

May 2020 General Meeting Minutes

5-5-20

9:00 AM

Zoom Meeting

We logged onto the Zoom Conference at 9am. Pre-meeting discussion was about the 1st Day School Supplies sales - to promote or not to promote. We offer this as a service to our families and it is not a fundraiser. At this time the consensus was to not cancel the service but to not promote it either. It is available for families who would like to order. Those who have ordered in the past have been getting emails from the company to make their purchases. One family has already ordered. Christie will try to push back the order date deadline to July. (FYI - all kits run between \$36-38)

WELCOME! The meeting was called to order at approximately 9:05. 12 people were present (Julie Cavanaugh, Stephanie Norek, Karla Clevenger, Angela Willis, Jennifer Nelson, Teri Zonneveld, Lisa Sutton, Christie Johns, Kelly Thompson, Michelle Aimone Todd Kalmbach and Michelle Chotkowski)

Thank You's - ZAM gift card donations (We raffled off 7or 8 gift cards per grade as well as a bluetooth speaker for each grade), Student of the month party donations and Leadership 80's Neon Party- for food and drink donations **AND THANK YOU PARENT VOLUNTEERS!** (April was volunteer appreciation month- I made you cookies and ate them)

Treasurer Report- Review of Revenues/Expenses

In the absence of Danielle Yackley (She was at work), Julie reviewed the current financial statement. We currently have \$3,842.68 in the bank account. Future deposits between now and September will include 2 Kroger rewards checks (each should exceed \$200.) Our only expense between now and September will be the \$40 unit filing fee and whatever we vote to contribute to the 8th grade farewell project.

Business at hand

Teacher Appreciation ideas - We discussed waiting until the fall to do some sort of welcome back to the staff. We went above and beyond our budget at the Holidays with our staff personalized thermal tumblers. We typically host a teacher appreciation luncheon this week. We will encourage families to send messages of appreciation to those staff members who have gone above and beyond these past couple of months to provide and support our kids during the virtual period. An email was sent to all staff members from the PTSA as a collective parent group expressing gratitude.

ZAM - during the virtual learning period? - Decided to not offer anything at this time. We will hold off until fall to see what ZAM might look like and how we would like to contribute towards incentives to encourage student success.

Discussion and vote on \$ for 8th grade signs - This was the major topic for the meeting. Michelle Chotkowski explained the background of how the idea came to

fruition. The Reader's Digest version - the other Middle schools had already looked into ideas and found a great price on signs. The three schools collaborated to get the best pricing and to create unity and equity across the district. The pricing is just over \$14 per sign. We have 198 8th grade students. We are looking at \$2800. The school does not have any money set aside for something like this as the PTSA usually provides an annual farewell party put on by parents. The discussion can be listened to or viewed in its entirety via the zoom recordings. A proposal was made by Julie Cavanaugh to put the \$2800 towards the purchase of these signs and 2nd by Stephanie Norek. All members present were in favor; none opposed. The motion passed.

FUTURE EVENTS PLANNING - We reviewed the following items, some to be addressed within the next month to assist incoming 6th grade families, and others to be looking forward to where we might be able to provide help to the staff going into the fall.

Update Website - Tentative dates for fall (meetings 3rd Tuesday of month)

Update Member hub store - update membership for the 2020-21 year

Membership Drive in the Fall - update welcome letter (send out to 5th grade families welcoming them and inviting them to be part of the PTSA)

Elect New Board in the Fall - all current members will come back to kick off the new year and the election will take place in October

6th grade orientation and open house - parent welcome (since we were unable to invite parents to a new parent tea or help at the 5th grade orientation)

Board positions that might increase in focus going forward - communications & health and wellness chairs (Based on current conditions and so much unknown as to what education will look like in the future)

Principal's Report - Mrs. Chotkowski and Mr. Kalmbach

Yearbooks are being printed and the school is looking into how a distribution might take place

Locker cleanouts - nothing can be set until a shelter in place has been lifted but the school is brainstorming how to do this with safe social distancing

Fun Run Shirts? We typically order in the Spring for the Fall. We are confident with the supplier we use, that shirts will be able to be rush ordered if we go forth with this activity. Discussion included a possible "Virtual fun-run." Many 5K's have gone this route recently. We also discussed the opportunity to have each student to have one piece of Spirit Wear in the fall. At this time, we are holding off on the order. We will be checking with both the sponsor of the shirt and the supplier of the printing to keep them in the loop of future decisions to cancel or go forward.

Last topic - Parents mentoring Parents and the PTSA parents being cheerleaders behind whatever decisions the district/school makes. No one has chartered this territory before so it is highly important that the current parents support the decisions our educators are making. We are also looking for parents to be mentors to incoming parents since we could not formally welcome the new families this Spring. You do not have to have all the

answers. You just need to be willing to offer your contact information to another family to journey together through the first year of middle school from a parent perspective. Please submit your name via the PTSAWLMS@gmail.com account and we will offer this means of support opportunity to our incoming families

Thank you to all who took the time to be at this unconventional PTSA meeting!
Meeting was Adjourned at 9:42am