



PTO Meeting Minutes March 11, 2025 6:30PM

Welcome – President – Julia Place

Meeting called to order at 6:42 PM by PTO Board President, Julia Place. Dress down passes are available for families. Dress Down passes will be given to families who attend the meeting. Volunteer hours earned for attending. Please record in the book under your family name.

Minutes –Co-secretaries —Tanisha Wilson and Trish Symister. Minutes are kept in the office, uploaded to the webpage, and a copy is sent with the newsletter.

Treasurers Report – Treasurer, Cristina Wright, was not in attendance so President, Julia Place provided information about current account balance. The current account balance is \$5737.97. The PTO Board is still looking for a co-treasurer. Position is still open and looking for volunteers.

Science and Art Fair Regionals is to take place on March 13th.

Vice President's report - Alicia Savela

- **Yearbook sales:** Visit buytheyearbook.com to place your order. Our school ID is 1161397. Yearbook sales coming to an end. The price is at present \$25 and will jump to \$30.
- **Jog-a-Thon:** Pledge Envelopes are due back on March 13th. Jog a-thon was a huge success. Kids had lots of fun and there many great pictures. Funds are due on March 13th. We can advise of total when school returns after Spring Break. Parents need to note that if all donations were made online, there would be no need for the envelopes.
- **Teacher Luncheon-** There is teacher luncheon on March 14th. Most items are signed up for and that is greatly appreciated. Food needs to be drop off by 11AM. March 14th teacher lunch provided by rm 2, 4th grade.
- **Spring Fling-** Bowling Spring Fling at Shore Lanes on Dairy Rd. Spring Fling will take place on March 29th. Be sure to buy tickets in advance. We get a 50% of the proceeds back to PTO, and it is \$16 per person. It is on a Saturday vs on a Thursday as normal. People can come and decide not to participate. It is possible to come and not play or play. Tickets must be purchased in advanced. The bowling alley has to be advised in advance how many people are coming. It is possible to pay by check. Checks can be made out to Educational Horizons PTO.
- **Morning Mile** is still doing well. It continues to go strong. Volunteers are needed for the next 6 weeks. The PTO is looking for volunteers so please sign up. It is

important to remember not to drop off before 8AM. Volunteers need to get a few things ready before 8AM and will be unavailable to attend to children who are dropped off early. The kids are doing well: 52 kids receive a charm in February!

Julia Place, PTO President, discussed if there were any ideas for PTO project for 2025. Below are the suggestions that were discussed:

1. Saving Money for astroturfing- only a year ago, the PTO paid for grass but that has not lasted. At present, we are trying to come up with different ideas for treatment for the playground. It would take a couple years to pay for it. Previously, it was thought that this project would cost close to \$20,000. The PTO wanted to see if we would like to start thing of making the investment. Astroturfing would open the possibilities of different use. It cleans itself with the rain. The PTO decided it would be a good idea to get quotes for this.
2. Montessori Training for Teachers- Another suggestion is bringing Montessori experts to our school to provide training. Since all of our staff members are not Montessori trained, this would be great to strengthen the foundation for this. Dr. Thornton has looked into a few options and would like to get someone in the Grades 4-6 level to give some training. The idea is to bring in the expert. We could get something productive done for about \$2000 for a few sessions. The vision would be to start the sessions in August 2025, get another one in October 2025 and maybe another in February 2026 and in May 2026. This training would have next year in the focus. The PDs would be prepared for next year.

The suggestion would be to do both depending on how much everything costs. We could prioritize the training and then put extra money toward the astroturf. A question that was asked- can we finance the astroturf? All that information will be researched. The idea is to concrete the area and put padding on top.

Principal's report - Paul Galloway

- Chick- Fil-A- Principal Galloway wanted to thank all who donated.
- Spring Break- Friday March 14th is a teacher workday and it leads to Spring Break 16-22.
- Morning Mile- Principal Galloway reiterated to not drop off before 8AM.
- Vision and Hearing Testing- went very smoothly! Thanks to all the volunteers
- Testing- Writing Test on April 1st for 4th, 5th, and 6th grade. Please have students practicing this at home. Testing PM3 dates: Best Writing 4/1, Star Reading, Early Literacy 4/22, Star Math 4/23, FAST Reading 5/1, Fast Math 5/2, and Science 5th Grade 5/13.
- The Star tests and FAST tests are also coming. Please have students in bed early and send them off with a great breakfast. Rest and nutrition are very important. Make up test days follow the first dates.

Teacher's Report – Lavita Saldanha

Each grade is studying these topics below:

Kindergarten- measurement, reptiles and amphibians, Spring and South America.

ELA- Decoding and segment words and writing complete sentences.

Grades 1 and 2- Addition and Subtraction, Animal Habitants

In ELA/ Grade 1- Comprehension skills, Sentence fluency while grade 2 is learning about making a difference in the world by being good citizens. Planning a field trip. Looking for volunteers

Grade 3- Life cycles of plants and animals, money around the world and cultural difference. In Math, the focus is multiplication, division, area and fractions. In ELA, the focus is on conventions, grammar and cursive writing. Test prep- Benchmark assessment

Grade 4- is focusing on leaf plots and line plots, renewable vs nonrenewable resources, IN ELA, they are writing and performing plays based in Dr. Seuss's books.

Grade 5- is reviewing fractions and learning about events leading to the revolutionary war and types of energy.

Grade 6- learning coordinate grids, Germanic tribes and Earth spheres. They are also preparing for the Science fair. In ELA, they are reviewing text structures and features, analyzing the author's purpose.

Concerns and Comments:

The PTO Board is looking for volunteers.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:18PM.

Next PTO will be Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 6:30