

**M-S PTO General Meeting
September 11, 2025, 6:30pm
Middletown Prairie Elementary School**

1. Call to Order and Introductions

- a. **Start at 6:30pm**

2. Officer Reports

- a. President/Vice President's Report
- b. Treasurer's Report

3. Principal/Staff Reports

- a. MPE
 - i. Playground project is done. Disappointed in the timeline but the crew was quick and efficient. Worked long hours to get it done since playground had to be closed for 3 days
- b. LT
 - i. Playground project went well. 30 truckloads of rock so it meets the safety requirements. Expense went more than expected. Birthday books are going well.

4. Committee Reports

- a. Book Fair (MPE: Steffanie Lello, Melissa Daley, Jade Stadsholt) (LT: Liz Kelm)
 - i. Dates for Fall: October 20-23
 - ii. Timeline is ahead of time
 - iii. Caught reading \$10, expectations slip of paper to explain the gift of a book so that it is not confusing to teachers/parents
 - iv. 2 per class
 - v. Mrs. Plotner: communicate with teachers that if there are unused tickets for whatever reason, give them to another person who is in need of the caught reading tickets
 - vi. Scheduling: okay to schedule during guided play for MPE since that is new to K
 - vii. Create a photo opportunity at MPE to invite parents/students to take pictures with a painted banner. Steffanie willing to help cover the cost for this year.

- viii. Melissa reached out to interact club and national honor society with the dates. Asked us to put together a simple google doc for sign up.
- ix. Liz may not be as far in planning but most things will be very similar. It worked well to do the schedule instead of having sign ups to make sure there are not conflicts.
- x. Bracelets may be an issue. They are to give a bracelet to anyone who has a gift card that redeems in person.
- xi. When there is schedule they will sign up for volunteers
- b. Communications (Haley Heffernan)
 - i. September newsletter with go through Parent Square and will be transferred to Haley - jam packed!
 - ii. Sunset the old FB page - create black background and white text video (and as a story) to track view count - post about moving traffic over to new PTO
 - iii. Dave Arnold website volunteer for future(?)
- c. Staff Appreciation
 - i. September: Stock the Lounge/Supplies (drinks, food)
 - 1. Ms. Hunter asked for supplies like lamination paper, flare pens, post-it notes, paper plates, cutlery, cardstock, sharpies
 - 2. Ryan can send ideas for MPE
 - 3. Volunteer sign-up in newsletter
- d. STEM (Isabella Condotta/Dana Morrison)
 - i. STEM Night
 - 1. Confirmed for 11/5 at MPE, gym is confirmed,
 - 2. Isabella and Dana can coordinate the JJ's order and food when it gets closer.
 - 3. Will PTO donate \$500, again?
 - 4. Is the budget for STEM night coming out of family events?
 - ii. STEM Orders
 - 1. Dana emailed the STEM leads at MPE & LT their budgets for the year and process (unchanged from prior years, but there is a new STEM lead at MPE this year)
- e. MPE Reading Incentive Program
 - i. Kristin left a solid plan and Heather is begun emailing companies


- ii. Some teachers have leftover from last year
 - iii. Literacy committee is happy to make phone calls for donations
 - iv. Liz Powell interested in volunteering here, if needed.
- f. MPE & LT Family Events (Mary Kate Laird)
- g. HANDS (Leslie Stoecker/ Lauren Hays)
- h. Volunteer Chair - may be needed
 - i. Fill out to form to log participation - entered to win the supply box next year
 - ii. <https://m-spto.org/volunteer/volunteer-log/>
 - iii. PTO Champions Club
 - iv. Push info out on social media pages in addition to Parent Square
- i. Spirit
 - i. Swag Sales 70 items totaling \$454 (*do not know the exact amount made yet)
 - ii. Swag Sales close September 19th and will be closed until November
 - iii. Will be able to continue using this platform
 - iv. Need to communicate to teachers that the swag will be in their mail boxes for student handout

5. Dawg Walk

- a. Thank YOU!
- b. Collection
 - i. **Total: \$161,884**
 - 1. Our most successful year so far!
 - 2. Huge push in the last 24 hrs on 99 Pledges
 - ii. 99 Pledges - 46 percent participation out of both schools
 - 1. MPE: \$54,523
 - 2. LT: \$52,660
 - iii. Cash/Check
 - 1. MPE: \$21,416.09
 - 2. LT: \$27,964.34
 - iv. MPE V. LT
 - 1. MPE: \$75,939.41
 - 2. LT: \$80,474.15

