

Auburn Elementary PTO Minutes

Monday, May 1st, 2017

Attendance:

Stephen Sevener (Principal), Ashley Nowak and Amanda Vantol (PTO coordinators), Elizabeth Garchow (PTO co-coordinator and Secretary), Nicole Kingsbury (Treasurer), Karen Rauschenberger and Diana Samborn (teachers) and 2 parents.

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 and was immediately followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary's Report:

Meeting minutes from March, 2017 were reviewed and approved. A motion was made to accept the report by K. Rauschenberger and was seconded by A. Vantol.

Treasurer's Report:

N. Kingsbury reviewed budget transactions and updates since the March 2017 meeting. A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by K. Rauschenberger and seconded by D. Samborn.

Principal's Report:

- As was mentioned at a prior PTO meeting, our school has a new mascot. The selection process was finalized following the staff, student and parent surveys in February. Auburn Elementary's new mascot is the Explorer. We are now the Auburn Elementary Explorers! Applied Graphics, in Auburn, is working on designing the new logo, which will then be brought back to the school for approval.
- The Fox 66 Golden Apple Award voting period has opened again. Once again, Auburn Elementary has 2 wonderful teachers nominated; Mrs. Burgess, second grade teacher, and Mrs. Rauschenberger, fourth grade teacher. To vote, go to <http://wsmh.com/station/contests/fox66-golden-apple-awards-2017> and click on the vote tab. You can vote as many times as you'd like until the voting period ends on May 31, 2017. Good luck and congratulations to you both.
- Auburn Elementary is both proud and saddened to announce the retirement of one of our beloved teachers; Mrs. Rauschenberger. She has decided to retire following 37 years of teaching within the Bay City Public Schools; the last 20 of which have been right here at Auburn Elementary. We would like to wish Mrs. Rauschenberger an amazing, happy and relaxing retirement, and hope she comes back to visit or volunteer frequently.
- April was volunteer appreciation month. Auburn Elementary staff put on a wonderful pasta luncheon to show appreciation for the many volunteers who help in so many ways within the school. From field trip chaperones and event runners, popcorn poppers to classroom and library helpers we are grateful to each and every volunteer and all the work they do. Thank you!

- 5th grade has just completed the M-Step, while 3rd and 4th grades are beginning now. This is a 2 week testing window and it is very important that students are here for each testing day. Specific classroom testing dates can be found by contacting classroom teachers.
 - NWEA assessments will begin again shortly too. The data from the assessments has helped guide instruction and intervention practices.
- May 26th and 29th will be non-school days for Memorial Day.
- The waiver for Bay City Public Schools to begin the school year before labor day was not approved by the Michigan Department of Education. This means, for now, the school year will continue to begin after Labor Day. There is legislation being proposed that would allow for a pre-Labor Day start but school could only be in session on Tuesday through Thursday; with Mondays and Fridays off.
- June 5th will be both the Kindergarten and 5th grade end-of-year celebrations. Kindergarten will begin at 2:30p, and 5th grade will be at 9:15a, with their PTO luncheon taking place afterward at Nori's in Auburn. Nori's is normally closed on Mondays and offered to open just to host our 5th graders, which is appreciated.
- June 6th will be our Spring music programs. 1st grade will be having their annual patriotic program at 2:30p.m. and 2nd-5th grade will have a Spring themed program beginning at 9:30a.m. Mr. Y. has been working hard to prepare the students for their program and we look forward to another great program. A reminder about parking for parents and families coming to watch the program - please do not park in the parking lot of local businesses; the salon, pharmacy and medical office parking spots. These are needed for their customers. You may be ticketed or towed.
- June 9th is our annual Kindergarten-4th grade field day; from 8:45-11:30am. Mr. Eleazer is in the process of organizing this year's event and game line-up. It sounds like there will be some water involved, so a change of clothes for child(ren) is highly recommended. Please be sure to put sunscreen on your child(ren) before sending them to school, as they cannot bring it to apply themselves.
 - 5th grade will be attending their track and field event at Western with Mackensen and McAlear-Sawden Elementary beginning at 9am. Again, sunscreen is highly recommended.
- June 14th is our last day of school for the 2016-17 school year. This will be a half day with our annual send-off for 5th graders and retirees beginning promptly at 12:15p.
- We have an Artisan's fundraiser going right now. Coupons were sent home with students. Bring your coupon with you to Artisan's and pick up your springtime flowers, shrubs etc, and Auburn Elementary will receive 10% of the money you spend.
- Our 2018 Color Run has been tentatively scheduled for April 14th, 2018. Be sure to put it on your calendar.

Coordinators' Report:

- We are done with Smart Cards for this school year. We sold 167, which is about the same as last school year.
- Our next popcorn sale is Friday, May 12th and final sale for the year, will be Thursday, May 25, 2017. Cost is .50 a bag.
- Our annual Fun Fair took place on Friday, March 3, 2017. Once again, we had another record breaking year, with over \$5000 in profit! We would like to thank all of our volunteers who helped make the Fun Fair such a success, as well as all of our students and families who came to join us. You are all amazing!
- This year's Color Run was held on April 22, 2017. Once again, we couldn't have asked for better weather for our almost 450 participants. Our amazing volunteers stepped up to help make the race successful. Total profit was over \$9000!
- Field day is coming up on June 9th. We are coordinating with our new P.E. teacher, Mr. Eleazer, to determine what games will be played this year. We recommend all students bring a change of clothes, as water may be involved in some events. We are also looking for volunteers to help run all of our games. Please let the office or the PTO know if you are interested in helping. The PTO can be reached at the email below.
- As always, if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions, please don't hesitate to let us know. We can't help you if we don't know about it. Email us anytime at auburnpto@bschools.net and thank you for your continued support.

Old Business:

- This year has been a very productive and successful year. With our fundraising, the PTO was able to provide:
 - 48 new Chromebooks.
 - 2 new water stations.
 - 2 charging carts for Chromebooks and tablets.
 - a new media projector.
 - the 5th grade luncheon at Nori's.
 - teacher supplies for every classroom.
 - talent show supplies.
 - a new tumbling floor mat .
 - new P.E. and playground equipment (Campbell's Soup Labels).

Thank you to all of our volunteers who help with our fundraising events, and to all of our families who take part.

New Business:

- Some ideas for consideration for next year:
 - an additional movie night.
 - Harvest run/walk instead of a dance.
 - Gaga ball pit for teacher free time or P.E. use - NOT recess.
 - Soccer goals for the playground.
 - Outdoor classroom:
 - seating, educational items, garden.

- So long as it doesn't involve a dunk tank, Mr. Sevener says he will kiss a pig or spend the night on the roof! We may have to work this into fundraising somehow.
- We proposed 2 new transactions- purchasing 2 more filtered water bottle filling stations for the 5th grade/cafeteria area, and a Chromebook charging cart. We will reserve monies needed to purchase 15 more Chromebooks anticipating the cost will go back down. These were both approved. Motion made by K. Rauschenberger and seconded by R. Buffman.
- Parents were asked for suggestions for something new. Some suggestions were:
 - an after school program that offers different activities throughout the year for a fee. 30 min to an hour each day.
 - a gymnasium lock-in.
 - Sky Zone fundraising night.
 - additional reading / book night.
 - having bake sale goods dropped off the night before allowing parent volunteers to come in that evening to package and price.
 - we are discussing using the sign-up genius program used for conferences to sign volunteers up for school events.
- We will continue with having PTO meetings every other month rather than every month.

Next year's first PTO meeting will be **Monday, September 18, 2017**. Child care will be provided by the Bay Arenac ISD Early Childhood Development class.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm.