

CTA Liberty PTO General Meeting
CTA Liberty Library
Wednesday, October 16, 2024

Meeting Minutes

1. PTO Business Updates

a. Fundraising Update

- i. The Wild Robot Harkins Movie Theater (9/27)
- ii. SchoolFundr
- iii. Chipotle Restaurant Night (9/17)
- iv. October Free Dress (\$459.40) – (ICAN)
- v. Fry's/Kroger Grocery Rewards (\$305.40)

2. 2024-2025 PTO Budget Updates

a. Expense updates – Amounts are being validated for the following amounts.

- i. Back to School – Coffee Truck
- ii. Spirit Wear (Expense/Income)
- iii. P/T Conference (Florindino's)
- iv. SchoolFundr

3. Spring Carnival – The budget is still under review. We are considering other fundraisers that can raise money but aren't as big as the carnival. An update will be provided when it is determined if there is room in the budget. So other events that are being considered would be Food Truck Friday or Dinner and a Movie. We could have the Harkins truck sell popcorn and use the materials Theresa used for the last movie. There would be a low cost and potential for income.

4. Principal Updates – Provided a list of upcoming events. The school is looking to get holiday gift cards to the families that need them by Thanksgiving.

5. Veteran's Day Breakfast – The event is growing each year, with anywhere from 50 to 60 veterans. The choir will be singing, and a guest will read the names.

6. PTO Upcoming Events

- a. Family Movie Night – Water, candy, and popcorn will be sold. The setup will be on Friday at 5 PM. We will be looking for volunteers to help. A sign-up genius will be set up for volunteers. The raffle QR code will be recycled and used for the concessions—the facilities request submitted for the event. There was a one-time 20ft inflatable screen purchase for about \$150. The cafeteria can be set up with concessions after 6 PM.

- b. Winter Dance – The dance will be at Willis Junior High again this year. The dance will be in the gym instead of the cafeteria because it was crowded last year. The dance will be held on January 31. Theresa is considering doing backgrounds instead of the Photo Booth like the previous year. There will be a volunteer sign-up for the dance. We also plan to have Miss Jordan, the health aid, on hand for the event. Hopefully, we can have volunteers pass out the food as well. Ideally, catering requests will be submitted well before two weeks. Theresa will contact the student council teachers to see if they want to do anything for the winter dance.
- c. Winter Spirit Wear – We are looking at Spirit Wear again but will discuss and provide the details in the next meeting.

7. Open Forum

- The PTO budget is going to be different than in past years. There is a difference in what was brought in this year. All club t-shirt and reimbursement requests are still on hold pending the budget's finalization.
- The request for PTO to cover the veteran's breakfast has been approved. The holiday gift cards have also been approved.
- Teacher budgets and other requests from the first meeting are still on hold.
- 6th-grade t-shirts would cost about \$600, which includes screen printing and taxes.
- Feedback was requested on SchoolFundr:
 - **Visibility of Signs:** Signs were beneficial for parents to see.
 - **Future Fundraiser Considerations:**
 - Straight funding to avoid confusion for parents with multiple children.
 - Transparent allocation of funds to motivate teachers and reward classrooms.
 - Addressing the challenge of classrooms with low or no participation.
 - Avoiding competition between teachers.
 - **Concerns and Feedback:**
 - Confusion regarding multiple fundraising events like Cash for Classrooms.
 - APEX caused classroom disruptions but also provided advertising and tangible rewards.
 - The fundraiser covered teacher budgets with a 10% surplus.
 - Step It Up offered an online/virtual option with a smaller percentage fee.
 - **SchoolFundr Specific Issues:**
 - Poorly organized presentation.
 - Lack of preparedness for the school.
 - Logistical challenges with multiple child registrations and email notifications.
 - Potential impact of ParentSquare familiarity.