

**Dogwood Elementary PTA**  
**October Meeting Minutes**

**Call to Order**

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Moment of Silence
- Welcome

**Treasurer's Report – Yamit Marsh**

As of September 2023

- Opening Balance: 9/30/23 \$39,451.41
- Income: \$8,903.17
- Expenses: \$1,039.26
- Ending Balance: 9/30/23 \$47,315.32
- \*\*See PDF for breakdown of income and expenses

**Council Delegate Report- Tea Mady – Nothing to report.**

**Principal's Report**

- Thank you for coming. October is a very busy month at Dogwood!
- PE obstacle course, Pumpkin patch, Unity Day..are on the horizon!
- Please note Unity date is now 10/18, not 10/25
- Pumpkin Patch Event- The kids wear costumes, parade along the turf, and pick their pumpkins. Parents are welcome to come observe outside the black fence during their child's time slot. This is then followed by the classroom party.
- Please no food items/ no goodie bags on Halloween as we do not have the time or staff to check each bag. The children will have so much fun that day, don't worry!
- Costumes must not be scary/ no gore/ violent weapons etc.
- Red Ribbon Week- This is an annual celebration of making healthy choices, saying NO to drugs, antibullying and much more!
- Unity Day (10/18) is a nationally celebrated event promoting kindness, inclusion, and standing up for others. Please have your kids wear orange!!
- Big Apple Crunch (10/26) Wear the color of your favorite apple! Bring an apple to school and we will take a crunch as a whole school to celebrate healthy choices.
- SIT team had their first meeting and there are a fe noteworthy takeaways.
  - Behavior incentive program and discussions on ways to promote this.
  - Curricular changes in testing this year moved to CBT (Computer based testing). Here at Dogwood, we will prepare the students as this may be challenging for some. This is a long test and a long amount of time on a screen, so it will surely be a big adjustment.
  - There will be a practice ELA test given ...more details to come.
  - IEP students may need certain accommodations.
  - 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will now also have a science online assessment (Inner Orbit)
- Lastly, we continue to welcome families to feel welcome inside our building and to be informed at all levels. We encourage PTA volunteers for classroom events, guest readers, and truly something to welcome you into the building monthly!

**President's Report**

- Designer Handbag fundraiser- Ends Nov 12<sup>th</sup>!!!! Tickets are \$50/ 1 entry, you can scan the QR code and purchase on memberhub. This is our big fundraiser for this year so please promote

this!! This fundraiser's profit will directly support the Cultural Arts Program which provides our children with so many of the events they love throughout the year!

- Meadow Farms Fundraiser- Ends 10/30 – Please share with your friends and family. The items will arrive before the holidays!
- On the horizon- Harlem Wizards event at HSE/ Time TBD on 12/6 ticketed fun event for the kids!
- Band App- This app has replaced Shutterfly so please if you haven't joined, get the invite code from your class parents!
- Scarecrows- these are created by your class parents and are due 10/25. These are a HUGE hit with the kids!

### **Standing Committee Reports**

- Cultural Arts – Melissa Barger & Angela Kirshak
  - Jared Campbell visited, and the kids absolutely loved having him again!
  - 11/8 Journeys program for 4<sup>th</sup> Graders.
  - 11/2 Dinoman for the 1<sup>st</sup> graders.
- Membership - Anisa Salerno – Please join the PTA!!
  - Currently at \$2,630 which is approximately 87% of our goal! / 270 members
  - Please remember you MUST be a PTA member to volunteer for any event!
- SEPTA- Angela Kirshak, Melissa Stencil, Wendy Sanzone
  - 1<sup>st</sup> meeting was 10/16
  - Moe's ornaments fundraiser online, Dr. Stein will be speaking at the next meeting about 504 plans
- Website Coordinator- Kristine Capizzi
  - This is a wonderful up to date resource for parents!
  - We need someone to head this committee next year!

### **Annual Committee Reports**

- Awareness Committee- Lauren Gutes, Katie Smith, Kaitlin Peterson
  - \* Sale of AVM bracelets raised a total of \$414 for the Paige Keely Foundation!
- Beautification- Tea Mady, Malycia Gordon, Tiffany Disario
  - \* Raised \$133 from mums plant sale!
- Birthday Board- Angela Kirshak
  - \*Thank you to Vittoriana Panissa for October! Jamie Haner will be doing the November board.
- Class Pictures- Yamit Marsh, Stephanie Scheriff, Kristin Talarek
  - \* Packages coming likely mid-November
  - \* 11/21 Retake Day & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade picture day/ wear 5<sup>th</sup> grade shirt!
- Family Activities- Kristine Capizzi, Tea Mady
  - \* 10/19 Barnes & Nobles/ CPK Event- This is a fun night for K-5 teachers and students and a portion of proceeds go to the Dogwood PTA!
  - \*Upcoming event- AR Workshop
- Health & Wellness- Danielle Caldwell, Tiffany Lochan, Maria Falcone
  - \*Red Ribbon week 10/23-10/27 See flyer for daily details
- Local Fundraising- Angele Kirshak, Vittoriana Panissa
  - \* Cabo event -\$220, Mickey's \$240! These little fundraisers really do pay off!
- Plant Sale- Stephanie Cook, Vittoriana Panissa, Tea Mady

- \*Fall mum sales brought in 37 orders with 226 plants sold \$678 profit!
- Popcorn Thursday- Yamit Marsh, Marissa Scannapieco, Deanna Liang
  - \* Volunteers sign up will be sent out via MemberHub. You MUST be a PTA member to volunteer as per our bylaws. A permission slip will always come home the night before.
- Pumpkin Patch- Valerie O'Neil, Dawn Lombardi, Shamie Bo, Tiffany Disario
  - \*10/31 Volunteer sign up on memberhub. We ask that class parents please do NOT sign up to volunteer for this event since you will be with the children during the class party that day.
  - \*A big THANK YOU to the Ress family farm for providing the pumpkins this year and THANK YOU SO MUCH to Valerie O'Neil and Dawn Lombardi for donating the pumpkins for the Pre-K children in our building!!!
- Spiritwear- Kerri Adler, Jenna Schwartz
  - \*Unity Day shirts to be worn on 10/18
  - \* 1<sup>ST</sup> Place Spiritwear is offering free shipping on \$75 orders
  - \*New croc gibits available for \$5 on memberhub!!
  - \* New sweatshirt design coming soon! Flyer going home in a few weeks.
  - \* Remember we wear spiritwear on Wednesdays
- Yearbook- Melissa Barger, Lauren McCulloch, Christy Ronan, Laura Pugliese
  - \*Please begin uploading your child's photos asap. Deadline Nov 17th
  - \*Description is needed to help the committee sort all the photos
  - \*If you need your Kindergarten Class Act photos please let us know

Next meeting: Tuesday November 14<sup>th</sup> at 10am on Zoom!