

Independence PTO Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Attendance: Ashley Enkelaar, Nancy Daly, Michael Shea, Heather Schaff, Lora Stebleton, Chelsi Martian, Angie Bolme, Becky Bahe, Jennifer Simmons, Sonia Nistler

Meeting was called to order by Chelsi Martian at 7:02 p.m.

Ashley Enkelaar made a motion to approve the December 12, 2022 minutes; Lora Stebleton seconded. MOTION PASSED.

Guest Speakers:

- Special Education Teacher: Jennifer Simmons
- The special ed teachers are working with a newer program for reading interventions and a new program for social emotional learning. They are pleased with their results so far.
- There are a few new staff members to help with the students requiring special services.

Principal:

- STAR testing is starting this week and will continue for about two weeks. Students will take a test in both math and reading and the results will help teachers with their classroom groups and interventions.
- Independence staff and students have been working on setting goals. Staff, classrooms, and students are working on tracking and reaching their goals.
- Classroom popcorn parties are still on hold until the PTO can get a new machine.
- Independence has hired a new Social Emotional Teacher (shared with Legacy Middle School), a new 1st Grade Teacher, and a new Speech Language Pathologist.
- Summer school planning is starting in the district. Information will be available to families in March.

Presidents:

- The popcorn machine was sent in for warranty. The machine can't be fixed and the PTO received a credit to purchase a new one.
- Upcoming Events:
 - The next Papa Murphy's Pizza Night will be Thursday, January 12th
 - Skate Night at The Lights will be Friday, January 20th
 - The Family Dance Night will be on Friday, February 24th
- Planning has started for the family dance night.

Treasurer:

- The Nonprofit Corporation Annual Report has been filed and was accepted by the North Dakota Secretary of State's office.
- No deposits were made in December.
- Charges came through for miscellaneous classroom supplies that were approved at previous PTO meetings.

New Business:

- Ashley Enkelaar, PTO co-president, requested \$44 plus the amount needed for a warranty plan to purchase a new popcorn machine. The credit from our broken popcorn machine will be used for the majority of the charge.
 - Lora Stebleton made a motion to approve the request; Michael Shea seconded.
 - MOTION PASSED
- Chelsi Martian, PTO co-president, requested \$300 to reserve The Lights ice skating rink for an Independence Family Skate Night.
 - Becky Bahe made a motion to approve the request; Michael Shea seconded.
 - MOTION PASSED
- Taylor Wild, kindergarten teacher, requested \$567.64 for a sand and water table (sensory table) and 10 lap desks for students to work on the carpet.
 - Discussion was had regarding the exact table that was linked by the teacher and other tables that may be available for a lower price.
 - Lora Stebleton made a motion to approve up to \$500 to purchase the lap desks and a sensory table; Ashley Enkelaar seconded.
 - MOTION PASSED

Popcorn Party Drawing:

- Skipped this month due to no popcorn machine

Adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

NKD