



Linwood Howe PTA MEETING

October 10, 2024

Present: Anna Dembs, John Cohen, Emma Smizik, Kim Sadler, Emily Sacchetti, Rachel Ferkel, Kevin Seldon, Katie McNayr, Cody Ryder, Rachel Martin, Mike Moson, Fei Krelle, Sara Jones, Sarah Wechsler, Mr. Chabola, Mr. McCullen, Ms. Natoli

Excused absences:

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:05pm. President Anna Dembs presiding.

2. Approval of Minutes: The minutes from September 5, 2024 were approved.

3. Principal's Report - Mr. Chabola

- Thank you to Emily and the entire team for Raise Craze and all their hard work!
- Held a Measure E meeting about the plans for Lin Howe. The school will be assigned an architect. Please get involved if you have a Kinder, 1st or 2nd grader. If you have older students, please get involved in the middle school and high school planning.
- Halloween Parade will be held on Halloween - more details to come!
- School site council members will be meeting next Thursday.
- The Joey Taylor memorial bench has arrived. We will set up a time with her family and retirees to have it placed in the kinder yard. Funds that are leftover will be put into the community scholarship fund for graduating CCHS students that went to Lin Howe.
- There will be a pupil free day on Friday, November 1st.
- Campus Beautification Day will be held on Sunday, October 20th.

4. Teacher's Report - Ms. Natoli

- Thank you for the disability readings and Raise Craze!

5. President's Report - Anna & Josh

- We got a lot of new members during the membership drive. However, there are still members whose memberships may have expired, so there is more work to do after Raise Craze ends.
- We held a movie night in September that went well but unfortunately started a little late. We will start the movie earlier next time.
- PTA Committee List - Mr Chabola will email out the list of PTA committees and descriptions. Anna will also post on the PTA website.
- Ms Lizotte has asked for funds for the rainbow club. The Equity Committee will share \$250 from their committee funds for club supplies.
- Council PTA Costume Drive - There is a box at Lin Howe and all the other schools to collect new or gently used costumes.

6. Financial Report - Kim

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report was run from 09/05/2024 to 10/09/2024, the opening balance of account ending #6970 was \$5,375.96.

There were deposits for the 5th Grade Committee, Spirit Wear and others for \$36,268.00. As mentioned at the previous meeting, there was also a transfer from Checking #1494 to Checking #6970 for \$100,000. There were

disbursements for \$28,211 consisting primarily of field trips and assemblies for \$20,000 and the rest going to either teacher reimbursements, spirit wear and family fun night. With total deposits and disbursements, the closing balance as of 10/09/2024 is \$113,432.04. The September 2024 bank reconciliation for account ending #6970 has been reconciled.

The opening balance of account ending #1494 was \$130,697.83. There was one Totem deposit for \$664 and one Stripe deposit test for \$4.25. As mentioned above, there was also a transfer from Checking #1494 to Checking #6970 for \$100,000. The ending balance as of 10/09/2024 is \$31,362.13 and the September 2024 bank reconciliation for account ending #1494 has been reconciled.

BUDGET TO ACTUAL

The Budget to Actuals report was run from 07/01/2024 to 06/30/2025 yesterday. Year to date, there was \$39,952.70 for income (67% of that came from 5th grade committee) and \$48,874.41 of expenses (67% were expenses for classroom enrichment, assemblies and field trips) for this year.

MOTION

Kim moved to approve checks #2478 through #2502 for a total of \$28,211.93. Motion passed.

Kim moved to allow herself to write checks until the next PTA meeting. Motion passed.

Kim moved to increase both income and expense for the fifth grade committee line items in the budget from \$2,000 each to \$40,000 each to reflect the committee's current budget. Motion passed.

7. Committee Reports

- **Fundraising** - Emily - Raise Craze is off to a great start! We were in every classroom for the kickoff on Monday and every child came home with a flier, QR code sticker, and kindness bracelet prize. Every child made a kindness hand with an act of kindness they intend to complete during Raise Craze - we used them to create a kindness hands display in the cafeteria. Thanks to all the volunteers that helped with our kickoff activities!

So far 81% of Lin Howe students are registered and participating. That tends to tick up as the fundraiser continues - last year we ended with 90% of students registered so we're hoping for that again this year. We've raised about \$38,000 so far and are tracking a 96% keep rate. Students have logged about 350 Acts of Kindness so far but that goes way up once we start reminding everyone about the acts of kindness. We'll be back in the classrooms again on Monday decorating kindness bookmarks that we'll give to local libraries, including Ms. Y's.

