

PSO Parent Meeting

Tuesday, October 10, 2023 – 6:00 P.M.

Attendance:

In-Person: Jessica Diamond, Bri Rafish, Alicia Braach, Casey Petrie, Priscilla Peduzzi, Tiffany & Kieshawn Lewis, Rachel Rambin, Jill Willard, Wellesley Ferguson, Elodie Wallace, David Nicholas, Heather Nicholas, Jen Stanfield, Mavis (?)

Online: Laura Priestler, Lauren Rossi, Sarah Villanueva, Holly Scott, Doug Eidel, Danielle Iwicki, Devon Palmanteer, Julie Sowers, Amie Brewer, Heather Orphanides

Alicia Braach called the meeting to order at 6:05 -Thanked everyone for their support over the last couple of weeks. Thanked Heather Orphanides for an amazing Jog-a-thon.

- Discussed amended minutes from September meeting. Heather Nicholas motioned to approve and Jen Stanfield seconded.

Bri Rafish – Discussion on what positions are open, that we need to fill immediately. Board President, President-Elect, Secretary, and Volunteer Coordinator.

- Jennifer Stanfield interested in President, no opponent.
 - David Nicholas motioned and Heather Nicholas seconded.
 - Votes 8 yes in and 6 online (0 No's)
- Cathy Pham interested in Secretary, no opponent.
 - Jill Willard motioned and Jen Stanfield seconded
 - Votes: 7 yes in and 8 yes online (0 no's)
- Lauren Rossi interested in Volunteer Coordinator position, no opponent
 - David motioned and Heather seconded
 - Votes: 8 yes in and 6 yes online (0 no's)
- Kieshawn interested in President-Elect, Bri to follow up with more information.

Jessica Diamond – Review Budget adjustments from the Budget Committee

- Notes on Budget for 2023/24
 - Cut Reading Aid funds from \$25k to \$15K
 - Casey on aids funding- many schools receive funding but not us. Casey has met with TTSD and Todd Robson and made them aware of this situation. She believes its appropriate to bring to the district. They talked about a long term plan that does not cover this school year. Reduction is 45 days. Reading aids are Sept-May. Casey looked at her own budget but can't cover the other half. She thought about reducing the kindergarten time, its 510 hours taken with the new proposed budget. Q1 meeting would start this reduction plan.
 - Casey will discuss it with Dr. McCall. We are not Title 1 (which is based on the income of families in the school)
 - Parents asked if parents can help. Casey said yes but it wouldn't be the best option because it wouldn't be consistent for students, and they make progress and become comfortable with the aids. Another parent said cut all class parties instead and give money to reading aids. Another parent said how is that fair to

- take from the kids. Parent said we are paying half for aids and we are asking the district to step up and help, not pay the whole thing. We don't want to take away from the kids but we will be broke in two years if we continue to pay for the aids. Its not parents' job, want district to get involved.
 - After fundraising we can revisit. Parents shared - we need the district to be pushed. We want to motivate the parents to fundraise and the district to Help!
 - Budget Committee to re-evaluate after initial fundraising goals are met, and once we know what the district can help with.
 - Main goal is to not have a snowball effect where we end up with no PSO Budget due to funding teachers
 - Group Funds for Teachers with new approval method going to Casey first and then PSO to vote
 - Flat budget across all grade level support – anything over a certain amount needs to be submitted to PSO for approval.
 - Julie Sowers asked if there is anything that would be unreasonable like snacks, and crafts and community shared that we would be happy to donate and/or Jessica mentioned that she sees no reason why that would not be approved.
 - This form is still in the process of creation and Jess and Casey to flush out specifics/process.
 - Increased field trip budget to offset the district increase - \$15 per student per trip.
 - BizTown Added but private fundraising and corporate match to cover initial year (hoping for a legacy project)
 - 5th grade biz town- junior achievement for 5th graders. Twality is also working on this. Total cost 2,000 for transportation and curriculum. Heather Nicholas doesn't want to put pressure on PSO budget, 5th grade parents are excited and planning on fundraising for this and doing a donation. Parents are hoping teachers commit to this for the students this year. If not we will have to figure something else out and possibly make it an after school program. Hoping PSO budget will be covered by end of year for 4th grade to be set up for next year and make it a legacy. Jess said budget won't be an issue and we have it. Bri said she is really hoping the teachers will make this work for the kids and make this a priority. Casey has a meeting tomorrow with 5th grade teachers on this subject. The only pause is its an ask of 13, 45 minute lessons. She will communicate their answer after 10/11 meeting so we can make a plan. Again, this is not a budget worry.
 - One book one school we said no for this year because we don't have extra funds.
 - Staff Appreciation budget stays \$1000 for now to ask for more parents help with donating items if possible (Evaluate after January)
 - Planning to use only the \$400 donated for a smaller planter project
 - Jill Willard to help plan Restaurant Fundraisers
- Voted on 2023/2024 Budget: Jen motioned, Heather seconded
 - 10 yes in person and 8 yes online (0 no's) 1 abstained

- Jog-a-thon Met Goal- Raised \$22,100 and spent \$2500
- Parent request to evaluate Get Movin Fund Hub due to the 15% fee.
 - Heather on call but couldn't connect sent this from GMFH to add to minutes for clarification:
 - We use all-inclusive pricing, so our fee covers initial tech development, all credit/debit merchant processing fees (3-4% industry average), all transaction fees (typically \$0.25-\$0.30 per 'swipe'), network storage/archiving, accounting, and real-time tech and customer support during your event. Our fee is 15%, your donors are able to add a 15% credit to cover the school's cost. (But they don't have to pay the additional fee – that would be taken out of what is raised.)
- Monthly Reconciliation: Spent \$790 (reconciliation from spring) and had income of \$400

Event Updates – Alicia Braach

- Postpone Read-a-thon (New board will meet and present new date)
- Pie Fundraising – Forms due 10/27 and delivered frozen from 11.13 (Casey mentioned we cannot use the freezer)
 - Question on Profit online 9" Pie \$9, \$10 profit on pie pack, and \$5.50 on sandwiches
- Vote on Trunk or Treat Event – David Motioned and Heather Seconded (Liz Martin volunteered to chair event). Vote: 6 yes in person and 6 online (0 no's).
- Volunteer needs:
 - Family Game Night
 - Spanish Translator – had a high school option but would need to give fair amount of notice for their help.
 - Need Book Fair Chair – Alicia to reach to Liz for help
 - Fundraising Committee – New Board to discuss
- AUCTION Committee – only had 11 responses on the survey, sending out one more time 10.17 newsletter.
 - Planning to offer an online option as well as in-person.
 - NEED COMMITTEE
- Parent requested a list of Restaurant Fundraisers and Jill W. will work on February – June and we will provide a list of dinners so parents can plan.

Communications – Alicia Braach

- 1 monthly newsletter still good, with updates as needed on Tuesday with Ann sending.
- How do we reach younger parents? Great feedback from parents who attended about explaining what the PSO is and how you can get involved, etc.
 - Provide a sheet that the kinder teachers will hand out during conferences.
 - Suggestion to have Lauren Rossi talk to younger student's parents and get people involved.
 - Have Bolt at pick up with a PSO sign or flyers?

Teacher Update – Amie Brewer

- iReady testing and Dibels are done, establishing small reading groups, conferences at the end of the month, Jog-A-Thon was a blast and student are excited for the assembly and rocking recess.

Principal Update – Casey Petrie

- Attached are the Reading and Math numbers for the district and school

Adjourned Meeting at 7:48 P.M. – motioned by David and seconded by Heather.