

Quick recap

During this PTGO meeting, the group approved minutes and agenda, heard updates from the principal and treasurer, and voted to open new bank accounts to earn interest on their funds. The team discussed upcoming events including a teacher breakfast, open house, Popsicle Play Date, and monthly spirit nights, while also planning for the Readathon fundraiser and deciding to maintain the combined science fair and spring carnival format. They finalized logistics for various events, scheduled monthly meetings for the year on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM (skipping December), and addressed administrative matters including teacher representation and spirit wear.

Next steps

- Grace/Heather to set up money market and savings accounts for PTO funds
- Heather/Grace/Elise to attend school district fiscal training on August 27th
- Grace/Heather to schedule meeting with accountant regarding solicitation license renewal and sales tax filing
- Tony to submit grant request for Promethean board for K2 classroom
- Tony to send out Tiger Call announcement for Popsicle play date next weekend
- Kat to post Popsicle play date flyer on Facebook and website
- Kat to add teacher reimbursement amounts to website once received from Heather
- Kat to create PTGO newsletter for open house student packets
- Elise to send email to Tony/Amanda regarding Popsicle play date setup needs
- Elise to create shared Google doc for Tiger Call announcements
- Jenna to send spirit night dates to Tony for review
- Elise/Whitney will attend staff breakfast to mention teacher rep volunteer opportunities and review how reimbursements work on August 19th
- Tony to send meeting transcript and summary to Elise

Summary

School Board Pre-Year Planning Meeting

Elise opens the meeting and the group approves the minutes and agenda.

Tony provides a brief principal's update, mentioning that teachers are already setting up classrooms, all staff returns on the 18th, and the open house is scheduled for the 21st from 4:30 to 6:30 PM.

Grace delivers the treasurer's report, noting minimal activity in July with no income and \$11,000 in expenses from checks written in June, leaving a closing bank balance of about \$36,800. She also mentions upcoming expenses including welcome back events and teacher

reimbursements, and shares that she, Elise, and Heather will attend a school district fiscal training on August 27th.

PTA Bank Account Investment Decision

Grace proposes opening a money market and savings account at 1st Horizon bank to earn interest on the PTA's bank balance, explaining that funds would remain accessible and FDIC insured. After Amanda raises a concern about parents wanting their donations used within the same school year, Elise clarifies that they intentionally carry over about \$26,000 to cover expenses until the next Readathon fundraiser. The group votes unanimously to approve opening both account types, with Grace and Heather to determine the best arrangement.

Misc. Budget Discussion

Tony plans to submit a grant request for a Promethean board for the K-2 adaptive EC classroom, which would cost approximately \$3,600. Elise confirms that teacher reimbursements are \$200 for veteran teachers, with new teachers receiving an additional \$150 and transitional teachers getting \$75. Kat is creating a teacher resource page on the website to make this information more accessible.

Monthly Fundraising and School Events Plan

Jenna presents a plan for monthly spirit nights with local businesses to raise funds for the school, asking for feedback on whether this frequency might make families feel pressured financially. Tony approves the schedule, noting that most events bring in \$1-250, with Jersey Mike's being particularly profitable. Jenna also shares her "Reading is Magic" theme for the Readathon and discusses school events, with the group agreeing to keep the science fair combined with the spring carnival rather than creating a separate STEM night, as Amanda notes that January-February is a tiring time for teachers and families.

PTGO Teacher Appreciation Events Update

Elise provides updates on the teachers breakfast scheduled for Tuesday, the 19th at 8 AM, mentioning that she will join Whitney for a brief presentation around 8:15-8:20 AM before the staff meeting starts at 8:30. Tony and Amanda explain that the presentation typically includes introductions and key PTGO topics, and confirm that a staff luncheon will be held on Thursday with a check to be provided to the caterer upon delivery.

Website Updates and Teacher Resources

Kat has updated the website to make it more user-friendly, adding a teacher resources page with information on reimbursements, grant requests, and feedback options. She created a one-pager summarizing this information that can be distributed to teachers and will post about the upcoming Popsicle play date on social media. Kat also updated email addresses for forms, temporarily removed spiritware from the website until after open house, and plans to create a PTGO newsletter for student packets at open house. Amanda has requested that the district

add the PTGO website to the River Park website and will add the link to the internal staff website.

Popsicle Playdate

The group confirms Thursday, August 14th from 5:30-7:00 PM for the Popsicle Play Date, with Tony agreeing to email parents next week. Tony notes there are fewer kindergartners this year (under 50 compared to the usual 80), which affects the popsicle count, and Jenna confirms she and Kat will attend to facilitate the event and handle spirit wear sales. Tony and Amanda agree to set up tables and provide bathroom access, requesting an email with specific needs.

Monthly Meeting Schedule Planning Session

Elise leads a discussion to schedule monthly meetings for the year, with the group deciding on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM, skipping December. Elise volunteers to handle Tiger Call duties using a shared Google doc until a new secretary is appointed. Tony will record meeting meetings with Zoom AI and send them to Elise.

Spiritwear and Teacher Representation

The group agrees to continue using existing spirit wear designs rather than creating new ones. Tony asks about teacher representation, and the team agrees that having four teacher representatives worked well last year since not all could attend every meeting.