PTO Meeting Agenda/Minutes

In attendance: Jennifer McNamara, Kate Delaney, Sara Schneidewind, Yong Miao, Margueritte Dillard, Ying Liu, Taneia Giles, Leslie Calhoun, Tim Pinto, Leslie Calhoun, Carly Ly

1. Called to order: 6:36pm
2. Minutes - Reviewed previous meeting’s minutes
   1. Motion to approve minutes: Margueritte
   2. Seconded: Brian Weisman
   3. Vote: Aye
3. Principal Report - Mrs. Giles - At the end of the year, and the teachers are working hard to make everything in place for the end of the year. Liz Margolis and AAPS are working on safety reviews, including another crossing guard for the coming year. We are going to be working towards beautifying the school for the coming year (painting, etc). Lots of preparation for end of year and summer. Mrs. Giles is the only one who isn’t ready for the school year to be over!
4. Teacher Report - Mrs. Hagan - None.
5. Treasurer Report - Brian Weisman - Been a busy month with all of the Space Camp stuff and teacher reimbursements and lots of cool things being purchased for classrooms. Gross profit (all fundraising less costs) was budgeted for $57000, and came out at $57035, so that is great! Bottom line: $1400 to the positive with a few more expenses, which is $14k more than was budgeted. So historically approve more than budget out, but budget amount is usually not spent. We do have about $65k in the bank and don’t really want to add to it. Paid out the money for Space Camp wrist bands, hotel staff, bus drivers, plus money came in. Within $1400 of what expected and the rest comes from the endowments. Becky Roberts at Space Camp is sending a refund check for kiddos who couldn’t go. So will get close to break even with fundraising and expenditures for the year. Brian will coordinate with Tim and support through the fall so that things transition smoothly, and let him know what has been approved, and rolled (such as landscaping), etc. With goal of making things better, etc.
6. Committee Reports
   1. AAPAC (Parent Advisory Council) - Last meeting of the year was to review by-laws and consider revisions. I don't have the final results. I will share when available.
   2. Academic Games-Vivian Lin -
   3. Bagel Friday-Cori Peng and Jas
   4. Bingo Night - Jen McNamara: No report
   5. Book Fairs-, Leslie Frey, Lisa Mitchell, Dana Habers, Gayle Green -
   6. Box Tops-Sara Robins
   7. By Laws Interpretation-Jamie Haberichter
   8. Communications/Enotes-Kim Burton-Weisman
   9. Community Action- Larissa Sano
   10. Disability Awareness Coordinator- Katie Baidel
   11. First Day Packets- Sarah Wentzloff, Helen Kaplan
   12. Grocery Cards
   13. Harvest Moon- Renee Tall
   14. Ice Cream Social- Bing Yang, Monica Jones
   15. International Night- Marguerite Dillard
   16. King Parents Connect - Talisha Sutton, Mou Kahn
   17. Landscaping - Dan Beard - We are beginning to coordinate with teachers and other staff, as well as interested parents. We are hoping to work with Mrs. Wayne to help the children make large stained glass style window coverings while the ugliest part of the work is being done in the fall.
   18. Learning Garden-Sara Zocher, Becky Locke, Angela Bullman, Sherry Grant -
   19. Math Club- Shikha Marwa Fred Korley -
   20. Enotes and Outdoor Sign-Kim Burton-Weisman
   21. PTO Thrift Shop Liaison-Anita Shelgikar
   22. PTO Council Rep- Beth Grzelak-Lee -
   23. Science Olympiad - Karin Sletten-Farjo, Yong Miao -
       1. Time conflict with international night. Every year there is a few weeks overlap between International night and Science Olympiad, and as a result, many kids join Science Olympiad late which cause some problem. Team selection occurs around the time that kids are also involved in International Night. Is there a way to keep International Night in late February rather than March, which causes some conflicts. Two dates were requested for International Night...Saturday, February 23rd 4pm-9pm and Saturday, March 2nd 4pm-9pm. Mrs. Giles will follow up with Pioneer to try to prioritize the February date.
       2. Decrease in volunteers - there is an overall lack of volunteerism, not just Science Olympiad. 2016 - 2 high schoolers coached, 2017 - 7 high schoolers coached, and over half this year...It’s good to get those students to help, but fewer parents are getting involved. May be related to the set up of number of kids who can participate - now can send all kids. In the past, coaches kids were guaranteed, but that’s not a question anymore, so seeing fewer parents coaching. Had a hard time getting enough parents to meet the required number of parent volunteers (1 to 3 required). Multiple asks to get parents to volunteer. Once families heard there would be cuts if not enough parents, got more volunteers...what are the cultural boundaries, linguistic, work, etc. How can we recruit more volunteers?
          1. 2016 - One pager had all the PTO activities with the month, etc. A list rather than a booklet was helpful. Maybe we could print and give out at the coffee welcome...also maybe at the August event for back to school//meet the teacher.
          2. Brainstorming - having more involvement for Curriculum Night...put sheets up that night for sign ups...Choose one thing...or general volunteerism. Put near classroom conference sign ups too. Brief video for each classroom - include parents with different languages to encourage involvement. Maybe no booklet next year. Using stronger language - depends on the parents, make it about NEED to clarify. Cultural difference - making clearer that without parent involvement cannot have the clubs. If kids participate, suggest number of hours.
   24. Silent Auction - Sara Schneidewind, Suzanne Muenz - no report
   25. SIT Rep- Tim Pinto
   26. Space Camp - Sarah Wentzloff
   27. Spirit Wear-Ben Ewy
   28. Student Directory-Sarah Wentzloff
   29. Teacher Appreciation - Beth Grzelak-Lee,
   30. Traffic & Safety -
   31. Theatrical Play - Ying Liu - Successfully conducted the play on June 2. Have reviewed the problems at noon time today. Next year they are going to host the club, and have located a co-chair (Beth) and have revised the curriculum and parent enrollment for the programs. So will focus on more detailed skill training for the kids. This year was a trial…revisions for next year: training in public speaking, creative writing, overall more educational. Mrs. Giles has some resources that she can provide/support and will coordinate, and will find out the pricing, and is happy to meet to coordinate. Maybe could also reach out to another school (Haisley has started one) and discuss the process.
   32. Turkey Trot-Tim Pinto, Jamie Haberichter
7. Old Business
8. New Business -
   1. Next year’s meeting dates and times - 3rd Mondays...

