

# Elms Elementary School PTN

October 16, 2024

## Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order: by Stephanie Falzarano, welcome everyone and review date changes for November meeting-PTN general meeting will now be held November 13th at 7pm (EDIT-Meeting held at 6:30pm)

2. Reports:

Treasurer-KeriAnn Scott reviewed balances: General- \$39,303.99, Gaming- \$67,909.42, waiting on several event's money to be deposited

Corresponding Secretary-presented by Jennifer Herkert. Thank yous from Mrs. Villecco for headphones for HHM and Jackson Women of Today for Food Pantry donations of more than 2 full shopping carts.

Principal- Mr. Burgos opened by introducing Ms. Brenner, 2nd grade teacher at ELMS. She is currently in a masters program at Montclair and will be graduating in December. Program involves 300 hours of observing/shadowing, has been mentoring under Mr. Burgos.

- October a busy month for Education-
  - Week of Respect last week
  - Safe Schools week next week-involves both staff and students reviewing safe practices in school & Halloween, reviewing school level security with drills
  - Red Ribbon Week for Drug Awareness
- Trunk or TReat next week, currently 11 cars signed up, firetruck, ambulance, police car also attending
- Halloween-teachers have option to celebrate in class, try to keep parent numbers to a minimum for safety reasons
- Monster Dash-fun & east event, great night and thank you to all who coordinated/attended
- PTN Grants-working on correspondence for sign ups, should be out by end of the week. Green Team & Team Tiger Leader already started. Goal is to try and get each kid that signs up in a club. Added back in 1st, 2nd, 3rd choice on sign up. Would not be possible without the PTN. The difference between good and great. Need to do a great job in the classroom, but also need to enhance experience, which we do through trips, clubs, fundraisers. Very proud of our school
- Angelena Williams- has been awarded the NJ School Boards 2024 Unsung Superhero in Education (Administration/Secretary Category), nominated by Ms. Brenner, will be attending a convention in Atlantic City.
- ELMS & Jackson will be recognised for their sustainability efforts at the Board Meeting next week. ELMS is the only school in NJ to achieve Silver status. Tireless work by Ms. Brenner and Mrs. Konopack with pollinator garden, trout, aquaponics, etc.
- Conferences- portal is open to sign up until October 24th, Conferences are November 4-6. If virtual is easier, please feel free to choose that option, can be planned for a different day if virtual.
- Strategic Planning Committee-1st meeting tomorrow 10/17. Aim is to develop goals for next 5-10 years, budgeting and planning for future trajectory for the school district.

Teacher Liaison-no report

3. Voting Items:

- September Meeting Minutes-Motion to approve- Joanne Schivone, 2nd by Kristen Weinbarg, all in favor, none opposed, approved.
- By Laws-
  - i. Mr. Burgos asked for clarification on nominations, proxy voting. Ashley Acevedo brought up disagreement with an article involving re-definition of what constitutes a member in good standing in regards to the privilege of voting on matters. Mr. Burgos stated that what we want to prevent is an uninvolved parent all of a sudden in a position of authority in the PTN.

- ii. Mr. Burgos recommended to cross out “have volunteered on a committee”, and approve the rest of the updated by-laws. Further clarification and discussions to be had on the following: Need to clarify whether a donation is considered a form of volunteering, how to separate whether the donation is for a PTN event or school event. PTN membership sign up also states that membership includes 2 votes on voting matters.
  - o Mr. Burgos motioned to approve revisions except “have volunteered on a committee”
  - o Kristen Wienbarg seconded, all in favor, no opposed, Approved.
- 4. PTN Updates/ Committee Reports
  - i. Cicconi Farms sale ends 10/28, must bring physical copy of flyer in order for ELMS to receive credit
  - ii. Pies/ Donuts: 10/1-11/8
  - iii. Bath Bombs: 10/7-10/25
  - iv. Winter Catalog: 11/3
  - v. Gertrude Hawk: 10/1- 11/4
  - o Fall Festival Recap-given by Jennifer Herkert: 243 tickets sold-171 CheddarUp, 73 at check in. Raised \$150 in bake sale. Total of \$3800 brought in, Profit of \$1350.81. Overall a nice laid back event for families to spend time with one another.
  - o Monster Dash Recap- given by Julie Nyman: 74 runners, profit of \$1123. For a first time attempt it was simple, fun, and made a great profit.
  - o Book Fair: 10/21-10/25-presented by Carrie Bassano: All set for student shopping next week, will also be open during Trunk or Treat-will be offering candy as a way to get more to visit the book fair, as well as offering a “treat” with each purchase. Also still looking for a co-chair/shadow.
  - o Trunk or Treat: update given by KeriAnn Scott- 10/24 (Rain Date 10/28) Decorate 5:30-6:30, Trunk or Treat 6:30-8:00, Candy donations and more trunks are needed! Also have 14 FBLA students coming to help outside and at book fair.
  - o Pumpkin Contest: Bring in decorated pumpkins from 10/21-10/29, voting will take place on 10/30. Pumpkins will go home on 10/31. Pumpkins should not be carved or have food items glued to it.
  - o Clothing Drive 11/16-Drop off 15th after pm until 11am on the 16th, truck picking up at 12pm. Leave at Front door to the school, they accept almost everything, no blankets or small toys.
  - o Membership Drive:u Join by Nov. 27th to be entered into a drawing to win an Amazon gift card. Classes with 100% Membership will win a cookie party.! Theme this year is “If you Give a Teacher a Cookie”
  - o Conferences are 11/4-11/6; Scheduling is open in the portal
  - o Volunteers Needed: Book Fair Co-Chair; Carnival Co-Chair; Display My Art; Plant Sale Co-Chair; Spiritwear; Holiday Shop shadow
- 5. Open Floor-none
- 6. Adjournment-Next Meeting November 13th at 7pm. **EDIT-Meeting at 6:30pm**
- 7. Motion to close-Angelika Hernandez, Joanne Schivone 2nd, all in favor, meeting adjourned.

#### Upcoming Dates

10/17: Tiger Trading Post  
 10/24: Trunk or Treat (Rain Date 10/28)  
 10/21-10/25: Book Fair  
 11/4-11/6: Teacher Conferences (Shortened Days)  
 11/7-11/8: No School  
 11/13: PTN meeting  
 11/14: Tiger Trading Post  
 11/16: Clothing Drive  
 11/18: School Spirit Day- Disney Day  
 11/27: Shortened Day  
 11/28-11/30: No School  
 12/2-12/6: Holiday Shop  
 12/6: Winter Fest