
Lincoln PTO Meeting Agenda

September 15, 2025

Meeting Link: <https://meet.google.com/umc-nymx-fho>

Board Members:

President: Katherine Kulig (lincoln@melrosepto.com)

Vice President: Nikki Ferrante

Treasurers: Chris Jones (treasureratlincolnpto@gmail.com)

Secretary: Chrissy Horan

DEI Rep: Meghan Rosenberg

Communications: Yen Ngo

City-wide Rep: Lauren Pisani

Enrichment: Laura Cohon and Alexis Marcus

7:00pm: Welcome & Introductions (5-10 mins)

Name, grade of student(s), PTO interest/activity (pending attendance size)

Statement/Vision from Ms. Patti

Ms. Patti thanked everyone for stocking the teachers' lounge at the beginning of the year. It's been a really positive start to the year, despite the construction challenges. Updates:

AC – team was there today (9/15), troubleshooting bit by bit, pressing in right direction;

Playground – school was not highly involved in decision-making; priorities included places to climb and swings (this is the reason the playground size needed to expand); more pathways for kids to move through; challenges: culvert under the playground was expected to be 2 feet underground but was actually 6 inches, now need to add 2 ramps (previously included in budget) and a fence which will go around 3 sides of the playground (side adjacent to the homes on Everett Street will not be fenced). Fence is an additional cost – but ideally less expensive than if an accident occurred. Hoover is also having playground construction – both funded through a grant. For recess K-2 goes to the front playground, 3-5 can play on the field. Last year's 5th grade donated a recess shed to Lincoln – waiting for playground to be finished to set up the shed; school is happy to have donations of soccer balls, kick balls, etc (no jump ropes please); teachers have mentioned they'd love a gaga ball pit for kids to play to provide some more structure

PTO is also purchasing a new fridge for the staff room – current fridge is small and old

Business (20 mins)

- Review of Mission & Core Values
 - Community building
 - Equity and Access - lower barriers for participation. More things so everyone can join at least something
 - Support staff with fun experiences and lots of food. Happy staff, happy kids!
 - Our role is to create positive and fun experiences for our kids in school
 - Prioritize ourselves and our community
- Recap of latest PTO activity
 - Popsicle play date/kindergarten welcome, Morning Coffee Break, Nurse Amanda list, stock teacher lounge
 - Ms. Patti mentioned that in terms of donations, families in the Lincoln community needs are wide-ranging; if anyone is ever looking to make a donation, a \$25 gift card to a supermarket or Target is a great way to help the community
 - Community closet, food pantry, office snacks (fresh fruits and vegetables always welcome)
 - List of PTO sponsored events for the year (see below); we will need a Chairperson to organize each event – PTO is looking for volunteers to chair events; PTO board members will assist and there is documentation for past events to use for guidance. Most of the responsibilities for most events will involve administrative organizational work to help coordinate. Contact the PTO if you are interested in helping with an event.
 - New chair - Glow Party
 - Google Calendar - coming soon, working with sharing logistics
- City-Wide PTO Update
 - PTO dues will go up this year
 - 3rd grade symphony field trip is up in the air because of funding; trying to figure out if someone can write grant and if it will be enough
- Budget
 - Discrepancy in budget expenses/revenue is largely expenses that never get fully spent (i.e teacher reimbursements)
 - Did not receive MCC grant which is another \$5000 shortfall in the budget
 - Enrichment and field trips are focus of the majority of funding
 - Goal to cover all field trip admission costs for all students
 - Fun activities to bring kids and community together
 - Staff support - reimbursement of classroom items
 - Budget Vote – budget approved
- Fundraising Ideas
 - Fundraising - trying to have events that don't constantly pull from our Lincoln community but reach outside (office mates, businesses, etc)
 - Chris also asked for suggestions for photographers who might be able to help with a mini-photo session fundraiser
 - Two big fundraisers each year: Annual Appeal (families) and Fun Run (extended network)
 - Our goal is to raise \$62,000 (spent last year); we raised \$58,000

- Grade-Level Parents
 - Two per grade
 - Communication
- Enrichment
 - Feedback from previous years/New ideas
- 5th Grade Committee
 - Look ahead/plans – 5th grade fundraises for additional expenses specific to their year. Nikki and Yen will be PTO Liaisons; Meghan Dowd is coordinating 5th grade efforts
- Library Help – K-2 will be the same; grades 3-5 kids will take out books during their library media class; Library should open in October – waiting for updates to software to go through

Committee/Working Groups (10-15 mins)

- Event Co-Chairs
 - Work with PTO to organize various events such as teacher appreciation lunches, etc,
- Upcoming activities and asks: Volunteer Form
 - Google form or email (lincoln@melrosepto.com)
 - Lincoln.melrosepto.com
 - Lincoln Events (dates subject to change)
 - October - MAAV Walk & Vigil @4pm
 - October - Glow Dance Party
 - November - Turkey Trot Fun Run
 - December - Lincoln Winter Kindness Shop
 - December - Homegrown for the Holidays
 - February - Teachers Valentine's Dessert Bar
 - March - World Culture Night
 - May - Ice Cream Social
 - June - Field Day (Rain date: June)
 - June - 5th Grade Moving On Ceremony

Open Conversation (Remaining Time)