If you're new to Lin Howe and already tired of hearing about Raise Craze, we do this one fundraiser at the start of the year and so long as it's successful you won't hear about fundraising for the rest of the year outside of a few small things like a little restaurant night here or there. We don't do selling or anything like that. So as long as Raise Craze is a success you won't hear from me on fundraising until next year!

Last year we raised \$112,000 and completed 2,350 Acts of Kindness so we're hoping to get there again this year!

- **Equity Committee** - Fei/Mayra - Write ups about the assemblies will be part of the Dragon Diary. We need more volunteers for the display cases. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 16th.

- **Special Education Committee** - Gabby - October is disability awareness month. Lin Howe has a wonderful tradition of inviting parents and caregivers to read in October when CCUSD celebrates inclusion and disability awareness. There is a great selection of books so please sign up to read, books are in the front office. You must be a cleared volunteer, visits take 20-30 min, you can sign up for multiple classes not just your child's. Link to sign up is in the dragon diary.
- **Audit** - Sara - Sara has reviewed the records of the Linwood E. Howe PTA and finds them correct.
 - Sara moved to adopt the audit from 1/1/24-6/30/24. Motion passed.
- **Green Team** - Jen
 - School Beautification Day is Sunday, October 20, from 9-1pm! Please come join us in making our campus beautiful and clean. Bring kids, your work gloves, and come ready to weed/mulch/plant/trim/scrub, This counts as a Raise Craze Act of Kindness!
 - Our Green Ambassadors program has started - we had our first lessons this week. Kids learned about the 5Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Repurpose & Refuse) and how they can properly sort their lunch waste.
 - Gardening: Parent volunteers have started to work on our school veggie gardens. We meet most Wednesdays from 1-3pm. If you're interested in joining us, please let me know. We're hoping to start bringing classes into the garden soon.
 - You can email linhowegreenteam@gmail.com if you have any questions!
- **Reflections** - Parrish - The due date is 10/18. There is a box in the office for projects to be dropped off. Forms can be found on the PTA website.
- **5th Grade Committee** - Mariena/Jen
 - We are happy to report that we have currently raised about \$37k for our 5th grade fundraising! 60% of our 5th grade families donated, and we also raised money doing concession stands and running a bouncy slide at last weekend's art walk. This means that we have raised enough money to go to Pali Camp!
 - Spooky Dance is fast approaching on October 26! Nurse Tim will DJ and has graciously donated many inflatables for us to auction off that night. Look out for more info about this fun night.
- **Social Committee** - Kevin - There are now 7 members of the social committee. The first event of the year is a karaoke night on Thursday, October 17th. The committee is also considering a kickball or sports league with babysitting.
- **Book Fair** - Katie- The book fair will be Nov 4-8th, and the theme will be space. The save the date will go out tomorrow to teachers. There are two goals - get kids excited and make money for the library. We typically make 30-40% back from the book fair. Information will be sent out to teachers and families over the next few weeks. Kids can use cash or gift cards. You can also purchase gift cards so that all students can receive a book. Sign ups for cleared volunteers will go out shortly. Each class will visit during the school day, and the book fair will be open after school until 5pm for families to visit. 5th graders will be helping with the book fair - they will need to apply and make a poster to qualify for junior crew.

8. Announcements/New Business - Please see upcoming events and PTA Meeting dates below.

9. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 6:40pm.

Emma Smizik
Secretary

_____date adopted as printed _____date adopted as corrected

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Parents' Night Out: Karaoke Style Thursday, October 17th *Not a PTA sponsored event*
- Unity week October 14th-18th
- Equity Committee Meeting Wednesday, October 16th 6:30 pm (zoom)
- Reflections Art Contest Submission due date Friday, October 18th
- School Beautification Sunday, October 20th 9am-1pm
- Spooky Dance Saturday, October 26th 5pm-8pm
- Halloween Costume Parade Thursday, October 31st 9am Lin Howe Field
- No School Friday, November 1st
- Book Fair November 4th-8th

PTA MEETINGS 2023-2024 School Year

- Thursday, November 7th- PTA Meeting 6pm - in person at Lin Howe
- NO MEETING IN DECEMBER
- Thursday, January 11th - PTA Meeting 6pm - in person at Lin Howe
- Thursday, February 8th - PTA Meeting 6pm - in person at Lin Howe
- Thursday, March 14th - PTA Meeting 6pm - in person at Lin Howe
- Thursday, April 11th - PTA Meeting 6pm - in person at Lin Howe
- Thursday, May 2nd - PTA Meeting 6pm - in person at Lin Howe
- Thursday, June 6th- PTA Meeting 6pm - in person at Lin Howe