

June 5th, 2018
PTA Meeting Minutes

Call Meeting to Order

Heather Bell called meeting to order at 11:35 am

Approval of the April 16, 2018 Minutes

Motion to Approve - Lisa Moffa

Second - Nicole Schwartz

Principals Report

1) We had some questions last week about the state of the AC at Moraine. Visitors to the building recognized that we had some rooms that were very warm, and others that were cool. There are two large chillers (AC units) responsible for cooling the school. It takes both of them to adequately keep up when the weather is very warm. We have one of the two units that is not working at all. We had AC contractors here all week last week. Due to the age of the system, and the difficulty getting parts, it will be very costly to repair that system. The system was due to be replaced in 2020 as part of the HVAC bond. A decision about repairing that unit or pushing forward the planned replacement is currently under consideration, with the understanding that the need assessment, bidding, and scheduled installation of such a big job may take many weeks to accomplish.

We are grateful for cooler weather this week. We recommend sending your child to school on the warmer days with a water bottle and a hat. Putting sunscreen on your child in the morning is a good idea. Teachers cannot put sunscreen on children. We are spending time outside if at all possible when the weather cooperates.

2) Enrollment for the fall appears to be down for Moraine. This is good news for us! We anticipate about 450 students for the fall, which is 65 fewer students than what we had two years ago. Of course, enrollment may shift significantly over the summer, but we are projecting going down one section or class for fall, which may mean the return of a Spanish classroom, and going down to two lunch periods from three.

3) With the shifting in enrollment, we likewise have shifting of staff. Elementary teachers are generalists. They are prepared, and competent, to teach all students, and subjects, grades K - 8. It is actually good for teachers to move grade levels from time to time, especially as the curriculum shifts, to keep their skills sharp and to energize their practice. This year we are anticipating some new opportunities for staff to shift grade levels in response to our shifting student demographic. Anticipated grade assignments for some staff (also subject to change over the summer) are:

- Karen Stuard will teach 3rd grade
- Carey Kahle will teach 4th grade
- Joyce Pianin will teach 1st grade
- Paula Beck will teach 2nd grade
- Kim Callison will teach 5th grade
- Beth Solensky has been hired as principal at Ridge Wood
- We anticipate a 4/5 combination class again this year, taught by Mindy DeJarnett

4) We are receiving new furniture for grades 3 - 5 after school is out, so teachers are busily packing for cross grade level moves, as well as for furnishings. The classrooms will be completely emptied, cleaned, and then re-furnished. This is quite a process.

5) We are anticipating a new approach to communicating classroom assignments for September. This year you will be alerted via MiStar Parent Connect. We will communicate with the community via Listserv when the information is due to be posted to Parent Connect. This is the same place you go to look at Report Cards. Your child's fall class assignment will be posted there, and other documents will be emailed to you, so there will be no need for packet pick up this school year, though we will still schedule an EduKit pick up for those of you who are ordering school supplies. Curriculum nights are tentatively set for Wed. Sept 12, K - 2; and Thurs. Sep 13, 3 - 5.

Regarding EduKits - You'll notice this year a change in how we publish school supply lists. Please note that purchasing school supplies is optional; however, if you assist us by providing school supplies you'll notice two categories on the supply lists: "community use" and "personal use." The community use items will be collected during the first week of school and will benefit all the children in the classroom. The personal use items will be used by your child only. This change is simply an opportunity to be more transparent about how we use supplies provided to use by our families.

6) 5th grade students will be visiting the Capitol in Lansing on September 17, which is Constitution Day. Please be watching your email for information about this field trip, permission slips, etc. coming with the beginning of school information in August. We will be emailing parents directly with information about this trip. If you're parent of a rising 3rd grade, please be aware that Heritage Festival is coming Friday, September 14. Your child will need a costume. We have some! Please plan ahead for that.

7) A big congratulation to Science Olympiad! 16 medals and two team trophies are our best showing ever! We're so thrilled and thankful to the team coaches, Melissa Stuart, Dave Chon, and Julie Frauenheim, all of the coaches and parents.

