

MINUTES

Date | time 1/29/2018 6:30PM | Meeting called to order by Shannon Hall

Attendance

20 people attended

Business

PTO Parent Chat: Introduction to the Sphero by Lisa King & Joette Crone

Students in grades 2 and above are currently learning the basic use of the Sphero. In addition to coding commands for the Sphero, students utilize arts integration by adding in different materials to create artwork, such as paint. Students create artwork using the Spheros and paint, and they have made mazes, shapes, and letters from coding the Sphero. Teachers are using very basic commands with the kids at the moment, but plan to expand to additional commands as they build their knowledge of the Sphero. Spheros help students experience trial and error as they figure out what works and doesn't work, apply problem solving skills to code their Sphero, and persistence to keep working despite difficulties encountered.

Students in K-1 will be given the opportunity to work with Spheros later in the spring.

Attendees were given a brief tutorial on the background and use of the Sphero. They could then use the ThinkPad and Spheros to code their own commands for their Sphero.

The grant approved last month will support the purchase of 12 additional Sphero kits for Hollymead, allowing the school to return the borrowed ones to the county.

PTO Business:

All meeting minutes and weekly PTO newsletters are made available online at the PTO website.

Many grants were approved last month, and staff expressed much appreciation for the support from the PTO for their classroom projects.

Announcements/Upcoming Dates

Upcoming Events

Floorball: Starts tomorrow for those registered in grades 3-5. Two slots remain if anyone else is interested. Mr. Carroll and Mr. Whitehead plan to hold another session later in the spring for grades K-2.

Read a Thon (March): new chair and some possible new ideas for the program

Fun Fair (March 24th): Volunteer chairs will be asking for help from school community

Talent Show: Volunteer chairs will be asking for help from school community

Next PTO Chat: March 19th, 2018 at 6:30pm