

PES PTO Meeting
Tuesday, January 10, 2017
9:30 AM

Attendance: Marisa Amara, Colleen Bradshaw (Mrs. Carta), Christina DaCunha (Mr. Ciccone), Trista DiDonato (Mrs. Leary), Christine Martino, Liz McConnon (Mrs. Haddad), Suzy Michalak (Mrs. Spencer), Kim McNeil, Karen O'Leary (Mrs. Scalora), Kristin Okesson, Kasey Schneider (Mrs. Pokrywka), Danielle Suhar, Rachael Van Ness (Mrs. Rosa) , Jill Wiebke, Alesia Willman

Welcome - Thank you for coming to our meeting today

Teacher Representative's Report:

Cindy Rosa unable to attend. Reminder 4th and 5th grade rehearsal. Concert on 26th at high school

Thank you to hospitality committee.

Principal's report: Year started out quietly. Duely Noted (the a capella group) performed for the students, and they were great.

Secretary's report: Please make sure you sign in. We will do a raffle at the end for a Dunkin' Donuts gift card and lunch with Mrs. Forish. Thank you cards on the table to Hospitality for the treats that were left before the Holidays. From Mrs. Clifford for the grant that she received and from Mrs. Forish as we made a donation in her name to the Southbury Needy Fund for the Holidays.

Treasurer's Report -

- For the month of December, we ended at a net payout position of \$501.81, driven mainly by payouts for Teacher Grants (-\$1,295.45) offset by proceeds from the Holiday Fair (+\$1,114.36).
- From a year to date perspective, our net earnings are \$6,105.03, driven mainly by the Fall Fundraiser (+\$5,432), Book Fair (+\$1,981.09), and Holiday Fair (+\$1,114.36), offset by our funded programs such as Cultural Enrichment (-\$895) and Teacher Grants (-\$1,423.09).
- From a budget point of view, we have exceeded expectations on a few events, which is contributing to a higher gain than projected thus far. All of these savings go directly to fund our future endeavors, such as the Library improvements, if approved.
- Ending balance for the month: \$34,130.80, of which Checking is \$20,955.67; Savings \$11,701.74. I transfer of \$10,000 from the Checking to Savings has since been processed.

President's report - excited to hear library renovation report that Mrs. Bronson, Mrs. Mastropietro, Mrs. Forish and Marisa have been working hard on.
\$3000 Grant received for Celebration of Reading

SPECIAL REPORT

Library Renovation - Marisa Amara

Mrs. Forish - Conversion of Library into Learning Commons - more collaboration. Center hub for Technology to benefit all students for years to come.

Teacher input as well

Participatory learning - space flexible movable furniture. Groups projects quiet learning.

Makers Space - creation and innovation space interaction with peers; lego learn by exploring - endless possibilities

Time outside regular specials would be available.

Technology Vision - Smartboard to be mounted on the wall (repurposed from classroom).

Ipad replacement - up to date iPads (defrayed cost by selling back old iPads and funds already allocated for this)

More than just books for students to look at and take out.

Multiple classes to work at the same time. Students can work on small group projects.

Phasing - Marisa Amara PES parent 5th and 1st grader - educational facility planning, Libraries - 100's of projects like this and has taken on project management for us.

This is a nationwide movement - 21st century - Collaboration, Digital literacy, Critical thinking, and problem solving.

Purpose of Learning Commons. Still shared resource space but redefining what that means.

Print, electronic, manipulative, Human Resources/interaction (skype etc).

Flexible environment built to accommodate multiple learning activities

STEM lab

Final plan is for a multi-functional flexible and technology rich hub. No tiered seating frees up a lot of space. Region will remove at their cost over the summer

Phase 1 -

Removal of tiered seating. Replace shelving. Mobile double sided units. Flip and nest work table and stools. Improve Apple Technology.

1. Funds already allocated to upgrade the iPads.

2. Relocate and mounting existing smart board.

3. Install Bluetooth speakers.

4. Add Apple TV for iPad mirroring to Smartboard

Makers space - increase lego inventory. Flip and nest tables and stools

Lego wall 15x15 squares.

Lighter wood products in a smaller space

Phase 2

Makers Space: Add to existing osmo learning tools and provide Eva planes KEVA blocks. .

Furniture - provide flip through picture book shelves. Easier for younger kids to flip through and find their selection. Helps literacy.

Phase 3 - Furniture Phase

Replace perimeter shelving - wood with middle shelves. Trying to create a cleaner environment and display in neat and orderly fashion.

Add comfortable seating.

