

## Merrill PTA meeting minutes



Mon, October 18, 2021

7:00pm

Merrill Library

### 13 attendees:

Sarah W   Yasmin M   Ka'Meka L   Kristen E   Kate E   Kate M   Jaime N  
Melissa S   Lisa V   Jen C   Channon T   Shauna B   Vivian B

### Principal's Update – Mrs. Panek

#### School Updates:

- Circulation numbers are up with 1800 books checked out of the library.
- 6th grade ALT (formerly Battle of the Books-BOB) has been established.
- Fall sports are over.
- Orchestra and Band both qualified for the South Central Iowa Band Masters.
- Merrill was awarded a grant to be able to offer free instrument lessons.
- October 28th & 29th there will be targeted school conferences. Nov 1st & 2nd is Fall break
- A survey went out to ask kids about their feelings on safety in the hallways. As a result a plan is being put into place for 6th graders to pass alone straight to the next class and bathroom breaks will be given once they get to class. This should happen the week of Nov. 8th
- Mrs Panek has made a visit to every class to discuss the importance of wearing masks and wearing them correctly. Students were instructed that if after several prompts to wear the masks correctly and non-compliance then a call will be made home.
- Mrs Panek thanked the PTA on behalf of the teachers for the breakfast and coffee that was provided by the PTA

#### Committee Reports-

School Supply Kits- Kate Evans will not be available to do the supply kits next year since her student will be going on to high school. She gave a report of some of the problems with the kits missing materials that were paid for. There was a discussion that the kit is costly and doesn't always reflect what the students may need. After the discussion it was decided that the kits would not be sold for the 2022-2023 school year.

Apparel: The online store will be available week of November 4th and it will be made public. Megan Hollinger is committee chair.

Teacher Appreciation: Shawna Boeding reported a teacher wish list will be gathered and cookies will be supplied for the teachers for fall conferences.

Announcement- There will be no school dance on October 27th

## Upcoming Events-

- 8th Grade Academy Presentation Nov 15, 2021 7pm. RSVP required
- There will be a Titlewish Library Fundraiser in the Spring

## PTA Discussion & Decisions

The fundraiser for the large wall positive message decals raised \$458.00. The fundraiser will continue through November.

Question asked if the PTA meetings could be streamed as well as in person. It was discussed and decided that they would be made available thorough Zoom.

The Let's Talk Circle program has mediators available at Merrill.

## Housekeeping

Merrill PTA Dates for the 2021-2022 school year: Nov 15, Jan 24, Feb 21, Mar 28, Apr 18, May 16

### Merrill PTA Board 2022-22

- **President:** Sarah Witt
- **Treasurer:** TBD
- **Secretary:** Vivian Bryson

### Merrill PTA Committee Members 2021-22

**Communications:** Kristen Erickson/ Jessi Goodsell

**Membership & Community Relations:** Jessi Goodsell

**Fundraising:** TBD

**Apparel:** Megan Hollinger

**Merrill Matters:** TBD

**Helping Hands:** Tracy Beck, Sarah Osterhaus Melton, Sarah Voss

**Teacher Appreciation:** Katie Carlson/ Shawna Boeding

**Book Fairs:** TBD

**School Supply Kits:** Kate Evans

**Box Tops:** TBD

**Advocacy:** TBD

All Merrill PTA meetings are open to families and community members interested in helping Merrill Middle School.

Contact Sarah Witt, PTA President, at [switt1509\(at\)gmail\(dot\)com](mailto:switt1509(at)gmail(dot)com)

Find more information at <https://merrillpta.wordpress.com/> including [PTA meeting archives](#)

Connect with us at <https://www.facebook.com/merrillpta/>

Visit [Mrs. Panek's "Merrill Minute" newsletter archive](#)