

**Brewerton Elementary PTO Meeting Minutes
November 15, 2022**

1. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- a. **Thank you from Aimee Burns** for funding Veteran's Day. It was a great event. Lots of guests came in to be celebrated.
- b. **Fall Harvest** - No bees! We accommodated food allergies. Last year we had difficulty decorating the pumpkins due to stickers not sticking and markers rubbing off. Mrs. Stehle tried paint stixs and they worked well.
- c. **Math Challenge for 4th-5th grade** - Prizes have been earned, a pizza party and 2 McDonald's trips. It will end in December. 3rd grade will try it out in January at the request of the teachers. Teachers have seen carryover of skills in math class.
- d. **We have had 2 large group events** - Veteran's Day and Merry go Round playhouse with 3rd grade. They have gone well but whole school assemblies are still on hold. If we gather everyone together and sickness spreads, staffing our school is an issue due to substitute shortage.
- e. Hired 2nd full time sub - Sarah Snavlin.

2. BUDGET REVIEW/TREASURER REPORT - the budget was reviewed and approved

3. Superintendent Parent Council (SPC) meeting

- a. Arts in Education - Mr. Will Jones with CiTi BOCES spoke on Arts in Education which is a state program that focuses on art enrichment within the school. The program includes Summer Enrichment Programs which are starting up again. Anything related to the arts, try to run through Arts in Education to build the amount up. The school receives about 80% of the expense returned as funding to be used in the next school year. Keep in mind it is a "use it or lose it" policy. Examples of things that can be approved through the program are admission fees, tickets, speakers, etc. Things that are not covered are buses, hotels and food. Get requests in as early as possible.
- b. Strategic Planning Committee. Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday November 30th from 6:30pm- 8pm. Go over the strategic plan and other committees.
- c. The district has expanded its resources and has more access to counselors. Substance abuse instances have become more frequent since the beginning of the pandemic. Talk to your student about the topic.
- d. Wall of distinction's location is in a new place. Applications are due 1/27/23.
- e. When a social media post is seen that is on the district page or elsewhere that can be better directed, let the poster know where they can go for better response.
- f. The sock drive went well. Trunk or Treat event went well too.

4. Holiday Bazaar - Everything purchased. Informational letter, shopping list with envelope will go home after Thanksgiving. Also volunteer forms will be coming home so make sure you look for it, fill it out and return it.

5. Fundraisers/Sponsored events

- a. **Square1 Art** - orders due today, being delivered to houses instead of large order to the school
- b. **Amazon Smile** - flyer and text blast went out. Make sure you sign up, easy money for PTO

6. Food Drive/toy drive - There is no interest across the county for a competition. Unknown interest within the district. Mr. Bowden said that elementary schools will do their own thing, not a competition. We need to let the food pantry know that the donation may not be as big this year as previous years. Also check with food pantry to see what they need, non-perishable items vs cash. Jess will call. We will be doing a toy drive, toys will stay in Brewerton and then to Hastings if any leftover.

7. School store - last Wednesday was the 1st time open. It is open every Wednesday from 8:45-9am.

8. Four square court - Court is in, backfilled, seeded and strawed. Paul Brisette also filled some topsoil by the low end of the basketball court. Court will be almost \$1000 under budget after it is painted in the spring. We are giving a thank you basket with goodies and gift certificate for the guys who did the work.

9. Upcoming winter/spring events - snow sculpture contest, basket raffle, plant sale

10. Next meeting date - Wednesday, January 18. No December meeting