**Hillsdale Elementary School**

**PTO Membership Meeting**

**Thursday, September 22, 2016**

**Attendees:**

Kate Semon (PTO Co-President)

Joanne Crowley (PTO Co-President)

Beth Rosica (PTO Co-Vice President)

Jessica Cohen (PTO Secretary)

Tara O’Meara (PTO Treasurer)

Julianne Pecorella (Principal)

Jessica Gearhart (PTO Teacher Representative)

Karen Horan (Past PTO President)

Silvia Potter

Nancy Wood

Karen Orken

Cristin Mowrer

Natasha Weeks

Kate Ziegler

Rebecca McConnell

Liz Clapp

1. Introductions and Attendance
2. Principal’s Report

A. The air issues in the building are being worked upon

B. Teachers are booking and gathering information for assemblies

C. Field trips for the year are already booked

- First field trip will be next month

D. School budget this year will be tighter

- New math books, apps, etc were bought

- Teacher grant money available through the school will be less, as a result, more teachers will be looking to the PTO for funding for their

requests

E. Genius Hour with Mrs. Roberts will continue this year

F. There are a lot of district meetings going on regarding the Kindergarten full day which will be implemented 2017/18

3. Teacher’s Report

A. No news to bring up yet

B. Questions regarding reimbursement

C. PTO will send out a letter regarding what money will be available for

their requests

4. Co-President Report

A. Spirit Wear deadline is 9/23/2016, access is through Hillsdale web page

B. Picture Day is 9/27/2016, Sign Up Genius is up and ready to go out

C. Chairs are needed for the following events:

- Ice Skating Social

- Campbell’s Label Program

- School Kits

- Garden Maintenance Club

- STEAM: Lego Club - Unless a chair can be found, Bricks for Kids

will be brought in

- Kids’ Stuff Coupons

- Art Goes to School: We will need more than one volunteer; 4-5

hours of training; 8-10 hours in the classroom with kids

D. What is the best way to communicate to our families about events: PTO

newsletter, website, My School Anywhere

E. Cash campaign has raised roughly $3800

- Question raised: How many times will we do a Cash Campaign

- Remind families when we fund raise that all donations are tax

deductible

5. Past President Report

A. Summary of the PTOC mtg:

- WCA Education Foundation will be having a fund raiser on

November 10th, 6 pm at Penn Oaks Country Club; money

raised will be used for items such as the outdoor classroom, playground equipment, etc.

- Committee formed to discuss purpose/need for homework in

elementary school

- Debate over activities fee

- Keystone Exams have been delayed until 2019

B. Outdoor Classroom:

\*\* Thank you to Mr. Hobart, Ms. Gearhart, Mrs. Horan and Mrs.

Pecorella for all of their hard work towards this project!

- Will be at the back of the school and will be named The

Ms. Carol Baker Outdoor Learning Center

- Quotes are being obtained for the construction

- Roughly 800 sq ft of space will be used and ground will be broken

in a few weeks

- STEAM: this will remain the same as last year; 3 different session

(Oct/Jan/Mar) and will run as a 5 week program

6. Co-Vice Presidents Report

A. Fundraisers: Dine Out is being worked on

- The first Dine Out for Hillsdale will be Oct 17th or 25th at

Iron Hill Brewery

- Other restaurants being considered: Landmark, Split Rail, Panera,

etc

7. Treasurer’s Report

Nothing at this time

8. Committees Reports

\*\*Welcome Back Bash and New Family Happy Hour were a success Thank you very much to Joanne Crowley, Kate Semon, Nancy Franks and

Kristin Dolan for a wonderful job on these events!!!

9. Old Business

A. Funding Requests:

- Kickball Base Set ($50) approved

- Ga Ga Pit/Upper Playground ($1,600) approved

- Outdoor Classroom funding ($12,500) approved

- Buses for 5th Grade Track Meet ($500) approved

- 2016/2017 Final Budget approved

10. New Business

A. 5th Grade Committee heads were appointed, Michelle Lintelman

and Stephanie Heron Birl. October 5th will be the first meeting and

it is open to the entire school.

B. Yearbook will once again be full school, the committee head is

Kim Chotkowski with Susan Weaver working as the 5th grade rep for the

project

C. Nancy Wood gave a presentation on “My School Anywhere,” the new online directory proposed to eventually replace paper directories

- Weeblee account would need to stay open in order to use the Amazon links, e.g. Smile (0.5% of purchase) and Associates links

(4-10% of purchase) because these would go directly through the current Hillsdale webpage

- Boy Scout discussion tabled