

March 2023, Viola Gibson PTA Meeting Minutes

Board Members

President: Aimee Cardon

Vice-President: Emily Wilkinson

Co-Secretaries: Erin Sneller and Jennifer Mixdorf

Co-Treasurers: Julie Rosenbohm and Allie Boenish

Volunteer Coordinator: Ashley Mead

Community Engagement Co-Chairs: Ali Kerr and Kaitlyn Uthe

Teacher Appreciation Chair: Sarah Mersch

1. Introductions
2. Principal's update- Read-a-palooza went really well! Testing for 3rd-5th grade will start after break.
3. Finances
 - a. Budget update- last Amazon smile payment, Expenses for teacher popcorn bar and Glow Party. Run Club and Lego League not included in expenses. 5th grade end of year celebrations approx \$600-700.
 - b. Equipment- motion passed for these
 - i. Storage totes \$200 (this is probably an overestimate - size is hard to gauge looking online)-
 - ii. Foldable Step stool for closet \$50
4. Staff requests
 - a. Faust Shulte and Fricke: \$657.50 APPROVED. Readsters: <https://www.readsters.com/cart/>
 - We have a lot of students in grades 2-4 that have b/d reversals likely due to the Covid closures during their primary years. Because of this new change in student need, we would benefit from having a research-based resource for B/D reversals. One packet would allow for us to print and use during classwide and small group instruction. Furthermore, you purchased Countdown last year which has shown significant growth with our Kinder intervention kids, but what we are finding are many kids are struggling to read whole words. They are sound-by-sound reading which is "Darby Syndrome" unofficially. What that means is that kids are reading sound by sound and not understanding or connecting in their brain that letters make words and when they see a word, it looks like a string of letters. After researching countless hours and watching numerous Professional Learning (research based) reading specialists, Readsters has the best protocol for helping students transition from sound reading to word reading.

First grade is a rigorous year, kids are expected to read 66 words per minute by the end of first grade. This is attainable, but very rigorous. If we could get one set, to start would be great to analyze and follow the data to see if we are seeing improvement and growth.

We do not need the word tiles as I created some for classrooms, laminated and the awesome volunteers put them together last year. (THANK YOU)

I would have Fricke in 1st and Becky Schulte reading interventionist try this with students. I will also collect data and show evidence of effectiveness.

b. Kerska - APPROVED. \$200 Qball classroom microphone ball. I had one I used, but it no longer works. I have had it for 3-4 years. (Kelly Leudke had one on the teacher request list)

c. Will discuss at future date.-Coach Murray requested a sound system for just under \$10,000 and tumbling mats for \$2800. My plan is to wait until a decision is made about library furniture before deciding on the sound system. We could potentially pay for tumbling mats out of classroom funds

d. Schmuecker -APPROVED. \$100 for stools for her small group table (she is one of the newer teachers)

5. Data presentation from Rachel Faust: showing Math and reading scores and changes from fall to winter for entire building and per grade. EET assessment done Feb 20th. Tier 3 intervention celebrations. Next steps: handwriting concerns and Darby Syndrome

6. Elections in April

- a. Treasurer position- discussed if Julie wants to continue in this position or not
- b. Volunteer coordinator- have someone in mind to ask

7. Fundraising

- a. Change Wars March 6 - 10, Vanessa Zirkelbach and Lisa Leslein- going well!
- b. Silent auction- include in newsletter if parents have anything they want to donate. Auction website-will PTA pay for- approx \$60
- c. Mister Car wash and Fun Station- fundraising tickets
- d. Papa Murphys night??- do last week in march
- e. School supply kits- Aimee working
- f. Hy-vee receipts- Kelly wasnt present but Aimee will check with her

8. Community building

- a. CPR training- about 30 participants at the free night.
- b. Silent auction and game night Friday, April 28- some contributions
- c. Carnival - Heather Spangler Frida May 19- no new updates. Meeting monday march 20th

9. Social media list for February/March

- a. Hy-vee Receipts
- b. Raptor registration
- c. March board meeting
- d. Game night donations
- e. Mark calendars for Carnival