



Malcolm White PTO

Minutes: Wednesday, February 9, 2022

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Executive Board: Amy Panichella (president), Ulli Airey (enrichment coordinator), Jackie Buttarro (vice president), Kevin Kealing (secretary), Rob Nickerson (principal), Carla Beaudoin

Attendance: Kerri Swett-Zezzo, Rae Allen (2nd grade teacher), Sarah B, Renee Prestia, Jennifer Jones, Emily Lipsett, Liz Cuneo, Elise Meyers, Chris Elwell, Janessa Drudi, Mary Bonsignore (5th grade teacher), Heather Grossklaus

- 1) Call to Order at 7:00pm
- 2) Introductions
- 3) Review of Minutes from January 12th meeting
 - a) Motion made to accept the minutes from the 1/12/22 meeting by Kevin Kealing, seconded by Carla Beaudoin and passed unanimously.
- 4) Principal / Teacher Comments
 - a) Miss Allen reported that 2/15 is the 100th day of school.
 - b)
- 5) Kindness Committee
 - a) Elise Meyers reported that on Friday, 2/11 they will be handing out hearts with positive affirmations to children at drop off.
 - b) The committee would like to do an initiative once a month, small things that would the kids would really like.
 - c) Please reach out to Elise directly or to Amy Panicella for more information or to volunteer.
- 6) Rainbow Alliance
 - a) Kerri Swett-Zezzo spoke to the meeting about establishing a Rainbow Alliance at Malcolm White to make a safe space for LGBTQ individuals visible. It could incorporate read-alouds of inclusive stories, parent meetings, staff development and support, etc.
 - b) Please contact Kerri or the PTO if you are interested in participating.
 - c) Discussion was had concerning making sure that matching efforts were happening at other elementary schools as well.

- 7) Community Day
 - a) This year's Community Day is Saturday, April 30.
 - b) Because it is earlier this year (due to yard waste pick-up), we will not be able to plant flowers
- 8) Treasurer's Report
 - a) We are currently ahead of budget in fundraising (+3,651.39)
 - b) We received a grant for Change is Simple for \$4,800
 - c) Community Support expenses have been greater than budgeted (\$5,000)
 - d) Looking to support further with Teacher Appreciation in the next several weeks.
 - e) Current balance of \$20,356 which leaves a good deal of funding that is available for new creative initiatives.
- 9) Vice-President's Report / Fundraising
 - a) Trivia Night
 - i) Hopefully this will take place in the Spring in person, possibly outside, but virtual is also a possibility depending on the venue availability and COVID.
- 10) Enrichment Coordinator's Report
 - a) Book Fair (3/7 - 3/11)
 - i) Will be held in person this year (during the school day) with very limited parent support.
 - ii) Children will look at books ahead of time, bring their lists home for the parents to help select books.
 - b) Ulli is reaching out to teachers directly to solicit ideas for enrichment opportunities.
- 11) Additional comments/questions
 - a) Elise Mayers asked if it would be possible to buy Malcolm White-branded gear for parents to buy at events or at the school
 - b) Mr. Nickerson was supportive of the idea of getting a local vendor to take over the production of materials rather than the current online shop. He will research this further and get back to the PTO.
- 12) Principal's report
 - a) Mr. Nickerson is actively looking for lunch monitors – there is currently only 1 lunch monitor (out of the usual 5)
- 13) Adjournment
 - a) Jackie made a motion to adjourn at 7:39, seconded by Elise Mayers and unanimously passed.

****Our next meeting will be on Wednesday March 9, 2022****

