



**JAMES MORRIS SCHOOL
PTO MINUTES
May , 2017**

Attendees:

Crissie Lauretano, KC Chapman, Laurie Bernardi, Margie Groht, Barbara Connery and Jessy Barone

Meeting called to order at 9:02 am by Jessy Barone, President

Treasure's Report

Current Balance is \$25,556.24.

Old Business

Bingo and the Sweet Treat Meet and Greet

The PTO held a meet and greet combined with a Bingo game night on March 9th 6-8pm. JMS students volunteered their time to run the Bingo games. The PTO provided lemonade, water, coffee, cookies, and prizes. Thank you to all who attended.

Square One Art

This fundraiser successfully raised \$745.00. Thank you to all of the students who participated and parents who purchased products from the fundraiser.

New Business

Earth Day Recycling Drive

This Fundraiser was held on Sunday 9:00am to 1:30pm at JMS. The JMS PTO collected bottles, cans and cell phones and raised \$121.00. Only one student volunteered, Emma Zontok along with Laurie Bernardi and Jessy Barone. Thank you to the community and "Friends of Morris" for your donations.

Spring Field Trips

The PTO Contributed \$1000.00 toward the cost of this spring's field trips. Grades K-2 will visit Imagination Nation on 6/8.

3rd grade will visit Roaring Brook Nature Center on 6/6.

4th grade visited Pratt Nature Center on 5/16

5th grade visited Great Mountain Forest in Falls Village on 5/17

Teacher Appreciation Day

On Tuesday May 2nd the JMS teachers and staff were honored with an array of choices from the potluck luncheon provided by the students' parents. Thank you to everyone who made a food dish/dessert or brought in supplies. The teachers were so appreciative of the luncheon, the recently purchased toaster oven and can opener provided by JMS families.

Spring Enrichment

Barbara Connery presented her request for funds for an Author visit by Nora Raleigh Baskin who wrote Nine, Ten: A September 11 Story. A vote was taken and unanimously passed that the PTO will give \$300.00 toward this enrichment. The visit is planned for 6/02.

Science Lab

The Science Lab is a work in progress. Jessy Barone will contact Robin Christopher (Art Educator) at Wamogo again and inquire about students volunteering their time to create and paint science related wall murals. It is the hope the science lab will be a bigger part in the student's education. Ready-to-go packets of the "Mystery Science" materials will still be used for the particular lessons/labs offered by the website.

The Pasta Dinner and Auction

The Pasta Dinner and Auction was held on April 28th at Memorial Hall. It raised approximately 11,000.00. The Wamogo Culinary Arts Department still needs to be paid for the dinner. The PTO has not received a bill yet. Additional classroom projects need to be made by Marsha Doran and paid for by the PTO. The PTO is expecting a returned deposit of \$300.00 from Memorial Hall for leaving the hall in good condition. Many commented on how organized and how entertaining the auction portion was. The PTO is very appreciative of everyone who attended and volunteered. Attendees discussed ideas on how to use the funds. Some ideas were to make an "outdoor" investment like a pergola and a garden to display student's projects at the back pick-up area and playground wall for students to bounce balls off of. Also discussed was how to display the student's artwork on 1ft squares throughout the school, which can be easily by moved/removed.

Field Day

Field Day is scheduled for Friday, June, 9th. The PTO will purchase watermelon, popsicles and fudgicles as snacks for the students for the day.

Scholarships

Barbara Hart from Wamogo contacted Jessy Barone about the JMS PTO funding the Howard Miller and David Benjamin awards. Traditionally, the JMS PTO are the sponsors of these two scholarships awarded annually to two Morris Seniors. Each recipient is given \$250. Jessy Barone will drop off the checks at Wamogo.

Open Floor

Podiums

Barbara Connery discussed the importance of giving speeches and the oratory piece of education. She expanded on the need for podiums for the students when giving a speech. Mr. Chapman will contact Nathan Meyer about making a podium and research the cost of other podiums on line.

Suggested Reading

Mr. Chapman suggested reading the book "Schools Cannot do it Alone" so that we can navigate through this book together and open up conversation amongst educators and parents.

Minutes submitted by Jessy Barone, PTO President.