



O'Hara PTO General Meeting

Meeting Minutes – October 18, 2018

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., O'Hara Auditorium

Approximately 20 people in attendance. Board members Lauren Mohn, Nadine Carl and Sarah Shaffer and Kristy Batis were in attendance.

- **Committee News and Volunteer Opportunities**

- Family Movie Night (Nadine) - Preliminary plans were discussed. Anticipated for winter, parents/guardians and children will attend. Jenn Dunbar will be the chair along with 3 other volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering you can contact Jenn Dunbar: pjbbh2016@gmail.com
- Thanksgiving Basket Drive (Nadine) - This year's drive will benefit Backpacks for Hunger. The drive will start Nov. 1 and end Nov. 19. We will need 20 volunteers on the 19th to sort and distribute the food. Meg Helsel will coordinate the program meghelsel@gmail.com. A sign-up genius will be forthcoming. It was noted that Meg should send an email to coordinators from each class. It was suggested that we tally the collection for each class.
- Open Chair Position - O'Hara Foxes Club - This is the new after school enrichment program currently offering yoga, Lab Ratz Science Club and Chess Club. Scholarships are available for all OFC programs. You can contact nurse or guidance counselor if you are in need of a scholarship, it is an anonymous process. A coordinator is needed who is organized and passionate to get the program going and expand it! If interested please email Nadine Carl: nadine@oharapto.org

- **Treasurer's Report -**

- Sarah Shaffer presented in Treasurer Kristina Adams absence. \$35,465 is the current balance. The PTO is in a good financial position.
- The recent Chipotle Fundraiser earned \$470. An idea for next year was to try to get Cold Stone to also participate.
- Barnes and Noble Shopping Date - PTO will get a percentage of sales for any purchases made at Barnes and Noble store on December 1 and online for the week of December 1 (details to follow). Our earnings are based on the total amount of purchases.
- Square One Art - The annual fundraiser will be happening again this year. Items from Square One Art program will be delivered before Hanukkah.

- **District Forum Update -**

- Marybeth Dadd reported on the first public meeting that was held last week covering the budget. The next meeting will feature presentations from parent groups including PAGE (gifted children), PALS (learning support), DMS Group, Fracking Group and School Safety Groups will all give a brief presentation. O'Hara is still in need of reps if interested contact Mary Beth Dadd.

- **District Updates** (Dr. Nestor, Executive Director of Elementary Education and Instruction) Sari Berkofski, District Director of Literacy and Megan Colette Executive Director of Innovation and Leadership and Nancy Foster from the School Board
 - Ashley Nestor presented on elementary curriculum
 - Sari Berkofski presented on Reading and Language Arts Curriculum (Journeys and Fundations)
 - Ashley Nestor presented on Math Curriculum/Eureka Math
 - Megan Colette talked about STEAM Program
- Two math nights will be held soon Oct 29 at Kerr and January 31 at the High school LGI Room
- Information sessions for the new Spanish Immersion Program will be held in December 3-6
 - December 3 - 6:00 p.m. Kerr Elementary
 - December 4 - 6:00 p.m. Fairview Elementary
 - December 5 - 6:00 p.m. Hartwood Elementary
 - December 6 - 6:00 p.m. O'Hara Elementary
- A copy of the presentation can be viewed here:
https://oharapto.files.wordpress.com/2018/10/pta_pto-meeting.pdf

- **Principal Updates (Mrs. Batis)**
 - School Safety - Safety “upgrades” will be made to the Halloween parade this year. Families can watch for a letter that will be coming with a map detailing parking and access to the building.
 - Parent Teacher Conferences - A link is out to sign up for teacher conferences Nov 5 and 6. Reach out to teachers if you have any issues. Families with multiple students should register on the link for each teacher (not just one).

Upcoming Events

- 10/19 Last day to turn in Box Tops for Fall Collection
- 10/24 PALS Meeting Roots of Faith 800 Main St. Sharpsburg 9:15 am
- 10/26 Early Dismissal
- 10/31 Halloween Parade (2:10) and Classroom Parties
- 11/1 Thanksgiving Basket Drive Begins
- 11/5 Early Dismissal - Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 11/6 No School - Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 11/13 District Forum Meeting, High School LGI Room, 7pm - 8pm
- 11/15 Next PTO Meeting: 9:15 am O'Hara Auditorium