

# Miller Avenue Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization



## **February 11, 2020** **Meeting Minutes** **High School Library**

**I. Meeting was called to order at 6.23pm.** Attendance: 4 members plus 5 members of the PTO Board were in attendance.

**II. Guest Speakers about new District Food Service Program at Miller Avenue School:** Mr Glen Arcuri Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations; Mr. Gerard Poole, Superintendent of Schools; Sara Paolino, Food Service Director and Christine Kravchenko, Cook.

The presentation included a demonstration of the heated mobile units that will be used to transport hot and cold food from the Middle School. Some units have heat, some cool, some both. The food is lined on trays inside and samples were displayed.

The Family ID program is at [familyid.com/dashboard](http://familyid.com/dashboard) and parents are to use the Miller Avenue Lunch Order Form on a 2 week ordering period online. All meals will be \$4. Hot items change daily. The cold items are the same daily options, like the current brown bag options. There are vegetarian options and seasonal options included. If a student is approved for a free lunch click 'yes'. Other information on the online form to complete include grade, teacher name, student name and a parent agreement. There are no checks or cash. It is pre-paid only in advance. There is no credit card processing fee. Sara Paolino (Food Service Director) and Christine Kravchenko's (Cook) emails are shown on the online form for questions. Once the two week dates are completed, the form closes, and then the next two week period opens.

Food is prepared in a tree nut and peanut free kitchen. There are gluten-free options. The muffins are fruit based or corn based muffins, not choc chip or sweet. Students choose fruit juice or fruit - parents pre-order this option due to some students having already selected milk for the year. Students can choose the specific fruit or juice flavor on the day itself. Fruit will be seasonal (bananas, apples, oranges will be a standard daily choice for the student). If a student has allergies, then please let the Food Service Director know asap

so they can make a note in the system. The Food Service program works well for 3-12 grades. The food container is recyclable material. There will be back up options available for spillage/not liking options.

All students will go to the General Purpose/All Purpose Room for lunch, after hand washing in the classroom. They will take their coat, hat, gloves and sit on them which isn't ideal. Each class will have an assigned table and the same lunch monitor. Students then take lunchboxes and bottles outside to recess, and place outside in an area by class.

A suggestion was made about adding coat racks which Mr Acuri will look into to avoid germs/lice if coats are piled or spilled on.

A suggestion was made to extend recess by 5 minutes to allow time to transport/coats/backpacks - this is a hope for next year to extend the recess. A custodian will be assigned to clean tables in between the lunch periods and floors for large items. A sweep and mop won't be in between lunch periods- only for big spills. This will be the same protocol that is used in classrooms currently.

For indoor recess, students will be in classrooms, but lunch will continue in the AP room. Volunteers in the AP room will be for handing out food choices/selections. There will be 2 heated mobile units per grade - one on each side - for handing out trays/choices. So, to start there will be 2 volunteers per lunch period. There will be an allergy table available if parents want their child to sit at allergy table or with class. A letter will go home about this soon. There will be allergy aids in the AP room if needed for supervision.

Imagination Playground was purchased by the PTO 2 years ago for indoor recess use for several thousand dollars, which the students enjoy. A question was asked if this can be used this year and if so, how/where? The Gym is in use by other classes. Mrs Smith is looking at a plan for next year to look at the schedule for gym use for it.

Mrs Smith noted the week back from Mid-Winter vacation - there will be 2 days - Thursday and Friday - where all students will eat in the AP room, before the food service program starts March 2nd, to get used to using the AP cafeteria seating for all students. The hand washing process will start before lunch monitors arrive to classroom by teachers. Mrs Smith hopes time outside will be maximized as teachers will be picking them up from outside and they are closer to outdoor area for their lunch.

There was an idea proposed for students to vote on a new name for the AP room.

Please share information or questions or concerns directly with Glen Arcuri or the Food Service Director so they can assist and help with any issues.

There is EFL teaching staff available to help students with English language challenges. If families have no computer access, then parents can attend any school to use computers - just call the school office to request this.

**III. Principal's Report** - Please see above Food Service Update Discussion.

**III. Treasurer Report** - Please see budget for updates since last meeting.

#### **IV. President's Report**

##### **A. Old Business**

1. Minutes accepted from January meeting.

2. Box Tops are ongoing throughout the year-strictly collecting on the app now.

**B. New business:**

1. Bingo Night is February 27<sup>th</sup> in the HS gym. Doors open at 5:30 and bingo will begin to be called at 6:00. Pre-order pizza, snacks and drinks will be available for purchase. Raffles include making announcements, lunch with Mrs. Smith and being principal for a day. Link to signup is on Facebook page and website here: <http://bingo2020.cheddarup.com>
2. Save the Date for Parents Night Out- April 17<sup>th</sup> at the Residence Inn in Riverhead. Each classroom is asked to contribute a basket-look for a letter from class parent coming soon. The link to purchase tickets to attend the event is coming soon.
3. The next Smencils sale is on March 4th. Students can bring money during lunch for optional items.
4. The St. Patrick's Day Pop Up Shop will be held on Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, March 17th during lunch. All proceeds will benefit the Miller Avenue 2nd Grade Student Council.
5. The PTO is currently accepting nominations for next years PTO Board. Positions include President, Vice President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary and Recording Secretary. Please email letter of interest to [MillerAvenuePTO@gmail.com](mailto:MillerAvenuePTO@gmail.com)

**C. Other business:**

1. The next meeting is on March 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at Miller Avenue School.
2. There was a motion to adjourn the meeting which was accepted at 7.05pm.

Minutes recorded by Miller Avenue Recording Secretary, Emma Tees

**MILLERAVENUEPTO.ORG**

**MILLERAVENUEPTO@GMAIL.COM**

**Remind App for Alerts and Updates:**

Kindergarten: @mapto2032

First Grade: @mapto2031

Second Grade: @mapto2030