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PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

**PTO Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 19, 2019
6:00 pm Washington School Library**

Board Members in Attendance:

Michael Paskin
Anna Stump
Tara King
Shannon Schroeder
Anne-Marie Matthews
Dustin Todd
Lilia Hine
Kelly Milazzo
Matt Genovese
Kim Kotnik
Elizabeth Wagner

Staff Members in Attendance:

Christina Giguere, Principal
Denise Granger, Assistant Principal
Michael Riley, Teacher
Bridget Gankas, Teacher
Maria Miller, Lead Curriculum Specialist

Parents in Attendance:

Kim Eubank
Michelle Genovese
Timothy Lee
Sarah Matheson

1. Michael Paskin, PTO President
Michael called the meeting to order 6:00pm and welcomed the group, including Maria Miller, Lead Curriculum Specialist.
Friendly reminder to PTO members to respond to emails when feedback is requested; everyone's input is needed. Michael and Dustin to review and ensure that PTO email distribution / voting member lists are accurate.
2. Christina Giguere, Principal
Mrs. Giguere expressed congratulations to Custodian Daniel on the birth of his baby girl. Counselor Lexi also expecting in the spring.
Extensive appreciation to Shannon Schroeder and Megan Bright for a successful One School, One Book program; looking forward to next year.
Thank you to parents for providing lunch to teachers and staff during conference week. Classes have been going on field trips and school is receiving positive feedback on student conduct during field trips. Appreciation to PTO for funding field trips.
Thank you PTO for pitching in to cover costs of PRIDE cart prizes.
On 12/9 there will be a walking tour of our classrooms (to observe and discuss instructional practices) for the School Site Council, a few parents from ELAC committee, and Mrs. G requests 2 PTO board members to join. Contact her if interested.
Mrs. G is trying to set up a "Coffee with School Board" event immediately following one of our morning meetings, hopefully in January, February or March. Details to follow.
FIDA (Families for Inclusion, Diversity and Access) is a committee being formed in conjunction with Just Communities, and its goal is to bring together a diverse group of



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parents from all schools and to increase equity in academic success. Will require 18 hours of dialogue / action planning divided into 9 individual sessions or 3 full days. Superintendent Matsuoka gave State of the Schools presentation last week. Mrs. G shared video portion of presentation; will distribute link to make it available for whole community.

Pertaining to the content of the video, comments issued that PTO board has made efforts to explain to parents why we still fundraise even though our community is considered "affluent." Santa Barbara County has highest homeless population in the state. Our duty as a board is to continue to share statistics when we ask for financial support.

3. Denise Granger, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Granger thanked Kim Eubank for taking on marquee updating. Marquee has some electrical issues but the district doesn't own it so can't work on it. Will look for parent volunteer electrician to help resolve the issues.

Working with PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports) and teachers are asking questions re: minor vs. major referrals, and tracking / reteaching behaviors.

Attendance: the best way to get money for our school is for students to be present.

Truancy is on the uptick. Planned vacations of at least five consecutive days should be reported at least a week in advance to teachers and office staff, who can assist in setting up an Independent Study program for the student. Working on educating parents, teachers and staff on this policy.

4. Maria Miller, Lead Curriculum Specialist

Mrs. Miller thanked PTO for funding her position, and shared what her work week looks like: coordinating Curriculum Specialist team, working on new Leveled Literacy Intervention program, small targeted reading groups, 66 students involved, each of whom receives 2 extra hours of support in addition to regular classroom.

Also coordinating with lunch / playground supervisors on reteaching behaviors. Small groups in the garden have been popular and effective; students are showing more P.R.I.D.E. and P.R.I.D.E. cards have been a great incentive for positive behavior at the lunch tables. Lunch supervisors appreciate.

Mrs. Giguere and Mr. Riley thank Mrs. Miller for her work and thank PTO for funding.

5. Anna Stump, PTO Vice President,

Appreciations: Shannon Schroeder and Megan Bright for OSOB; Kristie Chapman -

Movie Days off to a rough start but Kristie got it running today; Holly Parker for coordinating produce boxes; Party Book and hosts for fun and successful Casino Night.

Good feedback on morning meetings, thank you Mrs. Giguere for instituting.

Move-a-Thon (3/13/20) update: committee is being formed, so far Kim Kotnik -

accounting and Pledgestar, Anna Stump - Day of / Volunteers / Stations, etc., Anne-Marie Matthews - Communications. Need volunteers for Prize Committee. 2 or 3

people. Shirts / Sponsors - need some support here, Kristie Chapman willing to help but



but not until after holidays. Matt Genovese and Elizabeth Wagner will get it going. Get room parents to help with sizing? Theme is Walking on Sunshine, students to submit artwork, vote on finalist. Need to vote before Christmas. Anne-Marie will make / distribute info flyer. Staff needs t-shirts in addition to teachers. Need 6th grade parent to represent / coordinate color run.

CIMI moving along.

No further info from district on 6th grade camp per Mrs. Giguere. Mr. Riley commented that 6th grade team is working on a special field trip.

Do we have a clear understanding of fundraising goals between now and Christmas? A few Party Book events upcoming.

What should Community Brick Banner say? Keep it basic: Washington Legacy? Building our Community Brick by Brick?

6. Tara King, Treasurer

We have money in the bank, Pride campaign employer matches and monthly payments are coming in. We're on track if future fundraising events hit their targets. (Gala, MAT, etc.).

Mid-late spring 2020: re-roll out brick campaign for the end of the year, for last push and to start off next fall with some funds.

Mr. Riley thanks Tara / PTO for subsidizing cost of mask-making for 6th graders.

7. Shannon Schroeder, Communications Chair

Lots of positive feedback on OSOB recess activities. Parents have mentioned volunteering at future recesses to provide alternative activities (quiet reading, etc.) similar to OSOB activities.

Important to get any info for weekly newsletter to Shannon no later than Tuesday evenings.

8. Kim Eubank & Sarah Matheson, Party Book Committee

Successful Casino Night raised nearly \$7k; will do again next year. Ugly Sweater party upcoming 12/6, Tamale Sales – many orders already (team may be willing to do again for Cinco de Mayo), Jingle Jog Saturday 12/14 – free community building event at Elings Park. Mother-Son, Father-Daughter events coming up.

Gala – Tori McLaughlin (lead) is proposing offering something “extra” for event sponsorships at levels of \$3k, \$1.5k, and \$750 to help underwrite event costs.

Suggestions of Title Sponsor, Photo Booth naming, VIP table, marquee mention, banner...discussions to continue within committee. Gala team would like to show a video clip about school at event.

9. Dustin Todd, IT Chair

Busy supporting events with online ticket purchasing.

Revamping website to add business booster section and page for brick campaign details.

Roosevelt PTO contacted Dustin and he kindly shared info on how we do IT.



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10. Open Discussion

Maria Miller commented that Salida del Sol entrance has become out of control. Public Works now responsible for hiring crossing guard. Parents can start calling Public Works reporting dangerous issues.

Mesa Business Association possibly to provide some funding to Washington, Monroe and McKinley for needs (additional walkie talkies, etc.). They have a surplus, may be able to put that towards crossing guard if challenge is budgetary shortfall.

Question arose again about possible drop-off spot on Shoreline Dr? Mrs. Gankas shared that this has been coming up for years, and the answer has always been no.

Question about Salida del Sol gate being locked during school hours, support for and against.

Need better procedure to make sure parents are signing in / out in office.

Meeting Adjourned 7:59

Next Meeting: 12/17/19, 6-8pm, Washington School Library