



March 19, 2024

Attendees: Nicole Nejezchleba, Stephanie Woodstrom, Steph Berner, Sarah Sirna, Calida Fuerst, Gretchen Padget, Tara Pitkin, Kali Sundquist, Jeff Gustafson, Michele Ewan, Kayla Lande, Lisa Murphy-Salvador, Sarah Abelsen, Jennifer Chu, Cindy Address

Absent Board Members: Laura Richardson, Sarah Wexler, Kristen Coward

Topic (Person Responsible)	Discussion Items and Notes	Action Items
Review of Minutes (Sarah S)	<u>February 2024</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Notes have been updated to include Nicole's objection to having the Teachers Union attend/speak without the balance of having the district attend/speak as well - Motion to approve seconded and carried 	Sarah W to post to website
Teacher Presentation (Sarah Abelsen, Music Team)	Orchestra Hall Field Trip <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sarah requested <\$2,000 for tickets (\$6.25 per student) and transportation (~\$900) fto reinstate the annual fourth grade field trip to Orchestra Hall in the 2024-2025 school year. This was previously an annual field trip for fourth graders that was suspended during Covid. - The \$1,000 line item for this field trip still exists in the PTO budget. PTO will use this year's fund to purchase advance tickets, and next year's budget to pay for transportation. PTO will also adjust this line item in next year's budget to appropriately cover this cost each year. - Motion to approve seconded and carried 	
Fundraising Update (Steph B)	Code Ninjas Parents Night Out <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - March event has been sold out - Two more dates have been added to this successful series. Information to be posted. 	
Event Updates	Baseball Game Family Event	Sarah S and Jeff

(Event leads)	<p>(Sarah S, Jennifer Chu)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PTO targeting May 5 for a family event at a Twins game when the district-wide youth choir is singing the national anthem; Excelsior Elementary is also arranging an event/outing to this game. - Twins game pricing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Premium Games: Upper-Level (UL) \$24; Lower-Level (LL) \$40 - Select Games: UL \$14; LL \$30 - Value Games: UL \$12; LL \$22 - Extra Value Games: UL \$8; LL \$20 - PTO has also researched options for a family event at a Saints Game on June 8; Saints offer an optional add-on experience of throwing out the last pitch and some 7th inning stretch activities for a \$100 fee. 	following with Twins contacts
	<p>Read-a-thon (Tara)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tara reviewed options for reading event programs, including Beanstack (https://www.beanstack.com/), Read-a-thon (www.read-a-thon.com) and Read a fun (https://www.readafun.com/download/) - PTO will plan this event for next school year in conjunction with the Spring book fair and February "I love to Read" month 	
<p>Treasurer Update (Gretchen, Kristen)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - After all planned expenses, estimating ~\$25,000 remaining budget to spend - Board briefly shared ideas/requests: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More staff appreciation - More shade on the playground (e.g. a sun sail or planting trees) - Fund orchestra trip for THIS year's 4th graders to attend next year as well - Parent Night Out by grade level - Parent Gala event 	
<p>Enrichment Updates (Tara, Jeff)</p>	<p>Speech Teachers: Story Champs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Request for \$368 of \$400 budget to purchase Story Champs program in English and Spanish to benefit grades K-5 - Motion to approve, seconded and carried 	
	<p>Reading Specialists: Decodable Books</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requesting \$474 of \$800 budget for two sets of Decodable Books to support reading development; will be used for intervention groups and to share with teachers for support of phonics skills - Motion to approve seconded and carried 	

	Kindergarten Team: Board Games <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requesting \$423 remaining budget for board games for inside recess and for stations and to teach about sportsmanship, problem solving, etc. - Motion to approve seconded and carried 	
	Gym Team: LED Light Pods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requesting \$557 for portable LED light reaction pods for speed and agility training - Motion to approve seconded and carried 	
	Media Team: Books on Indigenous People <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requesting remaining budget of \$463 to buy books about indigenous people - Motion to approve seconded and carried 	
	STEM: 3D Printer Filament, Canoodle Sets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requesting \$77 to test a new type of 3D printing filament to see if it works better - Requesting remainder of \$463 budget for 40+ Canoodle Extreme sets to practice strategic thinking - Motion to approve seconded and carried 	Tara to follow up with STEM team in May to find out if filament worked and/or discuss need for a new/better 3D printer
	3rd Grade Team: Headphones, Novels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requesting remaining budget of \$324 for backup headphones and novels for classroom read alouds to be used in all third grade classrooms - Motion to approve, seconded and carried 	Board to clarify how we allot funds for things like headphones and other supplies; note this in our budget next year
	Math Team: Intervention Kit Supplies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requesting \$935 to buy supplies for math intervention kits for K through 5, including base 10 blocks, flash cards, white boards, containers, etc.; Teachers can use in classroom or intervention teachers can use with kids struggling; Requested funds are over math team budget - Motion to approve seconded and carried 	
	High Performers: Young Authors Conference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requesting funds to take 25 5th grade students to the Young Authors Conference - This event is already covered by a separate line item in the PTO budget 	Tara to follow up with Joy Curran to see if she has other enrichment request ideas
	Art: Sprayfnger Supplies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional funds needed for the artist in residence project supplies, separate from the art enrichment budget. PTO to cover; needs Melanie to provide the list and cost. - Video about Sprayfnger artist; May 21-24, 28 & 29 	

