

PTA November Meeting Minutes

1. Approve November Meeting Minutes

John 1st

Kim 2nd

2. Treasurer's Report

Budget is available for anyone who would like to review it.

Taxes are complete and available to view.

Fundraiser total raised: Over \$53,000.

3. Event Recaps

Payback Assembly & Pizza Party

- Dion's provided pizza for the assembly and party.
- Kickball games were difficult to manage due to upset students who did not get to participate.
- Suggestion: Consider a class reward next time; reevaluate the reward structure for next year.
- Pizza party became difficult once it ended—over 160 kids were on the playground with limited supervision.
- Large and small students were mixed, leading to safety concerns; paras were overwhelmed and anxious.
- Teachers need to know attendance numbers in advance to help supervise and split classrooms appropriately.
- Recommendation: Do not hold the assembly and pizza party on the same day next year.
- Mariah will resend the feedback survey in a separate email.

4. Upcoming Events

Spirit Night – Panda Express

- December 19
- 28% of sales donated back.

Your Pie Night

- January 14
- Flyer coming soon.

Skate City

- January 29
- Need 2 volunteers to staff the welcome table.

Krispy Kreme Fundraiser

- February
- Flyers coming soon.

5. Veterans Day Breakfast Recap

- Very successful event.
- 109 confirmed RSVPs; approximately 120 guests attended.
- Veterans expressed appreciation for the event.
- NJHS students were extremely helpful.
- Guests appreciated the variety of food.
- The student parade was a highlight for the kids.

6. Food Drive

- Last year: 525 lbs collected
- This year: 1,189 lbs collected (more than doubled)
- Donations will go to the 27J Resource Center.
- Photos were posted online.

7. Hospitality

- Friday, August 21: Soda bar event.
- Feedback: Cute, fun, successful. Included mini pies.

8. T-Shirt Distribution

- Distributed on November 7.
- Savings of over \$1,600.
- 10 volunteers assisted - appreciation expressed.
- Question raised: What to do with outgrown shirts?

- Liaisons suggest donating to the Health Office for students who need a change of clothes.
- Request made to have shirts delivered right after the Fun Run next year.

9. Event Changes

K–5 event is canceled.

- Effort will instead go toward Dino Palooza, a carnival-style event for K–5, which will help raise funds for older students' fundraisers.

Dino Night

- April 11 at Bison Ridge Recreation Center.
- Need 1–2 chairs and 5 committee members.
- Sign-Up Genius posted.
- Additional day-of volunteer opportunities available.

10. Budget Review / Discussion

- Question raised about where funds from the canceled K–5 event are being reallocated.
- Motion proposed to increase grade-level grants to \$7,500.
- Request made to see a budget comparison:
- Original summer-approved budget vs. current changes.
- Concern that funds appear to be directed mainly toward middle school students; members want clarity.
- Decision: Postpone the vote until Sherri can clarify how the grants are being allocated.

11. Winter Gear Drive

- Dates: December 9–11
- Donations will go to South Lawn Elementary (27J school).

12. Guest Speaker: Monique - “Your Student and Technology”

Key points:

- Students are often communicating through WhatsApp, Snapchat, Discord, not just text messages.
- Importance of teaching kids to:
 - Keep personal information private

- Protect their accounts
- Concerns raised about excessive screen time and its negative impact.
- Resources provided:
 - BetterScreenTime.org
 - FOSI (Families Online Safety Institute)
- Shared an image with questions to determine whether a child is ready for their own device.
- Discussion concluded with concerns about:
 - Bullying
 - Sexual harassment
 - Inappropriate content in group chats
 - Emphasis that many kids are not mature enough to handle these interactions.