

10-21-25 | General Mins



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES | [Room Parent Meeting Minutes](#) | [Suggestion Box](#)

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES:

October. 21st @ 6:30PM in the Valley Park Cafe.

Attendees:

Lisa Dowell - President
Bridget Gilbert - Vice President
Jill Lowery - Treasurer
Jillian Cherry - Secretary
Tina Pezzotta - Media Chair
Ivan Shimp
Lauren Shimp
Erin Myers
Michelle Mundell
Diana Cardenas-Curriden
Brittany Dangerfield
Andrea Seaton
Laurie Hyatt
Chelsea Hall
Tabitha Dilks
Kayla DeMaris
Sarabeth Newkirk
Amanda Scull
Abigail Landry
Chelsea Hall
Erin Myers
Venezia Goddard

****If your name is missing on this list please contact [PV Ed Foundation Communications](#)***

OVERVIEW:

6pm Valley Park Cafeteria and on Zoom

Find us @ www.pvedfoundation.org

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9606117085?pwd=8qkkBUtyjVbMf4LbywTaqFhMfX8bbh.1&omn=89573972180> Meeting ID: 960 611 7085 Passcode: meeting

QUICK LINKS:

[Room Parent Meeting Minutes](#) | [Suggestion Box](#) | [PV Ed Foundation Site](#)

WHAT IS THE ED FOUNDATION? We are the Districtwide (PreK-12) Parent/Teacher Group

The Pennsville Education Foundation (PEF) is a nonprofit led by parents and community members dedicated to supporting students and teachers across the Pennsville School District. Serving as the PTA for our unique campus-style schools, we fund field trips, school events, classroom supplies, spirit wear, and more.

Welcome; Call to Order

- Lisa called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. We had lots of good participation both in the room and on zoom.

Introduction of Ed Foundation Board Members

- Lisa introduced herself as the Ed Foundation president, and presented the board members.

Superintendent's Report - Dr. Brodzik and/or Kyle Baker-Plale were not in attendance as they are at a superintendents conference.

School Principal's Report

- High School – Matt McFarland
 - They will likely have another football game as the team made the playoffs. Looks like it will be on halloween. They may also have a trunk or treat at the game, but will be hosted by student groups.
 - Testing is coming up next month for the state. Homecoming was a success, looking forward to the winter season.
- Middle School - Adam Slusher -Principal// Kevin Mulhern-VP
 - Had the race last Friday, there were a lot of kids who ran most of it. A lot of them ran over 12 laps (over 3 miles). Mr Bowman DJs and it was a really good time.
 - Still need funds, if every student was able to raise \$100 we would meet our goal, but currently short
 - Haven't heard from them about any clubs. We normally stipend their middle school clubs, to help with supplies
- Penn Beach School – Mark Zoppina
 - No update / not in attendance
- Central Park- Steve Hindman
 - Violence awareness week / spirit week. We just had picture day, things went well.

- Getting ready to have parent teacher conferences in early November - the week after we get back from NJEA convention. Start 11/11 and the evening conferences will be the 12th. Communication will be coming out from Dr. Broznik shortly.
- Valley Park School – Bobbie-Ann Fordham-Principal//Lisa Piccioni- all Elementary VP
 - No update / not in attendance
 - Just hosted pumpkin day and book fair. The ed foundation did a “Batty for Books” craft and temporary tattoos. Good number of attendees.
 - The reading challenge has also kicked off. Students log books that they read at home (They can read the same book multiple times and it will still count). At the end of the challenge the students with the most books will get an award/prize.

Education Foundation

OLD BUSINESS

- President’s Report: Lisa Dowell
 - Last week we were busy with the book fair night, we had dine to donate with Shags, race for education at the middle school, sold blankets at the football game, and at art in the park
 - Gilbert’s wheel of goodies and blankets as well as cheer items are sold at the football games
 - Tina and Bridget are working together to put the room parents together
 - The back to school packet, if you check that you give the email, that is the only way we can get your email.
 - Tina has set up a website for all things ed foundation, it includes links to get involved, events www.pvedfoundation.org
 - Holiday Bingo - Nov 21st - benefits the HS Renaissance fund, tickets are \$25 and there are approx 70 left
 - Movie night under the stars was moved to Nov 5th
- Treasurer’s Report: Jill Lowery
 - \$32,548 current balance
 - Investment funds are doing well
- Active Fundraisers:
 - Race for Education: Lisa Dowell @ Penn Beach 10/24 & MS 10/17
 - PENN BEACH & MIDDLE SCHOOL ONLY! Create & share student webpage here:
https://www.getmovinfundhub.com/register?school_uuid=5cbe0ad51fc6b
 - 93 students have webpages out of over 700 in the 2 schools
 - Goal is \$12500, hoping to get to at least \$10k
 - Please keep sharing your student’s website out
 - Dine to Donate: Jill Lowery

