

Middlebrook Elementary School PTA

Membership Meeting – Monday September 20, 2021

Middlebrook Elementary School-Zoom

Middlebrook Elementary School PTA convened in the cafeteria as well as via Zoom for a regular meeting on Monday September 20, 2021.

*In attendance:* Jen Farmer, Stacy Screpetis, Kate Cooke, Rachel Dalton, Katie Smolinsky, Sarah Parker, Ana Lopez (1), Mandy Gargano (1), Christine Koval (1), Melanie Kostopoulos (1), Merrilee DeFarias (1), Stephanie Jones (1), Christina Dobi (1), Sujata Gadkar-Wilox (1), Eileen Castillo (1), Katrina Perkins (1), Liza Pontonio (1), Maria Ilagan (1), Ramesh Seshadri (1), Wendy Storms (1), Rosann Marquez-Gaughan (1).

*Teachers :* Allison Ebert

*Principal :* Debbie Ponte

- i. Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance
  - a. Mrs. Farmer called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m.
- ii. Welcome and Introductions
  - a. A sign-in sheet was distributed. Verbal introductions were not made.
- iii. President's Report
  - a. There are 43 family PTA memberships currently and 0 teachers. Need to try and get as many people signed up as possible.
  - b. Volunteer forms must be submitted to the office for anyone interested in volunteering inside of the school or at school events. Submit as soon as possible.
  - c. Zombiebrook and Bingo: No large indoor gatherings are allowed as of right now per Dr. Semmel. Thinking about alternate ways to hold the events outdoors. Outdoor gambling is not an option for Bingo.
  - d. Fundraiser Idea: A discount card including local businesses from Calloway Fundraising.
- iv. Principal's Report
  - a. The book fair will take place in the building and there can be 3-4 volunteers helping at a time.
  - b. AES is on and will start on 10/18.
  - c. There will be a day where the school/town is celebrating Breast cancer awareness. Everyone will be invited to wear pink and donate \$1. The money goes into an angel fund for those suffering with cancer. The entire town will eventually celebrate this together.
  - d. There will be a Room Parent meeting tomorrow 9/21/21. The cafeteria will be occupied with a grade level meeting but could be possible to meet in the courtyard. The cafeteria will be available for meetings going forward.
  - e. There will be a Father's club meeting 9/29/21 in the cafeteria at 7 p.m.
  - f. There will be up to three volunteers allowed at one time for the school store starting at 11:15 a.m.
- v. Teacher's Report- Allison Ebert, Grade 3

- a. It was asked that the PTA purchase the folders every year. This was agreed upon by the PTA.
  - b. A new commercial coffee maker was requested. This is used for the Teacher's breakfast every Friday. The PTA will order when their new credit card is ready, in about 1 week.
- vi. Vice President's Report- Katie Smolinsky reported on the School Store and that volunteer opportunities will be posted on Membership Toolkit and Facebook. Zombiebrook will have to be held outdoors only.
- vii. Secretary's Report- nothing to report, first meeting of the school year, no minutes.
- viii. Treasurer's Report- Rachel Dalton reported that we will vote on the final budget next month. We will be reinstating a budget closer to that of pre-Covid times. Copies will be distributed at the next meeting.
- ix. Committee Reports
  - a. Sustainability:
    - i. Trex-already started and the September and October numbers will roll into our November totals. Please encourage others to collect and post what they are recycling on Facebook. Dropping off in the lobby is still an option.
    - ii. Book Drive will take place in November. There will be bins in front of the school or could be dropped off.
    - iii. BIC recycling will take place in the art room.
    - iv. Green Club- is there a Teacher interested in doing this?
  - b. Room Parent-First meeting tomorrow 9/21/21.
  - c. Charleston Wrap Fundraiser- 80 children were registered, \$6860 sold thus far with a profit of \$2557. Expecting around \$3000 in profit.
  - d. Spirit Wear- sale started today and flyers will be going home. Posters will also be hung, and posts made on Facebook. Running through 9/30.
  - e. Reflections- no news.
  - f. Book Fair- Mandy reported that the book fair is on 10/25, 26, and 27. Pick-up on 10/28. Delivery date will be 1-3 days before. There will be an e-wallet that can be used for payment where parents can load money into their child's account. Need to decide what forms of payment to accept. There is 4,953 in the Scholastic account. We usually do \$7,000-\$9,000 in sales. 25% back in cash profits or 50% in Scholastic dollars. Can also do a combo. Can do evening sessions for families to shop, will need to use a sign-up to stagger the numbers. 3-4 volunteers will be needed to help the kids shop during the day.
  - g. Holiday Boutique- It will be happening, looking at first week in December, Thursday and Friday in school and a Thursday evening session with a sign-up. Looking to pick the date by the next meeting. Each class will submit a basket for raffle as usual. Limited purchasing is needed for the items the children will shop. Volunteers will be needed from each class as well as general overall volunteers. Will there be space in the gym?
  - h. Mixer and Box Tops- Melanie reported that the totals for box tops have been much lower since they went digital. 10 families submitted receipts thus far. Will promote more in newsletter and on Facebook. It was mentioned that there may be a mail in options for the physical box tops. Will look into. The Mixer is on and the committee needs volunteers. It will be promoted on Facebook and the committee will hold their own

meetings. Ms. Pointe will include the Mixer in the PTA corner of the newsletter. Anything that we would like to put in can be sent to her by Friday mornings.

- i. Courtyard- Weeding and clean up has been done. There are somethings that are falling apart and the town will remove. The town did already take care of bees and bugs. The committee will reach out to Parents and Teachers for ideas on what to do in the courtyard. Removal of some items need Teacher approval. We will be responsible for maintenance once things are planted. Next year the committee world like to do a fundraiser where families can buy bulbs and they would be planted after Halloween.
- j. International Festival- is not on at this time. Sujata volunteered to explore putting something together via Zoom or doing something pre-recorded or outdoors.
- x. New Business- none.
- xi. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Next meeting is on October 18th at 7:00 p.m.