

PTO Meeting Agenda

1/14/2020

In attendance:

Darcy Scholz, Jessica Lauer, Colette Barbin-Daniels, Julie Arcos, Jigna Trivedi, Beth Oliveras, Jackie Mondo, Marisol Martinez, Sopoline Teng, Rachel Pol, Laura Harbron, Kate Goyette, Mike Rubin, Melissa Sternthal, Candice Boyle, Nicole Morgenthaler, Robyn Augustine, Tim Dunham, Sam Bahamon, Jen Connolly, Jen Tewani, Nichole Beirut, Becky Kosisko, Elizabeth Richer, Kristen Londono

President's Welcome - Elizabeth Richer and Candice Boyle

Introductions

New Business: Girl Scouts/ Gaga Pit

- Outside bordered playground area to play Gaga Ball
- 20 ft diameter pit
- Total cost 3970
- Will present final budget in February
- Using composite instead of wood as it will last longer
- Troop donating 250
- Doing a penny war as a fundraiser
- Asking PTO to donate money as well
- Will need volunteers to build
- Looking for an advisor - attend meetings and discuss project on a monthly basis
- They have dimensions for materials and can purchase instructions from gaga website
- Would like to raise 700 dollars on their own
- Penny War incentive - grade to win first to use gaga pit!

Mrs. Kosisko (Principal's Report)

- Penny Wars in conjunction with Kids with a Cause
- Starting Tuesday and run for a couple of weeks
- Thank you: Holiday breakfast, mini grants, book fair, directory, author Jarrett Krosoczka (the kids were great!),
- Mrs. Bogusky had a baby girl! (Miss Mazzeo is subbing)
- Kindness month in February as well as healthy kids challenge
- Fifth grade students helping with community service in Australia

- Many new families and enrollments
- 9 new students since December
- Up to 584 students
- Books for Big Read - many more families - up to 423
- Mrs. Kosisko is retiring at the end of the year. We wish her the absolute best!
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Treasurer's Report:

- 15, 710 after Parents Night Out!!
- Add Sound Tigers Monroe to line items
- Not much new to report!
- Will be over budget on headphones - many new students - have no headphones left
- Ordered headphones in bulk - will sell some at school store too
- Teacher mini grants moving along

VP Fundraising Report (Sam Bahamon and Jess Brito)

- Monroe Day at Sound Tigers 2/15
- Bingo Night 3/27 - Cheri Iannucci chair
- Escape Room? Board and Brush? - other smaller ideas instead of a big fundraiser, more parent get together type events

VP Non Fundraising Report (Mike Rubin and Melissa Sternthal)

- Movie Night 2/21 Toy Story 4 - tickets will go on sale in the next week or so
- There is also a movie night on February 7th through the Monroe Playground Fundraiser (Addams Family)
 - Open to all schools
- Talent Show 2/29 -
 - Snow date 3/14
 - 20 acts and opening act
 - Sign up genius coming out soon
 - Tickets are \$3.00 the week before
 - Not many tix available to families outside the show

- Some seats left for staff
- Concessions
- Show is about 3 hours
- Parent/Child events
 - Father/Daughter - Mike is looking for new Dad to take over events
 - Mike will help this year
 - Most likely at Sports Center again - take over the entire place
 - Flyer coming out soon
 - Mother/son - Tori and Michelle
 - Considering sports center
 - Looking for feedback - Sound Tigers game 4/4 or 4/5?
 - Shelton Sports Center - May
 - Monster Mini Golf - May
 - Bowlero - May (2 hours bowling and pizza included)
 - It would all be about 25.00 per person
 - Feedback: Large groups not conducive to Monster Mini Golf, people liked Bowlero, already have a Sound Tigers game scheduled
 - Next year looking for maybe a family game night, other family events

Mini Grants:

- Started out around 12,000 for requested grants
- Now about 11,300
- Save 1300 with haggling!
- Slowly chiseling away at the grants
- Now only about 33 dollars over the original 10,000
- Lots of moving parts and hard work on Kate's part!
- Will be able to grant most of the items!

Parent Council Update (Kirsten Londono and Tim Piedmont)

- January 8th - big discussion was around middle school curriculum
 - This is not your parent's curriculum anymore
 - Went through the subject areas and how they are evolved
 - Social Studies - historical fiction - focus not on as many dates - more interpretation

- Math tracks -
- World languages and proficiency
- Pushing “through line - middle school and high school” working on communication
- Budget - with Jack Zmary and BOE meetings and deficit with shortfall from last year
- Teachers Contract 6% of increase 3% is health insurance
- Comedy Night, Project Warmth, Music and Meatballs, Celebration of reading,
- Health Dept in town is cracking down on food preparation
- Library maker’s space - so cool!
- Fashion Show is March 18th

Box Tops: (Robyn Augustine and Kristin Londono)

- All about the app
- Currently at around 1,000 dollars
- Other ways to get free money on app too
- Signs at holiday breakfast and for K registration
- Room reps send out letter too
- Can make good money when people get used to doing it regularly

Sunshine Committee: (Laura Harbron, Jess Brito and Elizabeth Richer)

- Game plan for the year - shower the staff
- December bought new toaster oven
- Friday we will bring in treats
- Things planned each month until the end of the year

New Business:

- Thank you to everyone who volunteered through December!
- School Store, book fair, teacher goodie bags, holiday breakfast and boutique, giving tree volunteers
- Thanks Rachel and Sopoline for the directory! It is beautiful. We need new chairs for the directory, or decide we don’t need a new directory.
 - We are leaning towards keeping it - it does help keep people joining.

- People feel pretty split about wanting it printed or not
- Volunteer Signups - If anything changes, let Candace or Elizabeth know and they can change
- Will start to have chairs create their own volunteer lists
- Member Survey :
 - Email Elizabeth Richer with any items or questions to pose. Contact her within the next week or so.
 - SPIRIT WEAR
 - Spirit wear - live at the end of January
 - Spirit wear website - flyer and email
 - Open 2 weeks and will be distributed in February through kids in school
 - Option for different logos with deer or just text!

Important Dates:

January 20 - NO SCHOOL (MLK Day)

February 6 - School Store

February 11 - PTO meeting 7pm

February 14-17 NO SCHOOL (break)

February 20 - Kindergarten Info Night

February 21 - Family Movie Night

February 27 - Kindergarten Info Night Snow Date

February 28 - Movie Night Snow Date

February 29 - Talent Show