Lost and Found (Calida, Steph B)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There have been many challenges managing lost and found this year, primarily with storage space and with paras/students borrowing items for recess after they've been organized and cataloged - Potential solutions for next school year if PTO continues to manage lost and found: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue bringing all labeled items to the office to get them back to students - Non-labeled hats and mittens will be put into a general "borrow bin" - Non-labeled coats, clothing and boots will be organized in the cabinet - PTO to stop taking photos and listing items on a shared file as it takes too much time and is quickly outdated - Ask recess paras to place new lost and found items in an "unsorted" bin so PTO can easily identify items needing to be organized. - Schedule and communicate about planned donations, likely after conferences and during holiday and spring breaks - Create a "lost and found FAQ" sheet for Open House so parents understand challenges and how this process solves for them 	
Digital Safety (Steph W)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PTO briefly discussed interest in arranging an informational event for families to learn together about digital safety for children, particularly older students (4th and 5th graders) who are getting more exposure to social media apps from peers - Interest in reviving efforts from before the pandemic and potentially plan a family evening at the school where younger kids enjoy movie night and older kids and parents learn about digital safety together 	Sarah S to get access to State standards on digital technology education; Sarah S also reaching out to district tech team for recommendation on organizations who offer this training (one option: Protect Young Eyes)
President's Update	Board slate reminder <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Board encouraged to recruit additional interested friends to be members at large 	
	2024-2025 Calendar Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meeting planned for April 11 at 9:30 am to plan calendar for next year; Additional input and reviewers needed at that meeting 	Sarah S to send a note asking who would like to join the meeting
	ICA Food Shelf <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Food shelf contact wants to do a tour for the kids 	
	District PTO Meeting: Tonka Pride <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Confusion about rules around pop ups; Board 	Kayla to follow up with Booster Board to learn

	<p>would like to host more but have been previously told we're not allowed; Booster Board indicated they didn't think we wanted to host pop ups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Board would like to host another pop up; Carnival is likely the best option for the remainder of the school year 	about issues and see if we can host one more pop up
	<p>Hammock Garden</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Topic for future meeting: interest in purchasing hammocks for the courtyard; would need volunteers to dig holes and set the posts, and would need to understand city requirements (Laura could use her City of Shorewood connection to learn more) 	Tara to send out info about hammock gardens
Principal's Update (Cindy)	<p>Music Program Spotlight</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cindy shared how Minnewashta is one of the only schools doing evening concerts for parents to enjoy, which is a time investment for the music and grade-level teachers. - PTO to consider buying them dinner on those nights 	Laura to connect with 4th grade teachers on dinner interest for concert in April. Michele willing to assist if available; Steph W will be there that night and can help too
Meeting Adjourned		
Topics for Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Belonging (Cindy) - Hammock Garden (Sarah, Tara) 	
Helpful Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Event Dates - Board Contacts - Room Parent Contacts 	

Minnewashta PTO

February Treasurer Report

March 19, 2024

We started the 2023-2024 school year on 7/1/2023 with \$31,337.77 in our combined checking and savings accounts. As of February 29, 2024, we had a total of \$87,502.53.

Administrative Updates

- None

Program Updates – February Transactions

Minnewashta PTO

Profit and Loss

February 2024

	Total
Income	
Birthday Books Income	\$ 140.00
Corporate Sponsor / Donation Income	\$ 353.81
Expenses	
Movie Night Expense	\$ 166.24
School Printing Expense	\$ 108.46
Custodial & Front Office Staff Appreciation	\$ 116.62
Staff Appreciation	\$ 989.15
Imagination Fair	\$ 399.86
Other Fees (RevTrak, Intuit, Sign-up Gen)	\$ 60.06
Petty Cash In and Out	\$ 395.50
PTO Administrative Expenses	\$ 200.00

Minnewashta PTO **Balance Sheet** As of February 29, 2024

	Total
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Wells Fargo Checking	77,475.96
Wells Fargo Savings	10,026.57
Total Bank Accounts	\$ 87,502.53
Other Current Assets	
Uncategorized Asset	0.00
Total Other Current Assets	\$ 0.00
Total Current Assets	\$ 87,502.53
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 87,502.53
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Total Liabilities	
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	24,796.87
Retained Earnings	6,579.32
Net Income	56,126.34
Total Equity	\$ 87,502.53
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 87,502.53