

**Meeting Minutes**

**March 21, 2023 – 6:00 pm**

**Our Mission**: To foster close relationships between the home and the school and provide volunteer and financial support for parents and teachers to work cooperatively in the development and education of children at Mitchell Elementary School. We welcome and embrace Mitchell families and promote inclusive membership regardless of race, sex, class, sexual orientation, age, socioeconomic status, religion, or ability. Mitchell PTO strives to promote participation in broader educational programs in our community.

**Welcome and Introductions**

* Attending: Eddie Latour (principal), Kiel Phegley (vice president), Missy Plegue (treasurer), Dr. Bell (v. principal), Pete Finnie (fundraiser), Caitlyn Sorensen (secretary); members at large: [Mitchell PTO attendance 2022-2023](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Eg-_9pFUEQovegjjQSPlhJRL2M3qtE5tBRbY2VPtWQU/edit?usp=sharing);
* Introductions, get to know each other - we opted to skip in the interest in time

**Principal’s Report - Mr. Latour**

* Celebrating World Down Syndrome Day by wearing fun socks!
* April 28th is international night!
* M step will begin May 10 but will do second week; 3-5th grade only
* Sending out round 1 invites to summer learning and can look at the options online
* Plante Moran - week of April 3rd or April 10th - zoom in the evening; decided on Wednesday 4/5 at 6pm and will record for those who cannot attend
* Excited about a bunch of grants; literacy grant with Kevin Karr has accumulated money/got money for the book room and presenting to the staff tomorrow
* Ramadan starts Wed/Thur so moved 5th grade Exhibition
  + Tuesday, April 4th for exhibition

**Board Representative Reports:**

**President**: none

**Vice President**: none

**Secretary**: Caitlyn Sorensen-Kowalski - attendance

* **Motion to approve minutes from 2/21/2022:** Yes (all); no (0); abstain (0) - passed

**Treasurer**: Missy Plegue -

* budget: shared in the agenda; since the teacher survey has gone out they have been using their money and that is great!
* Still negative for spirit wear when it should be a fundraiser. Needs list of cost of items from last year if anyone has it; if we do spirit wear we will need to increase cost of items because we may have lost money;
* played around with the budget for flexibility and if we don't earn any more money we could increase grant funds for all teachers from $150 to $250 for this year and revisit next year. Increasing $100 a teacher for just this year:
  + Yes (18); no (0); abstain (1) - passed

**PTOC Representative**: Sarah Anton -

* PTOC is doing a campaign to increase funding for PTOs at title one schools. Please donate or share social media notes if you can. Thrift shop is matching it. Mitchell should be directly benefiting from this fundraiser.
* Presentation from Dr. Murray about how inequity emerges in schools and advances to more equitable and inclusive school communities; if you are a part of the community you should watch the recording. Links below:
* <https://www.a2schools.org/Page/18385>
* Recording of PTOC presentation: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CTfwmHMyvZH\_zf4cEvGU6UCqd55CJVae/view

**Fundraiser**: Peter Finnie and committee; no updates

**Old Business**

* **Pop!** - propose that we try this fundraiser in the fall; still do fun run; Kristen will confirm dates: Yes (12); no (4); abstain (5) - passed

**New Business**

* Garden -
  + Spring garden party in the spring flower planting party to get some native plants in the raised bed; get seeds for these plants and use some money from the grant; last week of May or June in the last week of May to do planting. Bed prepped ahead of time. Haven’t spoken to teachers. Froze free is end of May; $3000 how every you want to spend the money just use it yes (12) no (0) abstain (4) - passed
  + International night - asking for $2500 for the event to pay performers, snack packs for allergen; decorations; completely free community event; asking for an additional $1000; funds not spent - go back to the general fund (\*\*\*)
* Overages on budgets - should go back to the general budget.
  + Think about budget next year as prices are going up
* Ice cream social -
  + got a ton of great donations! Some very exciting items for the raffle!
  + Have a some Mitchell families participating with food trucks; Also reaching out to vendors for more food
* Malasia (4th grader) proposed doing a fundraiser with art
* Lunch issues -
  + lunch is getting thrown away without kids finishing; teachers asking for snacks for students; kids are very hungry and perhaps it is because lunch is not acceptable to the students; snacks are supposed to be provided by chartwells? and it may not be; children are reporting spoiled foods; should have a vegetarian option and meat, and “an array of fresh fruits and vegetables” but this does not seem to be happening;. Food was served frozen or undercooked; children get poor responses from staff when ask for seconds
  + Dr. Bell said we should start by contacting Chartwells - he noticed food was cold just last week; could be training of the staff and they go to different schools;
  + Snacks - admins keep snacks in the office and gotten donated to the office; most of things are like apples and bananas and goldfish, instead of kids running to the office we put items in baskets for the teachers; Chartwells snacks are left overs like from breakfast; which is why we got different snacks (because if they didn't like the breakfast they won’t like snacks)
  + Talk directly to chartwell; draft letter - Rachele noted that she will spearhead a letter and gather people to add or sign
* Butterflies and Chess boards - $190 for both; approved yes (18); no (0) abstain (1)

**March Agenda**: 4/21

* Ice cream social budget increase?
* Review plante moran/quickbooks budgeting software vote
* Board appointees

**End motion: Missy motion and Caitlyn 2nd 7:32 pm**