- Gus' in September
- Shags in October
- Working on November
- December will be a shop to donate at CCs candy right before Christmas Dec 17-21
- Caffè Doppio currently has a special going on for their Caramel Apple latte through the month of October
- We are still trying to come up with a cocktail for a cause at the Engine house - stay tuned
- Throw Blanket Fundraiser: Bridget Gilbert
 - Blankets for sale www.pvblankets.com
 - All sold out of tie dye
 - 3 of the larger ones remaining and 4 other designs available
 - Visit our website for the link to order!
 - There are a few spirit socks we sold last year that are available for \$10 a piece
- Everyday Business at the Schools – Room Parent Meeting after this meeting (if you didn't sign up you can still get your name on the list for a helper) go to <https://forms.gle/od6SesfVH6naocCd9>
- Community Activities
 - Recap of booth @ Art in the Park
 - "Movie Night Under the Stars featuring Elio" Rescheduled for Wed 11/5
 - Looking into a potential roller skating night, may be able to do older kids because they don't have a lot of lower sizes. Skate rental is \$5, \$500 to rent the rink for 2 hours
- Grants-
 - Last month we got a large donation from Walmart - misc school supplies we are going to look into packaging up into gift bags for teacher appreciation
- Field Trips –
 - We send the K-8 on a field trip every year. It costs between \$22-24k for the year. 5th grade doing behind the scenes tour of Citizens Bank Park
 - 2nd grade goes to fort mott
 - 4th grade - try to do a low cost admission
 - If you know of anywhere that would be a good place for a field trip? please let us know.
 - Edelman Fossil Park may be an option

NEW BUSINESS:

What's on your mind? Questions, Comments, Brainstorms, etc.

- Been talking about a monthly staff spotlight



- McFarland - they do a few staff spotlights for the high school / he is unsure if the other schools do it, but is pretty sure the middle school does something. Ok for ed foundation to pick it up if lacking at the elementary schools, but fine to exclude the high school as they already have programs in place.

Action Items:

- ☒ ~~Need a good name for the staff member of the month—please send us your suggestions!~~
- ☒ ~~Tina—add sign up genius for Friday PB Race for Ed~~

Important Links to Keep:

Pennsville Education Foundation Website: www.pvedfoundation.org
[PVEF Suggestion Box](#)

Adjournment

Upcoming Meetings 11/18 – No Dec Mtg - 1/20 @6pm in the Valley Park Library

Room Parent Meeting Recap

Room Parent Meeting Minutes | 10-21-25

MAKE UP VIRTUAL MEETING: Wed. November 12th at 6:00PM

Thank you for doing this with us! YOU are the reason our schools are a success, so thank you for being here and for signing up.

Spread the word!

- There are classes that need additional helpers - we will send a paper form home to try to get additional volunteers for these classes. You will not lose your placement, we'll just have more to add to your class team.

CLASS PARTY INFO:

- For classes with extra helpers, we will split helpers between the fall/winter party and spring party.
- The room party is normally a 30 minute window, 2 volunteers and you do a snack / game and/or craft. Some teachers will extend your time limit into their lunch as long as you provide lunch. We are trying really hard to get all of our room parents to be more active in the schools. We have some meetings lined up with the principals of the schools, so when they have an assembly, room parents can help out, start new things. We'd love to do grateful grams - asking all our room parents to help support the program (\$1 a gram, collect for the classroom and then deliver for the classroom). Asking the principals what else we can do to help them out that we can give to the room parents / room helpers. YOU ARE NOT ALONE IN THIS - reach out to Bridget Gilbert vp@pvedfoundation.org or Tina Pezzotta media@pvedfoundation.org for assistance, any time.

Our Goals:

- **Become more involved inside the school:** We're working with the principals to have the Room Parents and Helpers become more involved AT THE SCHOOL, to be the first ones they call on when volunteering is needed.
- **Class Representatives:** Class of xx parents to get involved and get parents together to focus on each of the classes. Campus schooling is tough, but the silver lining is that we KNOW our graduating class, how can we capitalize on that? Having reps from each graduating class could help spark the "We love our schools/class" feeling and ultimately get more people involved and invested in our children's education and the over school experience.
- **Admin Support:** The superintendent and vice superintendent are both very supportive of having the parents more involved in the schools.

BRAINSTORMS:

Would love to hear if there is anything from the parents that we currently don't do, but you'd like us try, add them here, in the [Suggestion Box](#)

Some ideas from the meeting:

- "Cafe car line"
- Bring a reading challenge / program to CP
- This spring - would like to do month of march - read across america - do a read-a-thon
- Mystery readers - would the school allow us?

