



## MEETING MINUTES—OCTOBER 8, 2018

### 1.0 PRELIMINARY ACTIONS

**1.1 Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:34pm. The secretary informed everyone that the meeting would be recorded.

**1.2 Welcome & Introductions:** We went around the room and everyone introduced themselves. Now there are two attendees with future students “on the way”...

**1.3 Accept Minutes and Agenda:** The minutes from the last meeting (Sept.) and last years’ May meeting were approved.

### 2.0 REPORTS

**2.1 Principal’s report** (Malinda Lansfeldt) –

- Pony Pride day was colorful. H.S. students, alumni, etc. greeted students.
- Halloween celebration is coming up – no weapons please. No candy.
- MEA is coming up. The whole week is no school.
- We have quite a few new staff. She highlighted some of the new teachers.
- Board elections are coming up. Educate yourselves on the candidates.
- The school board is looking at options to adjust for budget cuts.
- The school dance is coming up.
- Be aware that we do some fire drills from time to time
- Mike DeRuyck is printing 3d items which are a huge hit with the students. He is trying to get a third printer.
- It was recommended to go and visit other playgrounds during actual recess time to see what pieces the kids are playing on.
- Working with people from other districts on how to solve problems with empathy based on Stanford Design School. She signed up to have someone come to A-L to work on some issues.

**2.3 Teacher’s report** (LD, KS ) – Getting in the groove. LSC firefighters are coming. Going to Afton apple orchard on Friday. Thank you to the PTA for the headphones—they are awesome. The new reading curriculum. All teachers are or will be trained. We are reading a script until we get use to is. Goal is to get the students to love to read. Trying to get away from “levels”.

### 3.0 ITEMS/EVENTS/FUNDRAISERS

**3.1 Family Dance** (MK) – The dance went well. We took in \$1300 and profit was about \$1k. We went through a lot of hot dogs. Spirit Wear – sold \$1200. Looking for new items for the Science Fair. Flu Clinic – we had about 70 participants. Overall – great turn-out. There was some discussion about the timeframe – whether it is too long or not. There were some comments from parents: Something more than just hot dogs... There was discussion about re-using the decorations for the carnival.

**3.2 Box Tops** (MP) – We’re going to keep the “cone” them again this year. The last collection was a little less than average. There was some discussion about other options for incentive prizes. Some ideas were thrown out. Katie offered Scholastic prizes. There was some discussion about whether Reedy got her \$200 enrichment prize last year.

**3.3 Recognition committee (MK)** – There was some discussion about who is going to be on this committee. Katie offered to head it up and delegate different months to other volunteers. There was some discussion about which caterer to use. There was discussion about the Conference dinner. Figure a count of forty. 4:30pm to 7:30pm.

**3.4 Book Fair (KB)** – Volunteer site is up and running. New this year—training session on prior Friday. We get free shipping on orders of \$250 or more. Don't need seventeen boxes of Star Wars books. Don't need plush toys.

**3.5 Science Fair (MK)** – Sara Kubiak will head it up again. Nov. 15th. Flyer in Friday folder this week. Looking for volunteers—judges, check in, set up, tear down.

**3.6 Pizza Dinner (MK)** – Shannon will probably head it up again. There was discussion about how wonderful the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students were to help out. There seemed to be consensus on pizza for the dinner.

**3.7 Art to Remember (MK)** – Order forms will go out soon. The students' art piece will be on the order form.

**3.8 School Directory (JJ)** – We are going with “MySchoolAnywhere”. There was discussion about opt-in vs. opt-out. There is an annual fee. There should be a flyer and a note in the newsletter about signing up.

**3.9 Café Zupa (MK)** – There was some discussion about it. We brought in \$291 in profit. “It was packed...” There are other Let's Eat Out nights in the works. “It was fun for the kids...” “Tell people around you that you are with Afton-Lakeland...”

**3.10 Playground Project (MK)** – Had a talk with Andy Kubiak to see where he got funding for the media center make-over. The main source was St. Croix Valley Association. They have tons of resources to reach out and get community-wide support. They do take a 7% cut of what we take in. They recommended going with the “full gamut”. Get the total amount for both playgrounds instead of breaking it up. We can ask for the total amount and not come back again a second time for more funds. We cannot name the entire playground with the name of a single donor, but we can put names on single pieces. It was noted to be prepared for vandalism. It was asked if anyone wants to help with fundraising, grant writing, flyers, business promotions, etc. It was suggested to make a note in fundraising campaigns that “the district supports our playground”. A coin drive was suggested. We are still waiting for dollar amounts. Both playgrounds only need upgrades, not replacement. Currently, we're looking at about \$45k for the K playground. This after discussion with Tony (from the district) and Bill (Northland Rec.): Some pieces will be pulled out. Need new swings. We can repaint some posts. Handles can be replaced. Decks are in good condition. Maybe add a climbing wall. Take out see-saw. Add the spinner. Add the pony. Replace the stepping stools. Take out the piece with the chain which will damage the surface over time. Both Tony and Bill have a history. They have both been around since the original playgrounds were installed. The K playground was never finished. The district will take care of both surfaces (“fall surface”). There will also be more discussion about fencing. There was more discussion about visiting other playgrounds. It was explained why the district doesn't pay for more than “basic playground” is because the district is tasked with pay for “education” and can't pay too much for extended playground equipment. “Anderson's playground is 'awesome'. The spinning piece is a hit...” There was more discussion about swings. Any pieces that we pull out will get re-allocated somewhere else. There was more discussion about the surface—both playgrounds.

## **4.0 FINAL ITEMS**

**4.1 Open positions** - Co-chair and secretary slots are open for next year. Looking for volunteers.

**4.2 Adjourn** – Meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.

**Attendees (9 – more or less – plus some children!):** Meaghan Paczosa, Jennifer Sobiech-Pariseau, Katie Brisson, Beth Ann Sobiech, Laura Davidson, Kim Schneider, Mary Kristensen, , Jessie Johnson, Dean Stynsberg

**General PTA email:** [afton-lakeland@hotmail.com](mailto:afton-lakeland@hotmail.com)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/AftonLakeland>

**Website:** <http://aftonlakeland.my-pta.org>

**Text alerts:** Text “@alhawks” to 81010. You will be notified ahead of time about PTA events!

**Next meeting** – November 12, 2018, 6:30pm

***Respectfully submitted by Dean Stynsberg, Afton-Lakeland PTA Secretary***