

Miller Elementary PTO Minutes

Date: Monday Sept. 11, 2017

Meeting was brought to order at 4:04 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance

-Treasurers Report

- \$568 was sold in Spirit Wear at the Open House last week.
- \$40 was spent in purchasing new book “marks” for the Library shelves.
- Remaining budget of \$13,000 after Donation of \$5,000 to the Miller Playground Fund.

-Spirit Wear

- Orders are due Sept. 11th and will be delivered to students in their classrooms on Sept. 28th or 29th in time for Spirit Week, which starts Oct. 2nd.
- Orders will be placed on a monthly basis for the rest of the school year. Order forms that are turned in by the first Monday of the month will be delivered around the 15th of each month.
- Order forms are available in the envelope on the showcase in front of the Office. Order forms are also available online to download or print in the “File” portion of the Miller PTO Facebook page. Cash or Checks made payable to “Miller PTO” should be turned in with the order forms in an envelope marked “Miller PTO” with your child’s communication folder or dropped off at the Office.
- Spirit Wear will be available to purchase during Parent/Teacher Conferences on Oct. 18 & 19th.

-Playground Restoration

- The first meeting of the Miller Playground Restoration Committee is to be held on Monday September 25th at 4:00 pm in the Miller Elementary Library. All are welcome.
- A sample of a “donation letter” was presented by Meghan McPherson for approval. This letter will be taken to local businesses and sent home with families to inform about this project and how donations can be made.
- All donations can be submitted to the Huron School District Office, addressed to the Miller Elementary Playground, or call 734-782-2441 for phone donations.
- Research has shown a minimum of \$75,000 needed to completely renovate the playground. However, Principle Gilbert noted it could be upwards of \$110,000. These funds are not allotted for in the school’s budget.
- The current playground, not the blacktop, could be renovated with new ground cover so that mulch would no longer be needed and replaced annually. Current equipment could be replaced with more modern and safer playscapes.
- Teacher Katey Gutierrez served on a Flat Rock School Playground Committee and volunteered to help serve this new Committee as well. Title 1 funds were used at that school, but our school is not eligible for this funding. So our community will have to raise our own funds to support this project.

- A Proposal will be made with pictures of our current playground, pictures of other schools playgrounds, and research on possible companies and materials needed, as well as a budget for a new playground. Meghan McPherson and Raeann Ramsby will ask for a meeting with Superintendent Naughton to present the Proposal and ask to be put on the Agenda for Octobers School Board Meeting, held on Monday October 30th at 6:00 pm at Brown Elementary. All are welcome to attend the School Board Meetings.
- A motion was made and passed to have a table set up during Parent/Teacher Conferences to get feedback on the current playground and fundraising ideas from parents. A survey could be handed out to the parents at this time, and information on the Playground Restoration Committee and School Board Meeting will be communicated. This could be a good way to spread the word about this project and get more awareness and involvement from the community as a whole.

Future Events

- Fun Run- Being organized this year by the First Grade Teachers. \$20,000 is the target goal. Event will be held on Friday September 29th after the Citizenship Day presentation. Incentives for students are earning a popsicle or ice cream at lunch, an EMOJI backpack clip, 15 minute extra recess, Skateland and Zap Zone tickets! The top earner from each class will have a pizza lunch together, and the top earning class will have a Pizza Party with ice cream and a movie! Donations can be sent in with your student or made online at www.thegetmovincrew.com until Oct. 5th, 2017. The PTO will be volunteering their help for this event also.
- Trunk-or-Treat- Put on by the Miller PTO again on Friday October 27th. This is a fun event for the kids to dress up in costume and trick-or-treat their way around the blacktop behind the school. Trunks will be needed and signups sent home in October, so look for the note in your child's folder.
- Red Wings Assembly- All school assembly put on by The Detroit Red Wings. Topics will be health, eating right and exercising, and bullying. November 29th, 2017. Students only.
- Santa's Secret Workshop- December 4-8th in the Library. Students can make a "wish list" and bring money from home to purchase a variety of gifts for their families and friends for the Christmas season. Volunteers will be needed and a letter sent home in late November.
- Carnival- The Miller PTO will be hosting its annual fundraising event this year on Thursday March 15th at Miller Elementary. All of the proceeds this year will go toward the Playground Fund. This is a fun event for students and their families to play traditional carnival games, earn prizes, have a snack with friends, and maybe win a raffle basket while donating to a good cause- your child's new playground!

-Principle Gilbert's Report

- New Parent Pick-up locations: grades K & 1st are at the south doors at the back of the school while grades 2nd-5th are still at the Event entrance also at the back. Parents are to wait at the door for their child to be dismissed by a teacher and NOT enter the school. Parents may only arrive AFTER 3:20 pm as there are gym classes in session in the back of the school on the

blacktop. For the children's safety, the entrance to the parking lot will be closed off prior to 3:20, so cars will no longer be able to access the driveway at all.

- NWEA Reading Standards Program is in place and was discussed.
- 40 New Chrome Books and media carts were purchased for the Miller students this year.
- "Leader in Me" program continues with this year's theme being "Movies and Hollywood." The kids loved the Red Carpet entrance to school on the first day! Look for the bulletin boards in front of the office for new information and highlights. The Lighthouse Team will continue to meet and a Leadership Day will be held again this Spring for Parents and Community leaders.
- Nut Allergies- A letter was sent home to be signed by all parents outlining the concerns about possible food allergies. The school is not completely "nut free," however the Office and a few classrooms are. Please be mindful of the snacks and treats that enter the school as some of these allergies are air born. Sunbutter can be substituted for peanut butter for any food item, this is what the school lunch program uses also. If any food is delivered to the school (forgotten lunch box or birthday treat) it must be taken directly to the classroom, it cannot be left in the Office. Overall awareness is asked from everyone to try to avoid any nut or food allergic reactions from happening. Thank you.
- Halloween Parties/Parade- Alternatives to the Halloween Parade were discussed. This day the school is extremely crowded with families and siblings. This poses a large security risk and requires a lot of extra work for costumes/dressing of children. Possible alternatives are having a "Black & Orange Day" on Halloween instead of full costumes, or limiting the number family members who can attend the event (no siblings.) Also, due to the elevated level of food allergies, having more craft activities at the class parties instead of food, and less sugary treats sent in by parents. This topic will be discussed by the teachers at their next meeting.
- New Classroom has been added to accommodate Mrs. Seel and her 9 Special Education Students from Brown Elementary. They will be joining our school permanently as a solution to space limitations at Brown. The Principle is asking that everyone greet these students with a warm Miller Welcome and understanding that a period of adjusting may be necessary for some of them. Thank you.

Next PTO Meeting will be Monday Oct. 9th at 9:00 am in the Teacher's Lounge.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm.

Attendees:

Selena Erickson- PTO Secretary

Shawn Petty- PTO Vice President

Meghan McPherson- PTO Co-Treasurer

Carrie Spencer

Erin Skamiera

Nicole Norton

Lisa Carter

Amy Nieman

Raeann Ramsby- PTO President

Holly Bank- PTO Treasurer

Leslie Masciovecchio- Assembly Chair

Amy Hinks

Alicia Balint

Amy Arnette- 1st Grade Teacher

Katey Gutierrez- 3rd Grade Teacher

