammi Wiley

- A motion to waive the reading of the minutes from the October 10, 2023, PTO Meeting was made. The motion was 2nd. All were in favor.

8:03 PM

Q&A Session

- No questions were asked

8:04 PM

Adjournment

- Rashida is our raffle prize winner
- A motion to adjourn the meeting was made. The motion was 2nd. All were in favor.

Next PTO Meeting:

Tuesday, January 9, 2024

7:00 PM in the IEF Media Center

Thank you for supporting the Green Brook School District!