

Pennwood PTO Meeting Minutes March 14th, 2024 Google Meet

Attendees:

Dr.. Thomas Smith	Jacqueline Medaglia
Mr. Kennedy	Christina Alemhoca
Beth Alon	Jamie Walter
Tania Zinych	Michelle Taylor
Deanna N.	Julie Block
Denise Cashman	Nicole Smith

Student Reports

- **Student Council – Lilly, student**

Holding March Madness decorating contest – basketball tournament this Friday – social March 22nd 7 – 9. Tickets are sold in school. Doing food drive. Planting a small garden at school.

Administration Reports

PTO Teacher Rep – Mrs. Taylor

- o NJHS looking for opportunities to help. Teachers are greatly appreciative of the chromebook chargers. PBIS pep rally teacher vs. student knockout tournament.

Principal's Report - Mr. Majikas – Absent

Asst Principal's Report – Mr. Kennedy

- o Friday is the 3 on 3 basketball tournament. Bead necklace with rock paper scissors from social media. Conference interest form went out to parents. April 18th and 19th. PSSA dates ELA 4/22, 4/24 and 4/26. Math will be 4/29 & 4/30. Science May 2nd & May 3rd. Basketball ended and spring sports are starting. Track meeting today. School play was great.

Superintendent – Dr. Tom Smith

Five areas of focus: improving instruction, using data, improving culture and climate, addressing facilities and sustainability. Trying to focus on paper and recycling. Beginning to use AI. Starting to use Brisk AI to help teachers. Getting into Schoology and away from Canvas and Powerschool. Next Thursday hoping to approve the architect for the high school. Changing focus to what students can do versus what they can't do. Expanding business and technical classes. Looking to change high school start time to 8:00/8:10 in September 2025. Hoping to change last day of school to Friday, June 14th. There will be a calendar change, changing grading day closer to spring break. Changing grading days to near weekend and not in the middle of the week. Middle school will start a little earlier and elementary will stay the same. They are looking at reducing passing time of 45 minutes at high school level. They are deciding this formally in April. New transportation office staff this year. Will still have three tiered busing.

Officer's Report

● President – Beth Alon

- Bingo was successful, about 100 people attended. We hope to offer it as a free event again next year.
- PTO purchased 52 chromebook chargers \$730
- Feb Box Top homeroom winner Hoadley/Kirsh
- Vince's Pizza made \$300, thank you to all who ordered! Another one March 20th.

● VP of Fundraising - Brittany Laird – not present

● Treasurer – Denise Cashman

Spending \$11,000 – hope to make \$15k this year and have \$4,000 to start next year to offset costs before memberships come in.

● Corresponding Secretary – Michelle Fish – not present

● Recording Secretary – Jamie Walter – nothing to report

New business

Vince's March 20th

Social is March 22nd 7-9 – struggling to get volunteers

April 13th – Pennwood night Flyers vs. Devils

MiniThon – all three middle schools participating - April 5th 6-8 – at Boehm

Spirit Wear until March 31st shipping three weeks later

Next Meeting Date: Thursday April 11th, 2024 at 9:30 am

Questions:

Looking to possibly shorten practice time in high school because of club sports – NJ did this. Overuse injuries popping up in teens. Teens can possibly take online courses.

Outdoor classroom is finally coming full circle. Mr. Kennedy will have a ribbon cutting ceremony for it.

With high school renovation, student parking will be impacted. East and West will remain functioning while new high school is built. Working with township to see if parking can be obtained elsewhere. High school work will begin in 2025 and completed in 2029.

Adjournment