



Seneca Street PTO
436 Seneca Street
Oneida, NY 13421
info@senecastreetpto.org

December 2018 General Meeting Minutes

Date, Time and Location: December 5th, 6pm, Library

Meeting called to order by: Linda Buschatzke 6:00 p.m.

Attendance: Linda Buschatzke, Leslie Zimmerman, Grace Nicholas, Melissa Peebles, Jennifer Dropp, Jennifer Roberts, Shelby Jones, Melisa Mannix, Steve Mannix, Colleen Kahler, Lisa Coakley, Sue McIntyre, Kimberly Sheedy, Mike Hudson, Danielle Hudson, Jennifer VanWie-Snyder, Bettina McCormick, Penny Houser, Doug Buschatzke

New Business:

Survey Results presented by Jennifer Roberts: Staff response - 22 people. Family response - 33 people.

Overall families and staff said they could trust PTO, that they were satisfied with the PTO this year. Most staff reported they had not previously read PTO by-laws. A link was provided to them. Parents indicated they prefer e-mail and text messages as methods of contact. Staff volunteers feel more appreciated than family volunteers.

On the question of whether PTO does too many fundraisers: staff is split evenly and families say they disagree that there are too many. On the question of whether the PTO sends home too many flyers and papers: staff are split evenly, families say no.

Many families say that PTO meetings are at an inconvenient time and that is why they haven't attended. PTO has started using Facebook Live to include them. Both families and staff agree on top five budget items that could be eliminated: technology improvements, 5th grade end-of-year trip, 5th grade class shirts, 5th grade picnic, \$100 dollar teacher gifts.

New PTO Communications presented by Linda Buschatzke: Every Tuesday following a PTO meeting a newsletter will go home, the same cover page every month. Stapled to it will be forms to return and reminders.

Fundraiser Calendar presented by Linda Buschatzke: Family Night each month. Calendar was distributed to meeting attendees. Motion to approve. Approved.



Seneca Street PTO
436 Seneca Street
Oneida, NY 13421
info@senecastreetpto.org

Treasurer's Report presented by Leslie Zimmerman: We have around \$7,744.70 raised so far.

Spring Budget presented by Leslie Zimmerman: The PTO Executive Committee would like to fun the following this year: \$650 toward author visit (this includes a \$500 grant from Walmart this year), \$500 in high school scholarships, \$150 toward 5th grade moving up ceremony, \$7.50 per student toward field trip costs.

Field trip funds will carry over to the following year if not used. Additional funds will not be given to another class. PTO avoids spending money on items that could be donated. Motion to approve budget: Approved.

The goal is to have \$5000 to carry over into next year for the beginning of the school year. Motion to add minimum balance requirement to by-laws: Approved.

5th grade will sell Smencils to earn money.

Fun Run presented by Jennifer Roberts: The kids loved the fun run. It was a quick, easy way to earn funds. Participation was rather low, but the event is expected to self-advertise for next year. Comments from kids and adults were very positive, and many want to do it again.

Book Fair presented by Linda Buschatzke: Kalpana Lennox unable to attend and report on book fair. It is expected to reach earnings goal.

Box Tops presented by Melisa Mannix: Numbers are down. Parents can fill in empty spaces with dimes on box tops pages. Encourage students to put their names and grade/teacher on the forms so they can get credit or win prizes.

Winter Social presented by Colleen Kahler: Little Caesar's will donate pizza. Activities: Cookie walk, Carols, Crafts, Letters to Santa, Elves, Santa, and Reindeer Food. Jen Dropp has props. Discussion about creating a hashtag for the photos to make them easier to find.

Candidate Introductions by Mike Hudson and Melisa Mannix: Introduced themselves as candidates for president and stated their goals for the PTO.

Vote completed. Melisa Mannix is the new PTO president with 10 votes out of 18 submitted.



Seneca Street PTO
436 Seneca Street
Oneida, NY 13421
info@senecastreetpto.org

Open Discussion: Colleen Kahler proposed a 501(c)(3) would be worth pursuing. It could open fundraising and donation doors. Will be researched for next meeting.

Motion to Adjourn by Lisa Coakley at 7:15 p.m.

Next meeting Wednesday, January 9th at 6 pm