Monday, September @ 6:30 in the media center

Monday, October @ 6:30 in the media center

November - morning meeting, 9-10/Bagel Fridays…? If did 8-9 could use King Care.

Monday, December @ 6:30 in the media center

Monday, January @ 6:30 in the media center

February - morning meeting

Monday, March @ 6:30 in the media center

Monday, April @ 6:30 in the media center

May - morning meeting

Monday, June @ 6:30 in the media center

* 1. Parent Question: Update on modular units - have we heard anything from the district on long term use?
     1. Mrs. Giles responded - just completing year 1 of the modulars. Going to take a few years - district is doing a full assessment of all buildings and costs associated with changes, etc. As of now the modulars will continue to be here for the next year or two as the assessments are being completed. But there is definitely a focus. 3rd grade will remain in the modulars. Chinese and Extra Art will be in the 4th room - the currently share, but will move out to the UP. We are busting at the seams, and with the closure of Go Like the Wind and some in-district/school of choice, so every room will be used in the fall. 4 sections of second grade and 4 4th grades for next year.
     2. Assessments are being completed by 1) a security consulting firm, and the 2) the buildings assessments are being done by AAPS building/operations and finance departments.
     3. Cafe - working on the food line issues, which is impacting the eating time. May add a second line by knocking out a wall, or finding another way for better efficiency. So things are in the works.
     4. Food issues - running out of food by 4th and 5th grade. We don’t have a consistent person who orders our food. Mrs. Giles is on it. Sometimes what happens is the children want second choice or to buy a second lunch...trying to balance the numbers each day. They are monitoring to make sure that they don’t run out.
  2. Parent inquiry: Interest regarding a running club - a child who participated in Mrs. Hong’s Silent Auction run, had a great experience and would love to be able to expand the experience...and Girls on the Run doesn’t start until 3rd grade. Would there be an opportunity to create a club for all children? Especially prior to 3rd grade...Mrs. Giles suggested polling the needs of all children in the lower grades. GOTR is a fixed program, but if we have enough volunteers, maybe we could expand/support the mileage club at lunch time...which have the incentives, etc...but it’s a matter of volunteer support. We could have Mileage Club be a spring activity that is focused on? Maybe March to June, but would need parental support. Other issue may be having age appropriate programming...concerns about kids being pushed in ways that are not appropriate. Could have parents tracking the mileage club and then quarterly reward kids, etc to get the running time in. Maybe having a one day a week mileage club...offered just a few days a week...but not on rainy days, etc so kids know the score, etc. Maybe also coordinate with King Care?

1. Meeting Adjournment @ 7:30pm
   1. Motion to adjourn: Sara Schneidewind
   2. Seconded: Margueritte Dillard