

# O'Hara Elementary PTO Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2017

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Meeting was called to order at 9:19am and adjourned at 10:27. Approximately 37 members were present, including PTO officers Dana Rofey, Carrie Work, Faith Moser, Tonja Condron and Sarah Shaffer.

## Project and Committee Updates

- Fifth Grade Day
  - Collection jars were sent home in December of 2016. Students will be turning in the money in a few weeks, and again in April.
  - This year's gift will be to spruce up the courtyard, including a new table with plaque.
  - Volunteers have been assigned.
- Giant Eagle Apple Students
  - Program has 947 supporters
  - O'Hara has earned \$1,817 this year.
- Square 1 Art
  - Orders can still be placed.
  - PTO will earn 15% of profits throughout the year on any purchase.
- Spirit Sale
  - Online sale will likely begin Mid-February.
  - Susan Buchman brought in sample items provided by Friday Marketing.
  - Sale will be online, with several evening opportunities to view samples.

## PTO Board Update

- Budget w/ Proposed Allocation of Reserve Funds to be presented for vote at February 10 PTO Meeting

## O'Hara Administration Update (Mrs. Batis)

- Update on lunch/recess policies/procedures
  - Discussion on bathroom policies
  - Discussion on order classes are called to line and dismissed
  - Lunch Monitors requested monthly meeting and clarification on policies and procedures
  - Explanation of "coats off the floor" rule (not a change; enforcing for safety)
- Update on dismissal
  - Proposed changes discussed at November PTO meeting tabled pending finalization of renovation plans for front parking lot.
- Explanation of benchmarking (STAR)
  - Administered four times per year (September, November, February, March)
  - 30 Minutes Reading / 30 Minutes Math (K is combined, 30 minute total); Often in different weeks.
  - Norm based bench marking (based on nationwide data)
  - Focus on individual GROWTH (not achievement)
  - Sample individual report shown.

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- Eventually students will chart their own growth and goals ("Student Data Folder")
  - Shown to increase results by 32%
- Question re: sharing data with parents (Eventually)
- Question re: kindergarteners using computer (Changed to iPads to avoid issues with mouse).
- Question re: results seen by students (assessment finishes with a congratulatory note regardless of score).
- Question re: use of assessment results in teacher evaluations (Noted that teachers are evaluated in some part based on how they use data to drive instruction; not on the scores)
- Principal coffee hour for January will focus on STAR

## Upcoming Events

January 16 – NO SCHOOL

January 20 – NO SCHOOL

February 10 – PTO Meeting, 9:15am

February 17 – NO SCHOOL

February 20 – NO SCHOOL

**PALS** - The next PALS meeting will be held January 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at the Sharpsburg Library (1212 Main St). Speaker Cindy Duch from The Peal Center will be discussing 504 Plans. More info at [palsinfo.org](http://palsinfo.org)

**District Forum** - The next District Forum will be held Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 9am in the LGI room at the Fox Chapel Area High School. The topic will be technology. More info at [foxchapeldistrictforum.com](http://foxchapeldistrictforum.com)

### INCOMING KINDERGARTEN CLASS – DATES TO NOTE!

#### Pre-Kindergarten Story Time

Last Names A-K: February 9, March 9, and April 20 @ 2 p.m.

Last Names L-Z: February 10, March 10, and April 21 @ 2 p.m.

**New Kindergarten Parent Orientation Meeting** - February 21 – 6pm

#### District Wide New Kindergarten Registration

February 27 – 4pm – 6pm @ Sharpsburg Community Library

March 1 - 4pm – 6pm @ O'Hara Elementary

March 4 – 9am – 2pm @ Dorseyville Middle School