

Gallup Hill PTO

Meeting Minutes – September 18, 2019

Meeting Opens at 3:35 PM

President Kristin Goldsmith Favry welcomes everyone to the meeting. We share names and grades of children.

Kristin introduces principal Dr. Pam Austen for Principal Report

Principal Report:

- It has been a positive start to the school. The melding of two schools has had a good vibe and everyone is working harmoniously together.
- Dr. Austen introduces new Assistant Principal to GHS, Carianne Boord.
- 2nd year of PBIS working on Tier 2 – support, learning and behaviors (using Colonel Dog and BARK to create cohesiveness across the school)
- Reading Workshop for K-2 are rolling out
- A Military Liaison has been assigned to GHS due to the higher number of Military Families that have joined the school (from LCS).
- Mentor Program was mentioned where they have teachers volunteer to pair up with a student who may need a little extra care during lunch time.
- MAP Testing – assesses a child's reading and math ability/level
- Open House: grades K-2 on September 25th at 6-7 pm and grades 3-5 on September 26th at 6-7 pm. — Vendors such as Cub Scouts, Librarian, Military Liaison, etc will be there to answer any questions the parents may have at that time.
- Instrumental Music will be offered in the 4th and 5th grades this year. There will be a represented on the second night of Open House with information on this.
- A.L.I.C.E. (Alert, Lockdown, Informed, Counter, Evacuate) will be discussed with teachers in more detail so staff will be more reactive and use professional judgement in case of Intruder Alert.

Board of Education Updates:

- Board of Education Member, Stephanie Calhoun, tells us there is a new principal, Ryan Earley, at the Ledyard Middle School.
- There are 2 new Board of Education Members — visit Ledyard.net for bios
- Suggestions and ideas are always welcomed. The sooner the better due to budgeting.

President's Report:

- PTO Calendar should be sent home. It has been updated with events and dates.

Treasurer Report/Budget Vote:

- Sam Peters balanced the budget and handed out a detailed budget plan for all members. This can be viewed on the PTO Facebook Page.
- Members are welcomed to give ideas for money makers throughout the year.

Upcoming Events/Volunteer Opportunities:

- **Open House/Bake Sale:** There will be a PTO bake sale at the Open House on both evenings — September 25th and 26th. Volunteers welcomed to bring in individually wrapped baked items for raising money for the PTO. Ledyard bags will also be sold for \$5.
- **Book Fair:** Chair, Jaime Payumo will post a class list on the PTO page to show which teacher's class will come at what day/time. It is suggested to use ewallet if you do not want to send money in with your child for books. Parents can also add a "parent note" to the ewallet to insure the money is used properly by the student. Hours of the Scholastic Book Fair are posted on the PTO page as well as in the hallways of the school. Link for volunteering for the book fair is <https://signup.com/go/MGoSJKe>
- **Mums:** Have students bring exact amount in envelope on/by Monday, September 23rd. The mums will be distributed on Wednesday, September 25th from 5-7 PM out in front of school.
- **Halloween Bingo:** Will be held Thursday, October 17th from 6-8 PM. A flyer will go out to inform parents. Pizza, chips, a drinks will be served for a charge. Children are welcomed to dress up — NO weapons, NO blood, and NO masks.
- **Halloween Trick or Treat:** Will be held during school hours. Children are welcomed to dress up. Room parents will organize Halloween fun and food in the room. Children will get to trick or treat in their hallway. Again, NO weapons, NO blood, and NO masks.
- **Color Run:** Packets did go home. The event is held on October 19th. Students are encouraged to fundraise for the event. October 4th is the deadline to turn in donations in order to qualify for prizes. More information at <https://www.facebook.com/286416291728675/posts/922588194778145?sfns=mo>
- **Art Day:** Looking for volunteers and presenters. Talk to Stephanie Calhoun with ideas for shorter presenters (educational/instructional/experiential for classes). Talk with Dr. Pam Austen with ideas for Assembly Programs (Entertainment/spectator "show"). Art includes theater, movement, music, painting, literature, dance... "the expression or application of human creative skill and imagination..."
- **Trunk or Treat:** A parent, Jennifer York, had an idea for the GHS to get together and enter the Ledyard Parks and Rec. Trunk or Treat event. It is being held on October 25th in the evening. Ideas were being shared of how to get children involved and participate in the event. If they won the \$100 prize, the money would go to support the teachers in some way.
- **Box Tops:** Organizer Shelley Freeman and President Kristin Goldsmith Favry explained while parents asked questions on how to use the Box Top Mailbox for box tops located at the main entrance before going into the Main Office. Shelley asked that you put them in an envelope before dropping them in the box. Kristin explained how to use the App so that when you shop (Stop and Shop, Amazon.com, etc) money will be directly donated to your school account.