

SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES
MOUNT SCOTT ELEMENTARY PTO

LOCATION: MOUNT SCOTT ELEMENTARY LIBRARY

DATE: September 12, 2024

TIME: 2:30 pm

ATTENDANCE:

IN-PERSON: Sarah Baker, Rachel Wullbrandt, Stephanie Johnson, Casey Killinger, Kelsey Bennett, Jessica Caraccioli, Katie Locey, Chelsea Livengood, Alyssa McKillip, Megan Erb, Amy Pederson, Gareth Hood, Heather Bobst, Melissa Pfaff, Kathleen Egli, Kelli Ryan, Tracey Kebede, Lex Black, Jeremy Black and Jeff Green

VIRTUAL: Khristina Powell, Kim Horner and Alex Atienza

Meeting called to order by Tracey Kebede-Berhanu at 2:30 pm.

Approval of Minutes:

May 2024 minutes were reviewed and approved.

Principal's Report:

Principal Jeff Green expressed his gratitude for the PTO partnership. He stated that he appreciates the staff because they are busy planning and caring for our kids.

He communicated that he appreciates the positive comments that the district received which has helped with enrollment

New kindergarten teacher, Nicole (Niki) Canler

New third grade teacher, Ellie Cook

Old Business:

1. 3rd Annual Yard Clean-Up:
 - a. Chair: Tasha Cruz and Casey Killinger
 - b. Tasha reported that the clean-up went well, great turn out and people just got to work. It was fun and a great way to get people together
2. Kinder Coffee Hour:
 - a. Chair: Tracey Kebede-Berhanu, Lex Black and Tasha Cruz
 - b. Tracey reported that the turnout was great, parents were talking and mingling. There was some Q&A and Mr. Green spoke to the group

Board Position Reports:

1. President – Tracey Kebede-Berhanu: Nothing to report
2. VP – Jesus Cruz: Nothing to report
3. Treasurer – Casey Killinger:
 - a. Casey reported that PTO increased teacher stipends from \$175 - \$200 (no participation) and \$300 (2 PTO meetings and 1 outside school hour event)

- b. An instructional guide and the google reimbursement form will go out to teachers within the month. Teachers and staff are always welcome to request additional funds. PTO asks that a proposal (what you're doing, why you're doing it and how much it costs) be put together. Questions were brought up regarding field trip expenses and if PTO would pay for them. The main concern was the cost of the buses. PTO board will discuss this topic at the next board meeting
 - c. The 2024-2025 PTO budget was reviewed and approved
- 4. Secretary – Sarah Baker: Nothing to report
- 5. Volunteer Coordinator – Lex Black:
 - a. Lex reported that an email was sent out for front office production sign-up. A garden committee needs to be formed and if anyone is interested, please send Lex an email. Jeff Green reported that there is a new milk machine in the lunchroom and there is a need for a lunch helper volunteer. Kathleen Egli reported that there is a need for a helper to deliver food to the classrooms once a week (W, TH or F) for the backpack buddy program
- 6. PR – Stephanie Johnson:
 - a. Tracey introduced Stephanie to the group. Flyers need to be given to Stephanie at least two weeks before an event and the front office needs the flyers one week prior to an event or take-home Thursday. Stephanie will try to complete a template so people can get input information
- 7. IT – Jeremy Black: Nothing to report
- 8. Teacher Liaisons – Melissa Pfaff & Amy Pederson:
 - a. Melissa reported that everyone is excited about the school year

Committee Reports:

- 1. Open House:
 - a. Chair: Tracey Kebede-Berhanu
 - b. Currently scheduled for Thursday, 8/26/24, which is the same date as RCMS. This year the open house will be 2.5 hours. Melissa Pfaff mentioned that this subject was brought up at the staff meeting. Staff members felt that 2.5 hours was too extreme and makes for too long of a day. Two staff requests were: classrooms were only open for 90 minutes and that the night is student-led (it is not a parent-teacher conference). Tracey Kebede-Berhanu mentioned from a parents' perspective that the 90 minutes is really rushed. She does agree that the interaction with the teacher should not be a conference.
 - c. Open house moved from Thursday, 8/26/24, to Tuesday, 8/24/24. PTO will provide dinner. Classroom open time 5:00-6:45 pm and 6:45-7:30 push out to blacktop for popsicles
- 2. Dining For-A-Cause:
 - a. Chair: Tasha Cruz
 - b. Tasha invited anyone to join the committee.
 - c. Baskin Robbins – Teacher Scoop Night – Thursday, 10/03/24
 - i. It was mentioned that the voting was needs to be moved outside with a poster letting parents know

3. Bingo:
 - a. Chair: Lex Black, Casey Killinger & Tasha Cruz
 - b. Date: Friday, 10/04/24
4. Daffodil Project:
 - a. Chair: Tasha Cruz
 - b. Date: Thursday, 10/10/24
5. Eagle Run:
 - a. Chair: Tracey Kebede-Berhanu & Tasha Cruz
 - b. Friday, 10/18/24
 - c. Full speed ahead and seeking more members
6. Garden Club:
 - a. Chair: Seeking a chair for this committee
7. Yearbook Committee:
 - a. Chair: Rachel Wullbrandt
 - b. Volunteers needed for this committee
8. Glow Party:
 - a. Chair: Melissa Pfaff
 - b. Date: Friday, 1/24/25
9. Community Sale:
 - a. Chair: Rachel Wullbrandt
 - b. Date: Saturday, 2/08/25
10. OMSI Night:
 - a. Chair: Tracey Kebede-Berhanu
 - b. Date: TBD
11. Big Splash:
 - a. Chair: Casey Killinger
 - b. Date: Friday, 2/28/25
12. Eagle Read-A-Thon:
 - a. Chair: Lex Black
 - b. Date: TBD (March)
13. OBOB:
 - a. Chair: Tasha Cruz
 - b. Date: TBD (March)
14. PTO Book Swap:
 - a. Chair: Lex Black and Sarah Schroeder
 - b. Date: Thursday, 3/13/25
15. Square 1 Art:
 - a. Chair: Casey Killinger
 - b. Date: TBD (April)
16. Teacher & Staff Appreciation:
 - a. Chair: Lex Black
 - b. Date: May 5-9, 2025
 - c. A co-chair is needed for this committee
17. Carnival:

- a. Chair: Lex Black
- b. Date: Friday, May 30, 2025

New Business:

1. Classroom Parent:
 - a. Reported By: Tracey Kebede-Berhanu
 - b. PTO would like more family involvement. One of the ways of implementing this, is by having a classroom parent. It will take a lot of collaboration with the teachers. The classroom parent will be the liaison between the classroom/teacher and the PTO. The only ask of the classroom parent is that they would be in charge of Birthday Books. PTO would like to provide every child with a book. The parent would need to be good communicators with the teacher and the PTO. Tracey asked Melissa Pfaff and Katie Locey to bring this topic up to teachers and staff at the next meeting. A question was brought up about the students that do not celebrate birthdays. Jeff Green stated that this is a great idea but it will need to be guided by the PTO
2. Legacy Projects:
 - a. Reported By: Tracey Kebede-Berhanu
 - b. Tracey brought up the topic of legacy projects. PTO would like to have the wood paneling covered with bulletin boards and the black top professionally cleaned. Please email PTO with any ideas

Closing Remarks:

Jeff Green introduced Ellie Cook to the group.

Thank you to the parents and staff for attending. Thank you to Jeremy Black for his IT assistance.