

Miller Avenue Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization



January 23, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Miller Avenue School, Faculty Room

I. Meeting Call to Order was at 9.35am by Heather Faulkner VP.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Attendance: 6 members plus 4 members of the PTO Board were in attendance.

II. Principal's Report - Mrs Claudia Smith

-Mrs Smith shared a thank you to the PTO for the holiday events at Miller Avenue School - the Hot Cocoa Day was a success. Some of the staff want to have more of a role next year, as it was such a good event. Thank you to the PTO for the holiday treats for the faculty also.

-Mrs Smith shared that MOMA (Museum of Miller Avenue) was well attended, but lower than other years, so next year Mrs Smith will check the calendar to make sure it's not during the last week of school. It was a good fundraiser and family event.

-Mrs Smith shared that the school is waiting for updates on the new district lunch program. A thanks was given to the PTO for extending the lunch service through the end of February to cover the extension. The goal is March 2nd for the new District Food Program to begin and the District Office will be sending a letter out in the next week or two with the details. A district representative will be at the next Miller Avenue School PTO meeting on February 10th 2020 6.30pm at Miller Avenue School to speak about the program and answer questions for families.

-Mrs Smith is excited for Bingo night coming up on February 27th 2020 6pm in the High School Gym, as there will be prizes from some of the teachers also.

III. Treasurer's Report - Lauren Verderosa

-The PTO received a check from the Orthodontist for the Candy Buy Back of \$250 income, which is listed on the budget as passive fundraisers.

-The PTO received a commission check for \$548 profit for Sportswear Online Sales. There was no expense this year for the PTO for this, as it was online direct with the company. Thank you to Kelly Fabian for chairing.

-The Movie Frozen 2 event profit was \$292.73 which was higher than previous years and a successful fundraiser and fun event.

-The MOMA (Museum of Miller Avenue) event had a profit of \$358. Thank you to the chair Ashley Mulligan! There was a discussion about how communication could be improved between school/PTO and home about this event, to help improve attendance. Some examples included:

- A note from the art teacher sent home with students earlier in the year, to inform families about the opportunity to purchase their child's framed art work;
- The pre-order option could be introduced earlier in the year;
- Other art framing companies that are more local to Long Island could be researched for lower pricing rates.
- The book fair did not get visited much during MOMA, - its location was in the AP, not in the main gym location with other activities, so a suggestion was given for it be moved to a more central location, or to add other activities/snacks alongside the book fair, to encourage families to visit the book fair.
- Table spots for \$25 could be sold to community members who would like to sell items, to add to the holiday boutique event.
- Plan the MOMA earlier with a full committee to include a shopping holiday boutique part and the art/culture parts.

-The Food Service extension through end of February will be at no cost to the parents who already ordered the food this school year. This cost for January and February will be provided by the PTO. This means the food service items in the budget will not provide any profit like in the past. Donations are now being accepted to fill this funding gap. There were concerns raised that the new District Food Service plan starting in March means there will only be 3 months of a new system being implemented in this school year, which might be confusing for both children and parents. The suggestion was made that it starts in September to best plan and have everyone on the same page.

-The Box Tops income so far for this school year is \$247.30, so everyone was encouraged to keep using the Box Top App and scan your receipts within 14 days to have Miller Avenue School receive Box Tops funds. Thank you to the Box Top chair Sue Sefton for running this!

-Membership fees were paid for Amazon and BJs.

-The Smencils profit is \$596 so far this year, which is going well. There is plenty of stock purchased for next year also.

-There were more purchases made this year for Pop-Up Shops - so now there are excess items in stock for a two year turnover, so the profit is to be noted over a 2 year period. The Pop-Up

concept has grown. A suggestion was made to have future Pop-Up Shops in the AP room with 10 minute class rotations as a sign up, or over two day period, rather than rushing everyone through during lunch time. Another suggestion was made to have a coloring station or free bookmarks or a sing a long, for children who aren't purchasing anything at Pop-Up during their time slot. Mrs Smith will review the schedule and see what can work to improve. The lunch time one time Pop-Up shop was too busy for students to have lunch and for all to visit the shop one time only in the hallway.

-The Parent's Night Out deposit has been paid for April 17th 2020 at the Residence Inn by Marriott in Riverhead. The PTO is looking for raffle donations which is the main fundraiser for the school at this event. Class baskets were switched from Bingo Night to Parent's Night Out. Tickets for these class baskets/raffle can be purchased online and also on the night for the fundraiser. Letters will be going out to class parents in the next week about the class baskets. The ticket price for the night out will be what the catering hall charges and the online ticket sale, with no profit to the school, so the raffle is the main fundraiser for this event.

IV. President's Report

A. Old Business:

The minutes from November meeting were accepted.

The other items that were listed on the agenda here were discussed above in the Treasurer's Report.

B. New business:

The Family Bingo Night is February 27th in the High School Gym. It used to be the Miller Avenue School gym however there wasn't enough room and people were turned away. The High School Gym provides more room for everyone to attend. Doors open at 5:30 and bingo will begin to be called at 6:00. There is no admission to attend this event. Bingo boards, pizza, and raffle tickets can be pre-ordered on bingo2020.cheddarup.com Snacks and drinks will be available for purchase also on the night. Raffle prizes include making announcements, lunch with Mrs. Smith and being principal for a day. There was a discussion about the date of when the online advanced sales will be closing - parents are encouraged to purchase in advance online their bingo boards and pizzas. There will be on the door sales however this might take longer upon arrival than pre-ordered Bingo boards.

The next Smencils sale is on February 5th during lunch. Students can bring in money to purchase items that are \$1 each.

The Valentine's Day Pop Up Shop will be held Thursday, February 13th during lunch. Students can bring in money to purchase items that are \$1 each.

The Curriculum Development Committee meet once a month. There are several sub committees - the next elementary report card revision is on February 12th. There will a change made to the state graduation requirements at a meeting on March 4th 5pm-8pm in Holtsville if parents want to discuss. There is an online survey parents can complete to share views. Please contact Alan Meinster at the District Office for more details on this.

C. Other business:

The next meeting is February 12th in the High School Library. There was a vote to change the time from 9:30 am to 6:15 pm, prior to the Council meeting which is at 7pm for all to attend also.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting which was accepted at 10.34am.

Minutes recorded by Miller Avenue Recording Secretary, Emma Tees

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Remind App for Alerts and Updates:

Kindergarten: @mapto2032

First Grade: @mapto2031

Second Grade: @mapto2030