

September PTO Meeting Notes 9-18-2023 @6:30 pm

PTO Attendees: Diane Thiags, Jennifer Yiangou, Michelle Klonecz, Molly Darsow

Parents/Staff: Randy Vetsch, Wendell Sletten, Jana Tarlton, Meg Flowers, Erin Cramer, Kari Koerner, Gobi Krishnan, Greg Bettger, Mike Bjork, Deana Kosuge, Rachel Weirich, Heather Krisko

Treasurer Report—Jennifer presented the budget. Current balance is \$9,818. Jennifer and Diane made some updates to the budget, anticipating and detailing all new expenses for the year. One item of note is that Shauni Holt is collecting teacher wish lists for publication. Jennifer suggested this would be a good method to make specific needs known so parents are aware and more willing to donate.

Director Update—Randy briefly discussed expansion plans and fundraising and MSA's future.

Music Ambassadors—Wendell made an appeal to the PTO requesting potential scholarship funds for the three MSA students embarking on this European tour. Cost is \$7K

PTO News

- The **6th Grade Potluck (8/23)**, **Back-to-School Night (8/31)**, and **9th Grade Orientation** were all successful August events for the PTO!
- **September Staff Appreciation**—We showed our MSA Staff some love in September with a visit from the Wandering Mug, Kowalski's breakfast, and mint-themed staff gift bags!
- **Volunteer NEED**—PTO is looking for a PIZZA DAY COORDINATOR, someone who can manage pizza orders on a weekly basis. Previously, pizza orders were typically submitted the week before with modification based on school happenings (i.e., fieldtrips, testing, etc.). We are also looking for a RESTAURANT NIGHT COORDINATOR. Both are vital to PTO funding!
- **Pizza Day**—Molly discussed Pizza Day and her ambition to get a diverse group of parents involved in volunteering for Friday Pizza Days. So far, the SignUpGenius slots are nearly full for Pizza Day to start in October! Per Joell, we should expect 560 students for lunch.

Upcoming Events

- **Mol Day**—a special day commemorating chemistry's measuring unit. We will soon promote a SignUpGenius for this event, Monday 10/24. This fun MSA tradition is celebrated by assembling "dirt" chocolate pudding cups with "worms". Last year we purchased 600 pudding cups from Sam's Club, Oreo crumbs from Amazon, and gummy worms from Target. Volunteers will need to come at 10 am to start assembling for lunchtime distribution.
- **October Staff Appreciation**—Randy suggested that 10/18 is PD day and Shauni is trying to organize a chili cookoff. PTO will coordinate with Shauni to ensure this plan will move forward and what the PTO can do to help.

Other Items of Note

- **Feminine Hygiene Products**—Schools are now required to offer free feminine supplies to all students. PTO will put \$100 toward purchasing necessary supplies.
- **Grounds Cleanup**—Brief discussion on grounds cleanup for those parents wishing to do some weekend volunteering. 2 years ago, a parent organized a fall cleanup event for those interested. Consider a Fall Cleanup and Spring Cleanup event going forward.
- **Keurig Coffee Machines Donation**—Parents Greg Bettger and Mike Bjork kindly offered to donate a Keurig coffee machine for MSA staff use.

Meeting adjourned @7:38 pm

Next PTO Meeting Dates—Next meeting dates are October 23, November 27, January 8, March 18, and May 6 @6:30 pm.