

# Robert Frost / Challenge Center PTO Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 14, 2020 @ 6:30 pm via ZOOM

Attending: Jennifer Stensaas, Jill Smith, Sonia Ohling, Lynn Gillette, Korey Erickson, Nicole Tupman, Brett Hanes, Alissa Hoekstra, Kjerstin Purintun, Tim Purintun, Dori Perkins

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## 1. Join Zoom Mtg <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87430238255?pwd=SzV2aDQ4eDBwWFFGSEVTbFVBeC9wQT09>

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## 2. Welcome and Introductions - Jennifer Stensaas

- a. Mission Statement - The purpose of our organization is to bring together the unique abilities of our parents to compliment the unique abilities of our teachers and staff in order to create support for our children's educational experience.
- b. Objectives - The objectives of this organization are to promote:
  1. Fundraisers and donations to support our school, activities and events.
  2. Social events to bring home and school into a closer relationship.
  3. Volunteer opportunities in the school.

## 3. Additions or deletions to agenda - Motion Sonia O\_ and 2nd\_ Lynn G\_

## 4. Speaker - Korey Erickson, Librarian

In the past 8 months, the library has gone from 0 to roughly 220 playaways in our library (due to various funding and grants along with PTO funds). Playaways are MP3 devices with audio book content. These help with reading fluency, diction, punctuation knowledge. Kids checkout the book as well as the device and are required to read the text along with the audio. 4th and 5th grade gets to start checking out right away, 3rd grade gets to check out after showing responsibility with returning books. Playaways are a huge hit with the kids. Mr. E was awarded a grant from SD Ed Foundation for picture books that focus on diversity - cultural and multi-ability diversity. One of these new books will be read during each library rotation. Playaways are now at a point where they are sustainable - meaning can be replaced periodically and are not in the phase of buying more and more. The 5 year action plan is to make sure the library collections are up to date. PTO Book fairs have provided fiction books / chapter books for the collection which has greatly helped. New library project this year: updating picture book collection. If there are opportunities for granting money to the library for this project, it would be very much appreciated! There's potential this year to use Scholastic dollars from book fairs, though our profit may be less than previous years because of the requirement to do this virtually (pandemic).

## 5. Approval of May 2020 minutes - Motion \_Jill Smith\_ and 2nd \_\_Sonia Ohling\_

## 6. Chair reports – PAST events

- a. NONE - all spring events were cancelled due to COVID-19

## 7. Chair reports – UPCOMING events

### a. Fall Conferences

- i. Teacher meals - Danyelle Cleveland - meals need to be pre-packaged individually this year; would ask parents for \$\$ donations instead of food donations, we've also increased our budget for this to help cover the extra cost
- ii. Book Fair - Jennifer Stensaas - book fairs will be virtual this year, which means we will likely net less in Scholastic dollars; more info to come out as book fair plans are finalized

### b. Quiz Bowl - Jill Smith

- i. Last year the prizes were a big hit and brought us well above our goal. Going to keep our school-wide goal at the same as last year, and keep the prize incentives. The entire QB will need to be virtual this year, however Mrs. Gillette will be asking the K-1 teams if it would be possible for the high school students that normally work within the school to come in and read / record the quizzes to K-1 since outside volunteers are not allowed this year (pandemic). If not, then the backup plan is to have K-1 students take the quizzes at home with the help of their parents. Quiz Bowl will be held on November 13. We will still do the school-wide movie party this year if we meet our goal. Treats provided by the PTO will need to be pre-packaged.

- c. Spirit Wear - need to finalize design with the school names added; vendor will set up an online store; info will be sent to parents in friday folder and in email

## 8. Chair reports - ONGOING events

### a. Rewards Programs

- i. [Boxtops for Education](#) - Alissa Hugelman

1. Download the box tops app to your mobile device or send clipped box tops to school and place in the collection bins.

- ii. [AmazonSmiles](#) Rewards - (0.5% of sales, distributed quarterly)

- iii. [Coca-Cola Give](#) - Jennifer Stensaas

1. Use your mobile device to scan your coke caps @ <https://us.coca-cola.com/give/> or send to school and place in the collection bins.

2. Each cap is worth .05 and look for codes worth more inside cardboard packaging

- b. [Ronald McDonald's Pop Tab Program](#) - Please continue to save your pop tabs over the summer! We have a volunteer that collects and delivers them to the Ronald McDonald House in Sioux Falls.

## 9. Principal's report - Mrs. Gillette

Fun run earned \$43,000 - money went to purchase gaga ball pit, \$5600 to classrooms, \$26600 in playground account. Purchasing is working with vendors for playground bids. \$1400 for prof development for teachers, \$3100 bleachers, and then \$---- for fun run shirts; Bleachers are almost complete. There's a number of new staff members starting this year. Students are wearing their masks consistently; thank you to families for helping kids understand the importance of staying safe. Professional learning communities are continuing this year to determine what goals to focus on, special education is included this year as well. These groups determine "what do we need to help our kids? Where do we need to improve?" - can't split the kids into learning groups this year because of covid but they are working around it.

## 10. Financial report - Jill Smith

- a. Present current budget status - Motion \_\_Lynn G\_\_\_\_ and 2nd \_\_Dori P\_\_\_\_

## 11. Old Business

- a. Nominations for Executive Board next year: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary
- i. Tim Purintun - Treasurer (motion to approve - Lynn G 2nd - Alissa Hoekstra)
  - ii. Dori Perkins - Secretary - Jennifer motion - Kjerstin 2nd
  - iii. both passed
- b. Committee chairs and volunteers needed for: Project Night, Rewards Programs, Quiz Bowl, Science Fair / Art Show / Ice Cream social, Kindergarten Round-up, Book Fairs
- i. Please consider joining a committee! “Many hands make light the work.”  
<https://robertfrostpto.com/volunteer/>

## 12. New Business

- a. School fundraising need for COVID changes - classroom dividers; voice amplifiers for staff; face shields and mask options; overall cost was over \$10,000 to get the school prepared - Lynn received email to submit receipts for this for reimbursement from district; Lynn would like to wait and see what the existing funding will cover (district and state funds) before going forward with a fundraiser specifically for this.

## 13. Adjourn - Motion \_\_Nicole\_\_ and 2nd \_\_Kjerstin

**Next PTO meeting will be November 9, 2020 @ 6:30pm via Zoom**

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