

Overlook PTO Meeting Minutes
September 28, 2017 @7pm

Welcome Sandy Jones, Co-President

Principal's Report Principal, Mr. Perlman

Mr. Perlman welcomed everyone & stated that we've had a great start to the school year. He mentioned there have been some issues with transportation to start the year & that he's working with parents & the district to address them. He also told the group that he has a very "open door" policy and parents are welcome to contact him anytime with concerns.

Mr. Perlman announced the following:

- New behavior incentives will be rolled out school wide very soon.
- The reading program for the school has changed to a program called Journeys. This is a great program with more small-group/focused opportunities for learning. Since it is new, there will be a bit of a learning curve but so far, it's worked very well.
- Tier times will start next week. Letters should be coming home to parents about this very soon.
- Halloween parties are rapidly approaching. Teachers will be sending home info along with tickets for attendance. There is also always the option to opt-out your child for the party.

Teacher Update Mr. Coates & Mr. Staszkiw

Mr. Coates & Mr. Staszkiw both thanked the PTO for the recent staff luncheon and for the Amazon gift cards. They reiterated Mr. Perlman's enthusiasm about the positive start to the school year and agreed that the staff is always available to parents for questions and concerns.

Treasurer's Report Karin Quinn presented an overview of the financials for the PTO at this point. Full report is attached but here are some highlights:

- 6th grade fundraising is off to a great start. Mum sales and Car Wash were very successful and pretzel sales will begin next week.
- The PTO has already paid for the 6th grade play tickets, for the Acorn program (run by Briar Bush) and for the 2nd, 4th and 6th grade field trips. The PTO provides \$5/student to offset the costs of one field trip per grade/per year.
- Taxes are already done and filed for the year. The PTO fiscal calendar ends on July 31.

Sandy followed up with some information about things that the PTO pays for throughout the year, such as Reading Night & Gold Card Nights. Also, the PTO purchased a cart with 20 Chromebooks for the school last year.

September Recap Start-up Funds: The PTO gifted \$75 Amazon gift cards to all teachers, support staff and principal at the start of the year to cover personal start-up costs.

Rita's: The Rita's back to school night fundraiser occurred in September. The PTO is still waiting on final numbers of how much was raised.

Spirit Wear: The spirit wear sales online have been extended for a few more days but all orders need to be placed no later than Monday, October 2nd.

Staff Welcome Luncheon: The staff welcome luncheon, hosted by the PTO, was held on Tuesday, September 26th and was much appreciated by the staff. Big thanks to all the parents who provided food/drinks/etc. and who helped out with putting on the luncheon, especially Heather Chong, Lidia Banh, and Jule Belton.

Classroom Parents & Helpers: Jamie Scanlan is organizing the classroom parent & helpers list this year. She thanked all of those who already volunteered and indicated that there was always room for more help so any parents interested should contact her. Specifically, she indicated she could really use a parent helper (a lead is already in place) for the following classes: Mrs. Simmons, Mr. Arrendando, and Mrs. Kelley. The list is otherwise complete and classroom parents should look for communications from Jamie shortly as the Halloween party is rapidly approaching.

October Events

Chick-Fil-A: This event is scheduled for Oct. 3rd from 5-8 pm. No coupon is needed – just tell them you are there from Overlook. The cow will also be visiting school during the day.

Fall Festival: This event is scheduled for Oct. 13th from 5 pm – 7:30 pm. Wrist bands can be purchased for \$5 for any child wishing to participate in activities. This includes younger siblings, cousins, friends, etc. Wrist bands can be purchased online from the school store and picked up at the event. There are lots of fun activities planned – come out and join us! If you are able/willing to volunteer to help run the event, you can find a Sign Up Genius on the PTO website.

Patricia Botero also noted that a parent has donated a cornhole set to the 6th grade to be given out as a door prize.

Sandy Jones told the group that the PTO is collecting gently used Halloween costumes to be sold off at a low cost at the festival. A table is already set up in the school lobby for drop off of costumes for donation.

Yankee Candle Sale: This sale will begin October 23rd and end November 6th. Orders can be placed online or with the paperwork that will be sent home. Online purchases are encouraged because they will be delivered directly to all buyers.

6th Grade Fundraiser Pretzel Sales: Pretzels will be available for purchase starting on Oct. 5. Orders need to be placed on Wednesday and will be delivered on Thursday. This is an attempt to reduce the amount of waste we've seen in the past with same day ordering. You can order for the year through the PTO website or pay week-to-week at school.

November Events

Book Fair/Reading Night: This year's fair will take place Nov. 3- 9. Reading night is Nov. 8 from 6-8, with the book fair open that evening from 5:30-6:30. Children can also shop during their normal library time when the fair is open. Volunteers are always needed so be on the lookout for a Sign Up Genius for this as well.

Boys Night Out: This year's BNO is scheduled for November 10th. It will be open to all boys enrolled at Overlook. Currently, we have nothing scheduled and are looking for both ideas and volunteers to help organize and run the event. Please see any PTO board member if you have interest in helping or if you have an idea.

Holiday Hallow: This will take place the week of November 27th. The children will have an opportunity to shop for family, friends, etc. at the store and all items are priced from \$1-\$5. Volunteers will be needed for this as well so be on the lookout for a sign up for it.

Open Discussion

There was a reminder about Rewards opportunities that the school uses for fundraising:

Giant A+ rewards starts in Oct: You can register your Giant bonus card and a % of your purchases goes to the school. It does not interfere with your other rewards points.

Box Tops: The PTO collects box tops. You can send them to school in a bag with your child's name on it to their teacher or there is a drop box in the lobby of the school.

Amazon Smile: If you register & buy items from Amazon through the Amazon Smile website, ½% of your purchases will be donated.

Sandy provided an overview of the PTO website (www.overlookproud.com). The school store is available there as well as the directory. We are hoping to have the directory available by mid-October. Each family will get a hard copy and a password-protected e-copy will be available through the PTO website. Parents will receive that password through a Skyward message from the school.

Mr. Perlman reminded all families that you will need your clearances completed and filed with the school district in order to chaperone any activities, be a classroom parents, etc. There is a link on the school district website as well as the PTO website on how to get these done.

A parent asked for clarification the 6th grade fundraising events – are they open to all grades? In general, all PTO hosted activities are open to all grades. If there is an exception to that, it would be clearly noted.

A question was asked about yearbooks. These are given out to 6th grade only and are put together by parent volunteers and paid for by the class' fundraising money.

Mr. Perlman reminded parents that this year's spring concert will be at the Sr. High due to an increase in attendance in recent years. That concert is Monday 6/11. Select students from grades 3-6 will participate. The rehearsal show will be at 9:30 am this year.

Next meeting Thursday October 19th at 7PM in Library