

PTO Public Meeting

Wednesday, October 16, 2024

7:00 pm



Presidents- Melissa Jordan & Melissa Venditti

- Call meeting to order

Parliamentarian- Erica Bennett

- Take role of Board Members

Recording Secretary- Marina Ream

- Explain where one can locate past meeting minutes
- Motion to approve minutes from 4/25/24 meeting

Present: Melissa Jordan, Amber Elliott, Heather Yearly, Marina Ream, Rachel Reynolds, Shannon Gallo, Erica Bennett, Sheila Toscano, Victoria DiBuono

Absent: Melissa Venditti, Meredith Kaganovski, Anne Myers, Rachel Reynolds, Jenna Murphy, Samantha Acton.

Faculty Report – Principal - Mrs. Sonnie

- She is very thankful for lunch crates purchased by PTO.
- Regarding Halloween, it is needed:
- Parents to make sure the children have their costume before departure;
- Also, children should come dressed in their costumes as much as they can;
- No accessories, no face paint;
- Dismissal should happen in the classroom for the parents attending the classroom Halloween party if they want to bring kids home;
- According to Mrs. Sonnie, majority of Hillside conflicts are manageable and age appropriate
- Please fill out the Climate Survey. Email was sent out to all parents;
- Hillside Harris Café has been a success. The students have their breakfast at the stage, so the location for Holiday Shop will have to be moved from the stage area.

School Counselor – Mrs. Marcantonio

- Harassment intimidation bullying (Reporting HIB protocol) has been released online;
- Any bullying episode must be reported. Parents can find 338 Form via the following website:

<https://reporting.hibster.com/Pages/Home.aspx?if=115>

- Here are the definitions, and criteria for incidents that are eligible for investigation:

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying means any gesture, any written, verbal or physical act, or any electronic communications, whether it be a single incident or a series of incidents.

- Any questions about HIB, please reach out to Mrs. Marcantonio Ext 27007
jmarcantonio@mtlaurelschools.org

VP Fundraising - Shannon Toscano on behalf of Meredith Kaganovskiy

- Thank you - Mum Sale & Clothing Drive, Rita's Dine Out. It was a huge success;
- Dine Out's - Jersey Mike's, upcoming in Nov
- 50/50 and Ladies Night – get your tickets now! Each raffle ticket is \$10. No need to be present at the event to win the raffle (see flyer for details)
- Ladies Night Out on October 25th! Our guest fundraiser to support our students programs, and teachers;
- Drawing for a Luxury basket that happened at the PTO meeting. The winner is Lauren Elliot, congratulations.

VP of Student Activities - Amber Elliot

- Thank you for attending the Back to School Social. Positive feedback on Rita's, and Chick Fila truck. It was great to see all teachers and students having fun together;
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Kid's Paint Night - Jenna Murphy

- November 13th at 6:00pm - Kid's paint Night (We'll paint Hillside Harry) \$20 per ticket;

Recess Runners - Erica Bennett

- It has been a huge success. We have bubble guns to throw at the kids as they run
- Great feedback from students, volunteers and teacher;

Anti Bullying Assembly - Amber Elliot

- This is a unique program with snakes and lizards used to illustrate "misunderstood creatures".
- Each session is 1 hour with a 15 min break needed in between.
- Through Another's Eyes is a great and unique program that uses our reptiles to illustrate the need for understanding and kindness towards not only nature and the creatures that are often misunderstood, but shows the need to apply those ideas towards each other
- In the program you get to see all the animals including snakes, lizards, and turtles...both local and exotic.

Social Media Secretary - Shannon Gallo

- Follow us for up-to-date information, social media & parent page on FB, link tree, where to find us on Hillside website

Presidents Report - Melissa Jordan & Melissa Venditti

- Teacher Appreciation Events (Anne Myers)
 - Back to School lunch
 - Halloween Candy Bar
 - Harvest lunch
- Half day pretzels - 11/25
- Holiday Shop - 12/9-16 (Anne Myers)
- Harvest Lunch on November 22nd (Sign up Genius to be sent)
- Holiday Shop – 12/9-16 (Anne Myers) (Sign up Genius to be sent)

Treasurer & Assistant Treasurer – Heather Yearly & Jenna Murphy

- Overview of the 2024 -2025 Budget
- Highlights of the biggest fundraisers are:
- Ladies Night
- Mums Sale
- Holiday Shop
- Clothing Drive
- The proceeds of all fundraisers fund several school programs like the fish tank purchase and maintenance, color run, and teacher activities
- PTO will fund the Wishlist for the teachers
- Fish Tank maintenance is being costly, so we are looking for a different vendor. (We pay \$250.00 per month.
- Mrs. Sonnie emphasized this tank has brought so much joy for the children, and the school is very grateful for this tank
- We are brainstorming way to fund the cost for the maintenance, and present to parents
- Motion to vote on Budget
- Votes in Favor / Votes Opposed

Motion to adjourn meeting