

October PTO Meeting Notes 10-23-2023 @6:30 pm

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

Parents/Staff: Randy Vetsch, Meg Flowers, Kari Koerner, Greg Bettger, Rachel Weirich, Heather Krisko

Director Update—Randy said MSA is making headway on expansion and will provide details at tomorrow's BOD meeting. There are tentative plans to purchase property, possibly in March, with plans to build from the ground up.

Treasurer Report—Jennifer presented the budget. Current balance is \$10,420. North Star Donuts brought in \$154 in profits from Back-to-School Night on 8/31. Jennifer updated us on the increased cost of pizzas from current vendor Dominos. Increased expenses will cut projected yearly profits nearly in half. We discussed doing a direct-ask donation appeal (separate from the Daily Announcements). Molly is already working on an email urging parents to take advantage of their employer's gift-matching program to benefit MSA.

PTO News

- Bagel breakfast for PD (9/25) and pudding "dirt" cups for MOL Day (10/23) were both well-received! 6th graders were away attending Eagle Bluff.
- Feminine hygiene products were purchased by PTO and brought to the MSA office today.
- **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**—Increased cost per pizza is projected to negatively impact the PTO budget. PTO is looking at various options to lower costs, including cost analysis of other vendors.
- **Restaurant Nights**—Molly said she will reach out to Café Zupas to organize the first restaurant night of the year. She will coordinate with Caitlyn Bond to ensure there is no double-booking with other MSA clubs. Diane said she will work on getting Chipotle on the schedule for the next restaurant night.
- **PTO Donation Appeal**—Molly will coordinate with Randy to send out a school-wide email urging parents to take advantage of their employer's gift-matching program to benefit MSA.

Upcoming Events

- **Conference Staff Dinner Potluck (11/6)**—Conference Dinner signup announcement will be sent out and will include an option to make a cash donation.

Other Items of Note

- **Teacher Donations**—The Board recently made changes to the teacher donation policy. Donations per teacher are now limited to \$5. Parent Heather Krisko suggested this might be an opportunity for PTO to solicit donations in the form of gift cards to a variety of businesses such as Target, Starbucks, Amazon, Kwik Trip, Panera, Kowalski's, etc. Rather than PTO purchasing gift cards from our own limited funds, parents could donate the cards to PTO and PTO could then distribute them to teachers for teacher-appreciation purposes.
- **Healthy Snack Day**—Parent Heather Krisko suggested PTO offset costs for larger ledger items by reaching out to grocery stores such as Hy-vee, Walmart or Target to donate healthy snack items rather than funding it from PTO's limited resources. Molly volunteered to solicit grocery stores for that purpose.
- **Music Ambassadors Scholarship**—PTO is not able to take on additional expenses at this time due to projected Pizza Day profit shortfalls.

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