Helpful tips for Room Parents & Helpers:

- Have your room helpers arrange to bring in their items before the party
- Ask about allergies in the classroom
 - Partake cookies - 9 allergen free cookies - sold at Whole Foods / Acme / Wegmans
- Get a class list ahead of time to prepare crafts ahead of time
- Disposable tablecloths seem to be a favorite for teachers.

9-16-25 | General Minutes

Meeting Minutes ~ September 16, 2025

@6pm Valley Park Library

Submitted by Jillian Cherry

WHAT IS THE ED FOUNDATION? We are the Districtwide (PreK-12) Parent/Teacher Group

Attendees: Lisa Dowell, Bridget Gilbert, Jillian Cherry, Tina Pezzotta, Jill Lowery, Mark Zoppina, Jen Surkin, Dr.

Brodzik, Michelle Mundell, Jen Courtney, Abigail Landry, Dawn Osborne, Kyle Marie

Baker-Plale, Belinda LaVergne

Welcome & Call to Order

- Lisa called the meeting to order at 6:07pm

Introduction of Ed Foundation Board Members

Installation of new Board Members

- Jillian Cherry was nominated as Secretary, official voting commenced and was agreed upon.

- Jill Lowery was nominated as Treasurer, official voting commenced and was agreed upon.

Superintendent's Report - Dr. Brodzik &/or Kyle Baker-Plale

- Facility changes, air conditioning being put in, continues until all educational spaces are complete, new

carpeting commitment, upgrades to safety and security protocol

- Want kids to be excited with the offerings from the school

- Curriculum and Personnel - 24 new staff members

- First 2 days for the teachers were fantastic, very positive opening to school

- State testing scores should be received within the next week, Presentation to the board at end of

October

- New testing company and whole new test - field test (approx end of Oct), additional details TBD,

training started this week

School Principal's Report

- High School – Matt McFarland

o Homecoming football game is Oct 9 (Thurs night) and the dance is Friday night

o Spirit week that week

- Middle School - Adam Slusher -Principal// Kevin Mulhern-VP

o Everything got off to an awesome start

o A lot of classroom movement (changed over 20 classrooms) 6th graders will be in one wing - off to an amazing start, great feedback from parents

o Less distractions for the 7th and 8th graders, less congestion in the hallways

- Penn Beach School – Mark Zoppina

o Great opening - staff and students really stepped up

o Yesterday was picture day, seemed to go smoothly

o Fall/Winter Party Nov 26, Next party April 2nd

o Reminder - guidelines sent out from foundation for room parents with parameters for the parties

o Fire prevention assembly coming up in Oct 8th - hands on with the fire department where kids

can check out the trucks and gear - that week is designated as fire prevention week - normally goes to all the elementary schools

- o Race for Education (10/24 - rain date 10/28)

- o Open house / orientation was very popular and got a lot of good feedback from families / appreciate the ability to get into the school before the first day of school, meet the teacher / some flexibility with a window of time for when is most convenient for each family / sent out the materials prior, so by the time they come that night its more informal

- o Bridget Gilbert - Asked about the electronics policy that was recently sent out - she had some parents reach out to her due to some confusion on how to interpret the wording of the policy

- One sentence says do not bring electronics to school

- The next sentence says you can bring them but leave them in your backpack

- Mark advised students can bring cell phones, however, they ask that they leave them in their backpack - they do ask that other devices are not brought into school - he will re-read and try to make the wording more clear / Clarified phones are separate from the other type of electronics

- Mark advised that parents should understand the risk in bringing any phone/watch/electronic is they could be stolen or broken. But suggests if they put the device away in a safe place inside the backpack during the school day and turn it off it should be within the policy parameters.

- Central Park- Steve Hindman

- o School year kicked off well / kids and teachers are happy

- o Dismissals and arrivals are going well

- o Picture day is Sept 26

- Valley Park School – Bobbie-Ann Fordham-Principal//Lisa Piccioni- all Elementary VP

- o Great start of the school year

- o Picture day 19th

- o Apple day is the 26th

- o Calendar for events is posted on the valley park website

Education Foundation

OLD BUSINESS

- o President's Report: Lisa Dowell

- ☐ Excited to have more parents support

- ☐ Looking forward to increasing our presence with more communication and more events

- ☐ Room parent sign up forms will be coming home soon - both google docs and paper sign ups

- ☐ High school has requested that we pass project grad back to them - so will therefore be managed at the highschool and no longer with the ed foundation - Jen Slad and Amy McFarland are the two chairs that head that.

