

## East Troy Elementary PTO Meeting Minutes - October 18, 2023

Call to order at 6:04 PM by Dani Foster

Approved minutes from September meeting: 1st by Mark Weerts & 2nd by Kate Verlee

### **Principal Corner:**

Mark Weerts: Thank you to the PTO for all of the help with the upcoming October events! Teacher in-services are next week. Teachers spend this time looking at each individual student and their personalized needs (from math and reading standpoints and designing instruction going forward). SLO will be focused on reading and fluency this year with a math focus also at Prairie View. Mark and Lindsey went to a principal conference last week and learned a lot about teacher shortages and the need to support the quality staff that we have. Many students have a lot of needs at the younger elementary level and that is true statewide, not just in East Troy.

### **Event Look Back:**

*Next Level Fundraiser:* \$33,000 was raised at our Next Level fundraiser. Part of these earnings will go towards paying the expenses of the event (DJ, inflatables on the Day of Awesomeness, prizes). The next round of prizes will be coming within the next few weeks. Teachers gave feedback that a more intimate approach to sharing the fundraising video was actually better and equally exciting versus the assembly. We recognize that some students may feel left out in not earning the Golden Ticket prizes and are looking for ways to possibly mitigate this next year. Perhaps teachers can send out an extra communication explaining the process as well.

*Dine Out Day:* Princess Cafe 10/25 and one in the works from Gus's Drive In; will advertise via social media and send out an e-mail to parents via Skyward

#### *Fall Teacher Conference Meals:*

- Little Prairie 10/19 & 10/24
- Prairie View 11/2 & 11/7

Toothpicks will cater the meals (pasta primavera; potato soup and sandwiches)

#### *Fall Literati Book Fairs:*

- Little Prairie 10/19 & 10/24
- Prairie View 11/2 & 11/7

Gift certificate process for teachers, students' digital wallets and book fair set up is much easier versus Scholastic. We will have the students choose their PTO sponsored book first and process those before allowing students to spend personal money. Prairie View will be receiving both the PTO sponsored book and the book sponsored by a community member at the fall book fair (LP will receive their community sponsored book at the spring book fair).

#### *Prairie View Pumpkin Carving & Little Prairie Decorating:*

Ryan Holle and FFA students will pick up pumpkins on Monday (10/24). Unfortunately we didn't receive any community sponsors this year for this event. TLC Landscaping will be providing workers from their team to assist us with the pumpkin display set up and clean up in the village

square. Looking for extra volunteers to assist with moving the pumpkins between schools and the square.

- Pumpkin Pop-Up East Troy Village Square 10/27-10/31
- Set Up Wednesday 10/25; Clean Up Wednesday 11/1

#### *Day of Awesomeness:*

On 11/14; need to get classes signed up for time slots so that we can entice parents to volunteer when their child(ren) will be attending the event

#### *Family Night: Roller Skating:*

Thursday 11/30; no school the following day; free admission, dinner and skate rental for every person in attendance; will be a private event for ET elementary students only

#### **Long Term Event Planning Items**

*Prairie View Gym Sound System:* PTO to help fund new bluetooth speakers, microphones, etc.

*Little Prairie Playground Shade:* much larger investment; start capital campaign over the new few years to earn funding for these shades

#### *Kringle Fundraiser:*

Pick Up Saturday 12/9 at LP Cafeteria

#### **Treasurer's Report**

\$750 deposit this month; began to finalize 2023-2024 budget

#### **2023-2024 Budget Presented**

This budget operates on fundraising dollars earned but the PTO also has \$18,000 currently in savings. Our CPA recommended that we keep a \$10,000 "cushion" in our savings account.

Board will take the extra time this month to understand the needs this year so that we don't spend down the savings account too much and present the formal and finalized 2023-2024 budget for approval at the November PTO meeting.

If you would like more information regarding the 2023-2024 budget, please e-mail our Treasurer at [ete.pto.tres@gmail.com](mailto:ete.pto.tres@gmail.com).

#### **Public Comments:**

NA

**Next PTO meeting Wednesday, November 15 at 6 PM in the Little Prairie Library.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.