Phase 4 -

Technology

1. Add Chromebook cart with 24 chrome books

2. Re use or provide new desktops for look up stations

Furniture

1. Provide technology table to support look up stations

2. Replace service desk - corner and much smaller.

Phase 5 - Final

1. Provide small reconfigurable tables and stacking chairs to accommodate different size groups
2. Stacking chairs - flex back, more ergonomic
3. Quiet study area - couture with chairs

Questions:

Any type of self-checkout? Technology and cost would make it more difficult.

We will paint the space, but most likely will have to do it along the way. Have carpet tiles. There is some electric work needed. Looking at grants. Lowes offers a grant each year. Technology grant options, literacy. Perhaps a donor wall for fundraising options.

RMS hoping to do a capital improvement project over there... so our students may be moving into a similar space.

Strategic into phases so that improvements are seen immediately while keeping like products together. Phases will happen over breaks so that the kids aren't displaced or over the summer.

\$20-\$25K per phase. More details to come after more quotes come in. Needs to be a full commitment for allocation of funds. Multiple activities at the same time in new space.

We need a large portion of people to feel that this is important and want to fundraise for and do. Presentation will be shared with all.

Discussion of how to get the information to all families.

How do we keep up with the technology? Apple and chrome book technology. Chrome being 4th phase is strategic so that we get most current then. Desktops to be replaced with more mobile devices - current technology. Enhancing apple products in phase 1. Sell back technology to offset costs.

Fundraising this year would be the 50th celebration earmarked for the library to get the ball rolling over the summer.

Committee Reports:

1. Movie Night - Kasey/Kim Cunningham - huge success. Lots of fun had by all - \$236 raised. Still short \$170 after licensing etc. Hoping to do 1 or 2 more by end of the year. Air mattresses, bean bags, sleeping bags were used by all.
2. Hospitality/Box Tops - Kellie (not here) - 2nd session of box tops. Start 2/6 run for 2 weeks - in by beginning of March. Winners book fair gift certificates. And Edmond Town Hall raffle. Please collect! Every little bit helps. Soup luncheon for teachers now 1/11/17 - Contact Kellie to help with hospitality.
3. Stop&Shop A+ Rewards - 830 designations – totaling \$3880.10.
4. After School Enrichment - Tuesdays, sewing, toon-ology, minecraft Thursday - tennis, magic, lego robotics, John Hancock club. Therefore there will be no yoga, no ladybug, no aviation and no winter art.

5. Board of Ed Report - MMS presentation focused on literacy. Enrollment and Space committee first meeting. 16 members on that board. Working with a company for enrollment projections. Funding from state cut discussions. Resignation announcements made 8 or 10 names. Calendar was approved. August 29th is first day of school. Hoping to go back to 3 year calendar. Some parent information sessions. Critical thinking seminars - March 2nd. 7pm 6-12 at PHS. K-5 March 29th 6:30 LMES
6. Grants - working on 2 grants. 1 for sports equipment replacement and 1 for Lowes for Library if we move forward for paint costs etc. Any grant writing experience help welcome!
7. Valentine's Day Fundraiser - Colleen Bradshaw. Flyers will go home on the 20th. Parents can buy for children, kids can buy for teachers etc. Red, white and pink carnations from shop rite. Carnations will go home on Monday the 13th with a snow date of the 14th.
8. Family Fun - Bounce - tentatively looking at March 1st 4-7, more to come.
9. Holiday Fair - Made around \$1100 bunch of vendors, bake sale, kids shopping. Looking for ways to ramp up. Perhaps hit more of the public next year. Looking for new committee heads.
10. Tip-a-Teacher - Rachael - email and flyers went out. Send back so that we know how many teachers. 16 teachers already signed up. Dinner grilled cheese and hot dogs. Incentive to teachers for attire. February 1st 5:30 and 7.
11. Dancing Under the Stars - Friday Feb. 24th. 2 sessions by grade. 6-7:30 K-2. 8-9:30 3-5 grades. Committee meeting Friday. Dancing, photo booth, bake sale.
12. Yearbook (Suzy) - we need more volunteers to help with the design piece. Our contract ends this year. Danielle Suhar has agreed to help going forward.

Christine Martino has agreed to help with playground equipment replacement.

Open Committees:

Merchandise, Amazon Smile/Free Money Programs, Square 1 Art, Holiday Fair, Yearbook

Other Business:

Raffle-

Lunch with Mrs. Forish - Alesia Willman

DD - Kasey Schneider

Dates to Remember:

Half Day - Jan. 13th

No School – January 16th

Board of Ed Meeting – January 23rd 7:30 PM PHS

School Spirit Day – January 31st – PB&J collection

Tip-a-Teacher – February 1st

Box Top Collection Begins – February 6th

Next PTO Meeting – 2/7 – 9:30AM