8) I'd also like to thank and recognize Kelly Masters - Beautification chairperson for organizing the grounds clean up, mulching, and planting this spring. It looks wonderful. To parents past and present (yes, we had some former Moraine parents who came back to help!), the Girl Scout troops, and the boy scouts who have given your time and help, we truly appreciate your support in keeping our school so pretty.

9) Thank you for your charitable support recently. We supported a former Moraine student, Spencer Malaikal, in supplying the Freedom Center at DTW as part of his Eagle Scout project. As a military mom myself, I thank you for the donations that make deployed and traveling military feel supported. We also collected an incredible amount of cereal for former Moraine student Christian Peck-Dimit's project. This project was not part of a class or requirement for scouting. It was just because he cares so much. Thank you for supporting children in our community, and others, who depend on lunch at school as their primary source of nutrition each day. It's hard to think that while we're looking forward to carefree days of summer, many children will be wondering where their next meal is coming from, something as simple as cereal is so important. Thank you.

10) I'd like to thank our outgoing Executive Board members: Heather Bell and Jennifer Jones. We've had such fun together on the executive board. We've valued your leadership, vision, sense of humor, and organization. Thank you for all you've done.

11) This year we're saying good-bye to paraprofessional Teri Ohlgren who is celebrating her retirement! Teri has been part of Northville Public Schools for many years. She has worked closely with our Learning Consultant Amy Devlin, providing Math and Reading support. We will miss Teri, and wish her a long, happy and healthy retirement and much joy with her family and grandchildren. Thanks for your service, Teri.

This week Tam Notarianni, Moraine paraprofessional, and proud mom of NHS graduates Emilia and Henry brought in Henry's senior yearbook. Henry was starting second grade when Tam and I began working at Moraine together 11 years ago. Henry graduated last weekend. Tam allowed me a few minutes to flip the pages of Henry's yearbook. I am continually astonished at how quickly the years pass, and how fast our little penguins grow up into competent, confident young adults. Thank you for the trust you've put in us to partner with you in educating your child. The years go quickly. Being part of your child's growth and development, and continuing to be part of this school community remains a privilege. We thank you.

Superintendents Report

- None

Officers Report

- President - Heather Bell - Thank you for everything over the last two years. The support we have here is unprecedented. Thank you to Dr. Bryan for her excellent leadership.
- Treasurers Report - Jennifer Jones - Budget Review for 2017/2018 and Budget Proposed for 2018/2019
- Vote on 2018/2019 Budget
Motion to Approve - Cynthia Stump
Second - Lisa Moffa
- Re-Allocation of Funds
 1. Moving \$2035 From the Chess Club and 5th Grade Field trip budget, in order to provide a Wall Mounted Ladder for the Gym
Motion to Approve - Cynthia Stump
Second - Lisa Moffa
 2. Moving \$2500 From Parent Night Out to order a new adjustable basketball hoop for the playground
Motion to Approve - Rachel Zaas
Second - Lise Lindenmeyer

Committee Chair Reports

Thank you all the outgoing committee chairs:

Ramita Barringer - Fun Fair
Cynthia Stump - Legislative Action
Lise Lindenmeyer - Green Team
Kaye Herdonzia - Book Club

School Improvement - PTA ordered a lighthouse to be placed outside the building to showcase our lighthouse status.

New Business

We are adding to new board members to the 2018/2019 slate due to the departure of Heather Bell (president) and Jennifer Jones (treasurer)

- Mamtha Balasubramaniam - Vice President
- Lindsey Eliason - Treasurer

Vote to approve Vice President

Motion - Joy Hudyma
Second - Cynthia Stump

Vote to approve Treasurer

Motion - Kristine Dreyer
Second - Lisa Moffa

Miscellaneous Items -

- Trying to establish a buddy system for incoming parents to moraine
- PTA website will be utilized to house all necessary information that may go home in the list serv
- Bulletin Board that will post upcoming PTA activities that will be student led

Heather Bell passes the baton to incoming president Melissa Stuart!

Adjournment at 12:15PM

Motion to Adjourn - Lisa Moffa
Second - Ramita Barringer