



Orion Oaks PTO
Tuesday, October 1st, 2019 7pm

President: Naomi Colquitt
Vice President & Fundraising Coordinator: Marie Hill
Treasurer: Amanda Miller
Secretary: Marie Stevens

Starting Time: 7:01pm
Ending Time: 8:05pm

A. Welcome

- a. Board Member introductions - Naomi Colquitt, Marie Hill, Amanda Miller, Marie Stevens
- b. Information Packet feedback - the packet given out at the beginning of the year is new and our feedback so far from families has been mostly positive. One future suggestion received was to make sheets needing to be returned a separate color to help them stand out. Also there is a suggestion to reduce the number of sheets by reducing the size of some of the information.
- c. School Board Representative for Orion Oaks, Steve Drakos - Steve was not in attendance this evening.
- d. Motion to update bylaws for funds in reserve at the end of the school year - Motion introduced by Naomi Colquitt: edit the bylaws to remove the exact amount left in reserve in the bank account to cover field trips for the following year. The wording would change to indicate enough will be saved in reserve to cover field trips the following year. This will help to avoid needing to change the exact number within the bylaws each year due to alterations in student numbers and/or costs. Motion Seconded by Amanda Miller. Vote was held; all yays, zero nays. Motion is passed.

B. Principal's Report -

A lot has been going on this year already. One bigger thing that has happened was opening a fourth Kindergarten class, and we appreciate everyone's understanding during the transition time.

For the Bond project, a lot of Orion Oaks construction will begin soon. Neighborhood B will have another classroom added. The front entry will be re-vamped to add about 3 layers of security. The parking lot will also be redone along with adding the Early Childhood Center. A secondary parking area for latchkey will be added as well. For the parking lot and Early Childhood center,

we do not have a completion date for yet but they will get underway soon. The current office space will be changed into a STEM center for the students.

C. Treasurer's Report

- a. **Explanation of Budget Sheet** - the budget is a two sided sheet. We have funds available in the account right now, but not yet enough to cover all year's costs. We have set aside in reserve 7,000 for field trips next year. At this time we have about 7,000 to use, which will just cover this year's field trips. This leaves all other events, student aid, and classroom help in need of monetary support. Kroger rewards are Box Tops are two great ways to help raise additional funds without spending extra money.
- b. **Kroger Rewards** - our ID is "ID106" or search for "Orion Oaks PTO". Checks from Kroger are given quarterly. Just under \$1,000 check was sent to us for this past quarter.
- c. **Field Trip paid for 3rd grade** - A Native American speaker will be coming in to do a presentation and bring along native artifacts for students to learn about.
- d. **Funds to be distributed to teachers for Halloween events and/or activities** - \$1 per student for each classroom to be provided for teachers to use at their own discretion for a party, activity, snack, or whatever else works for them. Each classroom often does something different from the others.
- e. **Leadership binders** - we helped purchase these, split cost with Mr. Towleron, and purchased one for every student in the school. This binder will stay with students through their elementary career and more information about these binders will soon follow..
- f. **Amazon prime** - we opted for a membership to Amazon Prime this year, due to us ordering many event supplies through Amazon as well as fulfilling teacher requests through this method.
- g. **Box Tops (Angela)** - Including leftover from last year, from April until now, we have turned in \$275.60. This year so far with paper clippings we raised \$174.20 (this is September's total). Digitally we received \$70.00. Making a Total = \$519.80. Boxtops are now collected digitally via scanning your receipt. Boxtop funds are used to help purchase Scholastic Magazines for each classroom to supplement the curriculum.

D. Fundraising Updates

- a. **Leo's Coney Island Dine to Donate, September 16th** - A total of \$250 was raised to support the PTO through this event.
- b. **Sponsors for Fun Run** - The Fun Run is our biggest fundraiser of the year and we try to raise enough funds to prevent needing to do any other large fundraisers throughout the year. We have sponsors this year, for the first time. The following companies have sponsored our Fun Run this year: Stratec, Lumen, Ideal Traits, Fun with Sparkles, Lucky's Natural Foods, Brookwood Fruit Farm

(donated 3 bushels of apples for students' snack), and Bread and Yolk.