- ☐ Tina Pezzotta is our Social Media/Communications Chair

- o Treasurer's Report:

- ☐ Jill will be meeting tomorrow to get everything officially transferred over

□ \$50,488 / Approx \$11k going to Project Grad

o Active Fundraisers:

□ Race for Education: Lisa Dowell @ Penn Beach 10/24 & Middle School 10/17

- Will occur at both Penn Beach and Middle School - last year raised a little over \$11k

- Kick off at Penn Beach to ramp it up a bit and increase excitement

- Solicited ideas for prizes - email Lisa Dowell - leasea224@comcast.net

-Amazon gift cars, airpods, hoverboards,

-Typically award Snack cards, handheld game, nerds clusters, \$5 wawa GC

- Will need volunteers for both race for education dates

- Middle school has agreed to do the silent dance party if they hit their goal

- Ice cream party for Penn Beach if they meet their goal

□ Dine to Donate: Jill Lowery

- Mon Sept 22 and Tues Sept 23 - set up with Gus Pizzeria - dine and to-go

- all day on both dates

- October Dine to Donate = Shags 10/15 ALL DAY

- Possible options: Italian Kitchen, Broadway Scoops, Tropic Bowls, Big Mikes Grill, Famous Sgt Bobs, Mexican Place, Engine House, Thai place, The Orient

- The Engine house we will also be doing cocktail / mocktail for a cause - and will run it for a month long - if they order the special drink they have in honor of the ed foundation, they will honor

- School Spirit - suggested drink name

- Caffè Doppio will also be doing "Coffee for a Cause" – Carmel Apple

Latte Oct 1-31st

- CC's Candy – "Shop to DONATE" Dec 17-20 th more details to come

- Urban Air - potentially NJEA convention weekend

- May skip dine to donate December due to the holidays

□ Throw Blanket Fundraiser: Bridget Gilbert

- 135 blankets in stock for everyone to purchase

- \$30 cash / \$33 electronic - small blankets

- \$40 cash / \$43 electronic - large blankets

- Will be avail at 3 more home games for hs football

- Art in the park event - Oct 18th - we will be there selling blankets

- Website should be up and running soon

- Socks - will likely not be doing those unless someone else can chair

- Would need to set up a storefront going forward - or use their direct ship option instead of handling in-house

Community Activities –

Movie Night Under the Stars Sunday 10/12 (no school Monday!)

The cost has been approx \$2k to rent the screen and pay for the movie licensing

- The PV Economic Committee has purchased a screen & sound system, and they are

willing to let us use them for free.

- Questions about the sound system and if they are powerful enough for the football field and the number of viewers and the size of space of the event.

- Bridget has a parent volunteer lead to help with running audio

- The date Oct 12th since the kids are off on Monday

- Movie Choices:

 - Lilo & Stitch

 - Elio

 - The Wild Robot

 - Dogman

- Since we are doing it on a Sunday - do we give the Junior class the option to run the snack stand? If the Jr Class says no then we will consider running concessions ourselves - we would need volunteers

- Licensing ranges from \$400-500

- o Everyday Business at the schools –

 - Cash Bingo - Nov 21st - Benefits the HS Renaissance program. They use our license but we don't run it. Tickets will be going on sale soon through the Main Office at PMHS

- o Grants-

 - Gave \$500 to HS Renaissance committee for their back to school pep rally

 - Walmart donated to us - an entire pallet of school supplies

 - Need to figure out what we want to do with all the items gifted

 - Baskets for teacher appreciation week

 - Gift basket for race for ed - top teacher

- o Field Trips –

 - 5th grade already booked their party at Camp Edge 6/3

 - Pizza, Cookies, Drinks, rent the waterslide, book the busses

 - Mr. Zoppina - put it on the agenda for the next PB faculty meeting (next week), to discuss places, but asked if there were any parameters for cost that they should try to operate within - we told him we will get back to him with Budgets

 - Updated bus info - \$325 per bus - approx 3-4 busses per grade level

 - Request open for 5th grade to go to Citizens Bank Park in the fall - will have an answer soon

 - 6th/7th grade - looking for low cost options

NEW BUSINESS:

- Tina Pezzotta - official chairperson of Social Media

- o Shared our new website - hope to get it connected to the district site

- o Add a link to all our sponsors onto the website - maybe - "Please continue to support our sponsors" and a link to their website, etc...

BRIDGET has been talking with the Engine house for a potential indoor golf tournament

- They can host up to 32 golfers
- Would need to get sponsorships
- Chinese Auction / 50/50 @ the event??

Action Items:

- Book fair dates from librarians
- Classroom party dates
 - Dec 19th and April 1st - Central Park
 - Jan 21 and April 2 - Valley Park (K and 1)
 - PreK - Oct 28, Jan 21, Apr 1
 - Nov 26 and April 2nd - Penn Beach
- Get room parent paperwork out, what we do flyer out to all students, get paperwork/packets out for both

Race for Education.

Links to include in recap notes: www.pvedfoundation.org

Suggestion Box

Adjournment

Upcoming Meetings 10/21 – 11/18 – No Dec Mtg - 1/20 @6pm in the Valley Park Library