- c. Participation
 - i. 29 classes with 70% participation or more!
 - ii. 64 total classes fundraising
- d. Dawg Walk T-shirts
 - i. Order has been placed, will begin to sort and deliver to schools as soon as we receive them
 - ii. Public Order: 30 total; next year plan to get this opportunity out sooner
 - iii. We should give a shirt to the parents of the winning student design in the future. Child earns \$50.
- e. Prizes
 - i. have final numbers for orders
 - ii. Will sort and deliver to classrooms as soon as orders are received and sorting begins
- f. Winners - teachers sent suggestions about celebration suggestions, LT student council put together an obstacle course as part of the celebration and started the dance party - Stevi to reach out to Sarah Smith)
 - i. Messy Dawgs (top earner per grade-pie throw)
 - 1. K: Macklyn Ayers (Nash) \$890.00
 - 2. 1: Nolan Freeman (Mitchell) \$1,590.00
 - 3. 2: Morgan Daley (Benedict) \$634.00
 - 4. 3: Isaac Ontiveros (McElroy) \$935.00
 - 5. 4: Ava Henry (4I Callahan) \$1,150.00
 - 6. 5: Morgan Sieben (5H Ransom) \$1,271.00
 - 7. Suggestion: make this an assembly to kick off Dawg Walk Celebration day
 - ii. Lead Dawgs (top 5 earners from each school + 5 randomly drawn students from each school)
 - 1. MPE: Nolan Freeman, Macklyn Ayers, Morgan Daley, Olivia Mullen, Emerson Gray
 - 2. LT: Morgan Sieben, Ava Henry, Isaac Ontiveros, Daniel Ayers, Josie Bonham
 - 3. Date for MPE
 - 4. Date for LT
 - iii. Top Dawgs (top earner from each school: principal for day w/lunch)

1. MPE: Nolan Freeman \$1,590.00
 2. LT: Morgan Sieben \$1,271.00
 3. Date for MPE
 4. Date for LT
- iv. Dawg Pack: (SURPRISE: Highest Participation class from each grade-glow party and babysit Barkley Jr. (will have 2 this year) - opportunity to involve more students in the celebration)
1. K: Wade 93.75%
 2. 1: O'Connell 100%
 3. 2: Kaiser 81.82%
 4. 3: 3C Hendrickson 91.67%
 5. 4: 4I Callahan 81.48%
 6. 5: 5A Herriott 76.92%
 7. Host all on the same day but do shifts
 8. Barkley Jr. Switched quarterly (1st group until 12/19, 2nd group until 3/12, 3rd group until 5/22)
- v. [Dawg Walk Activity Ideas](#)
1. Drumline participation
 - a. Kick-off assembly
 - b. Kick-off for actual fundraising
 - c. Pie the principal
 2. Talk about prizes
 - a. Can the same kid repeat years? Category?
 - b. Consider reaching out to companies that donate to individual kids and ask for general donations
- g. Fundraising suggestion for next year:
- i. 99 Pledges v. Zeffy
 1. 99 Pledges takes a percentage
 - a. \$102,285.06 payment to be issued
 - b. \$107,183.13 online donations
 - c. \$4,898.07 in transaction fees (3.49% + 0.49 per transaction)
 2. Zeffy does not take a percentage
 - a. <https://support.zeffy.com/how-is-zeffy-free>

- b. Relies on donations from platform users
 - c. Will confirm if there is a cap on the overall total; consider how much support is offered (dividing MPE v. LT, classrooms)
- h. Celebrations
 - i. Consider back-up date and plans for weather issues
 - 1. Rain Date MPE:
 - 2. Rain Date LT:
 - ii. MPE celebration: Friday, September 26
 - 1. Teacher Suggestions
 - a.  Dawg Walk ideas
 - 2. Assembly
 - 3. Dance Party
 - a. Matt Difanis - confirmed and will set-up around 7:30AM
 - 4. Volunteers:**
 - a. Need 5 people to pass out popsicles**
 - 5. Items to purchase
 - iii. LT celebration: Friday, October 10
 - 1. Arch at LT as students leave the building?
 - 2. City permit needed for crossing at Division & State
 - 3. Dance Party
 - a. Matt Difanis - confirmed
 - 4. Volunteers:**
 - a. Crossing guards: 2**
 - b. Keep kids out of the street: 2**
 - c. Pass out popsicles: 5**
 - 5. Items to purchase

6. Barkley

- a. Incentives for volunteers
- b. Estimated dates of need for Barkley so we can put out in advance
- c. MPE/LT heads up to PTO if you are needing him; waves only, no more hugs!
- d. Quintin volunteers! Dave Arnold brings the energy!

7. Swag Store Sales

- a. Update on Total Sales
- b. Closes on September 19th until Holiday Store

8. First Day School Supplies

- a. Continue with this company?
- b. Incentive if we go ahead and book for the following year with them
- c. Need to align teacher feedback with kit inclusions

9. Announcements

- a. Next Board Meeting; October 9th
- b. Next General Assembly Meeting; November 13th
- c. [Picture Day Schedule](#)

10. Adjournment - 7:40PM