- c. Dine to Donate October 31st, Jets Pizza - This dine to donate will be at the Jets Pizza on the corner of Clarkston Rd and M-24. It will run from 10am to 5pm. We have a half day that day and any orders placed by 5pm will be counted toward our school. Just let them know it is for Orion Oaks PTO when you order.
- d. Dine to Donate November 14th, Italia Gardens. This is also a half day for parent teacher conferences. Just let them know it is for Orion Oaks PTO; you do not need to bring the flyer.

E. Past Activities

- a. Spiritwear Sales - These spiritwear sales were collected last month. The orders will start being delivered next week.
- b. New product, Spirit Sticks - these were given out a few years ago and have been requested by some parents to be brought back. To start this year, every student has gotten a collection ring and a spirit stick from our bullying assembly. DK and Kindergarten students have also received a special spirit stick to start their elementary careers. We are planning on selling spirit sticks throughout the year, such as at events and conferences. We have forms for birthday grams and lost tooth grams that were given out at the start of the year. Birthday and Tooth Grams are delivered to teacher mailboxes each week for the teachers to pass out however they deem most effective.

F. Current Activities

- a. Special Event shirts ordered and distributed - we had over 57 shirts donated by school families to help children who could not afford one. Every child will be provided a shirt. If your child does not have one by tomorrow afternoon please contact the PTO by emailing OrionOaksPTO@gmail.com
- b. Fun Run - We are thrilled to announce we will have a GM fuel cell vehicle to help power our DJ. This will make our Run a green event! We are very excited to be able to share this with our Orion Oaks families. DJ Super Funk Jen will be there providing fun dance music for everyone.
 - i. Wear Special Event shirts for Fun Run and for assembly on the 18th. The assembly will be at the end of the school day. Prizes won will not be sent home on the bus; parents will be notified to come pick up from school.
 - ii. Donations due by October 10th - This gives us time to tally amounts donated per student to figure out prize drawing entries. Donations can be submitted on paper or can be done online using our website OrionOaksPTO.com.
 - iii. Parent Volunteers, signup genius available on our website & Facebook - We are still looking for some parent volunteers, please see the signup genius on our website on on Facebook.

- iv. Assembly with prize drawings at the end of the day October 18th - (see above point 'i')
- c. Homecoming Spirit Week, October 7th to 11th - We are following the same schedule as the High School. This is optional and participating is up to students and their parents.
 - i. October 7th - Tie Dye / Neon Day
 - ii. October 8th - Tropical Day
 - iii. October 9th - Crazy Socks Day
 - iv. October 10th - Favorite Sports Team / Jersey Day
 - v. October 11th - Dragon Gear Day
- d. Spooky Night, Thursday October 24th 6:30pm to 8pm (Danielle and Natalie) - This is a family event. There are some changes this year from last. We will still have tables that each class will decorate with their own theme. A signup genius will be sent out to help bring in supplies due to their being so many different stations and snack/treat areas. This year there will be crafts, a spooky hallway, a dance party in the gym, glow sticks, and more. All families are welcome to participate and dress up! RSVP will be done online instead of via paper as was done in previous years. Oxford theatre is donating popcorn for this event.
- e. Book Fair October 25th to November 1st - this will be open during spooky night. More information will be provided in advance.

G. Future Activities

- a. Veterans' Day Assembly, November 8th - PTO covers refreshments for veterans and their families. Our Fundraising Coordinator, Marie Hill, received donations of 50% off from Dunkin Donuts as well as totally free coffee from Starbucks on M24 along with complimentary bagels and cream cheese. We will need a few volunteers to help run the refreshment tables.
- b. Red, White and Blue day with \$1 donation, to be given to Veterans' Memorial, November 8th. Last year we purchased a brick for the local memorial with our school name and year, using our donations. We plan to do the same this year.
- c. Variety Show, springtime(?) - This is an event that is being organized, more information to come. Spring is the planned time for this event, an exact date will be decided soon.
- d. Yearbook: email all pictures and/or volunteer to help by emailing OrionOaksYearbook@gmail.com. Jessica Lizardi is organizing our yearbook and leading in its creation. She did this last year and it worked very well. Volunteers can sign up to help design class pages and event pages. An online software is used to design these pages and information on how to use it is readily available. If you would like to volunteer, please email: OrionOaksYearbook@gmail.com.

Please use orionoakspto@gmail.com for questions/comments/concerns.

For events calendar, updates, and extra info, visit our website: www.OrionOaksPTO.com

**Our next meeting is Tuesday November 5th at 7pm in the Media Center.
Free childcare will be provided.**