

Page Hilltop PTO Meeting

September 5, 2019 @ 7:00 PM

- **Welcome**

- Jessica Filz, Vice President
- Dana Bresnahan, Treasurer
- Kristen Browning, Secretary
- Fred Deppe, Principal
- Teachers and staff members in attendance were introduced.

- **Treasurer's Report**

- Dana announced that the annual budget will be presented at the October meeting requiring a vote to accept. A separate Treasurer's Report will be presented each meeting going forward outlining the income and expenses from the previous month.

- **Recap of Recent Events**

- Welcome Back Luncheon
 - The Welcome Back Luncheon is one of the first PTO sponsored events of the school year and organized by the PTO board.

- **New Business**

- Fundraising Committee
 - Jessica Filz is organizing a Fundraising Committee to review and recommend fundraising opportunities for the PTO. Anyone who is interested in being a part of the committee should make a note on the volunteer handout or contact the PTO or Jessica directly.
- Box Tops for Education program changes
 - The program is moving away from clipping and submitting physical box top coupons to the school. The program is now app based. You may download the app on any smart phone or tablet to submit pictures of your receipts through the app. Qualifying items will be identified and the school's earnings will be automatically updated online.
 - Physical box top coupons are still available on some products. Please keep clipping and submitting those to the school as you find them.
 - Dana shared that the school made \$800 on box tops last year, so the \$0.10 adds up.
 - A question was asked if receipts could be sent to the school to be scanned by one person. This is not an option because receipts need to be submitted within 14 days of purchase.
 - A question was asked if there will still be student/classroom incentives. With the changes to the program, it is not possible for the PTO to track who has submitted receipts via the app. We are trying to think of ways to keep promoting the program, but the incentives we offered in the past do not work with this new program format.

- Meadow Farms Fundraiser
 - Jessica Bouchey is the coordinator for the Meadow Farms fall fundraiser (previously Genevieve's). Packets will be sent home with students next Monday, September 9th.
 - Changes this year: orders will be sent directly to the student's home. There will not be any pick up at the school.
 - Genevieve's had been a staple fall fundraiser at the school. Profits have declined steadily over the past few years. Last year we raised over \$2000. With the changes to Meadow Farms, and some different items in the catalog, we wanted to give the fundraiser another chance this year.

- **Upcoming Events**

- Welcome Back Picnic/Open House
 - The PTO organizes a bake sale to take place during the Open House. Be on the lookout for a Signup Genius for bakers and volunteers. The link will be included in next Monday's PTO email.
- Restaurant Night
 - October 8th 3:30-9:00 @ Texas Roadhouse in Leominster. Kids Eat Free and the school receives 10% of sales when you present the fundraiser flyer. Andy the Armadillo will come to the school the day of the event to visit the students at lunch.
 - We try to schedule one restaurant night a month with a focus on area restaurants. Please let Jessica Filz know if you have any restaurant ideas.

- **Principal's Notes - Mr. Deppe**

- Mr. Deppe took a moment to welcome everyone and made note that we had 71 family members and staff in attendance tonight. He spoke to the topics that were listed on the Principal's Thoughts handout and reminded families that we always have entertainment for the kids during the meeting. Tonight they are in the library for music and a sing-a-long with a couple staff members and volunteers from the high school honors society.
- Please send in pictures from your summer to be a part of a display board.
- If you are in need of a backpack filled with school supplies for your student, please see Mr. Deppe. No questions asked.
- District Curriculum night September 12th (6:00-8:00). It is a drop in event. You do not need to stay for the entire time.
- Welcome Back Picnic/Open House September 18th. Bring a meal for your family to eat on the front lawn at 5:15. You may pack a dinner at home, or stop at one of our fast food or take out restaurants in town to make dinner a bit easier. It is a great time to meet other families.
- Volunteer form available as a handout. Please check off categories of interest to you and list the days of the week and times you would be available to volunteer. Be sure to put your name and contact information on the form if you are turning it in tonight.

- We are looking at having monthly meeting theme topics and bring in various community members to speak to us on those various topics. Current ideas include: school safety, internet/cyber safety, helping your child with homework, Athletic Director Steve Kendall, and social emotional learning. If you have any additional ideas for topics, please contact Mr. Deppe.
 - Communications - The PTO sends out weekly emails, the school sends home a monthly calendar, Mr. Deppe and Mrs. Levesque have Twitter accounts, and the school and PTO both have websites.
 - United Way "Day of Caring" September 20th. This is the 6th year the school is a participant. Volunteers from local business come for a day of community service at the school. Check with your employer to see if they support community service days for their employees.
 - Spirit Day: Hair and Hat Day September 27th
 - Holdenwood Train Run/Walk September 29th to benefit ASEF
 - Theatre at the Mount presents "Miss Nelson is Missing" October 3rd (9:00 & 10:30) This event is funded by the PTO. Parents are welcome to attend one of the two shows and stay in the back of the room.
 - Veterans' Day Program November 8th - Please mark your calendars and invite any veterans you know to this event. More details to follow later.
 - Return of the Harlem Wizards January 2020
 - Indoor Mini-Golf February 7, 2020. Sarah Pileeki is chairing this event. She is looking for corporate sponsors for the big banner and for individual holes. The company recommends having a silent auction in conjunction with the event. While this is a fundraising event, and there is the possibility to earn up to \$10,000 for the school, the focus is on fun and providing a unique and fun family experience at the school. A question was asked about a donation form/letter to bring to area businesses. The PTO has a form letter to use for such an event.
 - Drama Company - coming early 2020. Mr. Deppe had a meeting over the summer with three parents about bringing this program to the school for students to put on a play in one week. The company comes to the school and holds auditions on Monday, with casting taking place Monday and rehearsals going through Thursday. Two performances will take place on Friday - one during school and one at night.
- **Open Discussion**
 - Mr. Deppe introduced Susan Copland who is both a parent at the school and Town Clerk. She will occasionally update the school community of important town events and meetings at PTO meetings.
 - Amazon Smile: The Page Hilltop PTO is a listed charity with Amazon Smile. When you shop on Amazon from the Amazon Smile website, a percentage of your purchase gets donated to the PTO if you select it as your preferred charity.
 - Spirit wear: Dana Bresnahan is the new chair this year. Purchases will be done all online and orders will be sent home with your students when they arrive at the school. There will be a limited catalog for the fall. Spring will be more expansive. J&S donates \$5/item purchased.
 - Mrs. France thanked the PTO on behalf of the faculty and staff at Page Hilltop for the welcome back lunch.

- **Closing**

- Note the earlier start time for the next meeting. We will try to host meetings a few different times to see what works best for families.

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 10th @ 6:30