

October 11th O’Keeffe PTG Meeting Minutes

Intros – Board Members Cheryl Kyles, Grant Samuelson, Mia Broderson, Mandy Kuse, Officers JoAnn Kraus & Nina Lebwohl, Steph Steigerwaldt via phone for budget discussion, Vice Principal Emily Koch, plus 8 members

Review of Events

Bands Helping Hands Update

- Brought in more than \$700 as fundraising event (check numbers with email from Steph)
- People there liked it and thought it was a great event
- Thought Principle Dugas was great when jumping in with the band Vegan Steakhouse
- Thoughts for next time....
- Maybe pick another venue (bit smaller) ie Winnebago or the Meadery
- Try to get an O’Keeffe student group to perform (strings or Drum Power instead of karaoke between bands)
- Maybe a parents’ night out event?

Principle update from Vice Principle (Mr Dugas was absent)

- New A/B schedule has become more settled. Students are getting the hand of it
- Staff is focusing on tardys and how to help students be on time (new incentives)
- Transitions between class periods is now much smoother with all classes moving at same time
- Lunch is better (was too loud) Better staff/student ratio an this support is making a difference Teachers able to connect with students better. Last 10 minutes of lunch students have option to go to gym and move around to release some energy.
- Progress reports coming out soon. Staff is looking for parents’ feedback (is report helpful, easy to understand)
- Clubs started
- Emergency procedures are now consistent throughout all MMSD schools. There was a whole school Presentation (source I Love You Foundation) Side discussion about procedure information

Budget Discussion

- Idea was suggested for teacher wish list and noted that this is in the works to be added to PTG website. Shout out from staff that they need more hand sanitizer and tissues
- Per Steph there is a potential Corporate Sponsor w/ Heartland Credit Union Meeting set up for next week sometime w/contact & Steph & Lynn Lee
- Yearbook coordinator is back at work. School staff is willing to work with students to create book & have students involved with fundraising. Which means PTG does not need to contribute this year.
- Joanna Liebl presented about the new Climate & Culture Committee established (school staff formed through Discipline committee & PBS)
- Focus is on community building to support students’ sense of belonging (info presented by Ms. Liebl)
 - Help create feeling of belonging in school environment
 - School Spirit building
 - Looking for parent support and PTG support

Also looking for other ways to recognize students

- Quarterly grade level celebrations
- Incentives
- After School activities (Spirit shirt making, tubing in winter was suggested also.
- High interest days i..e. learning something new)
- In-school student Talent Show (end of year)
- Student Council will be creating & running Spirit week with whole school activities
- Data was collected by school about students sense of belonging (data @ 60%)
 - 4 factors for this fun, relationships, autonomy, competence

Idea from teachers: Fund a Kid (looking for ways to cover costs kids to go on extra field trips)

Students would also earn field trips

- Staff wants to include as many students as possible
- Want students to be involved with process

Spirit Wear Activity (staff wants to do it end of October sometime)

450 shirts needed (adult sm/med/large) every kid gets a shirt

- Idea is to have kids tie dye shirts different shades of blue but create individual look with how they use rubber bands to create patterns

Print shirts with white tiger eyes on them? (who would do this, cost and timing?)

They are looking for funding from PTG and help with finding and organizing volunteers for production help (with the set up, dyeing, washing of shirts & drying afterwards?)

Another side discussion occurred about Give Back program (drip fundraising) Parent volunteered (Kirk) to work with Steph on possibilities of setting this up in conjunction with the No Buy Fundraiser

- Question was raised about whether Box Tops program should continue? Still some mail in coupons but hey are going to an app where you scan your receipt. Set aside to discuss later.
- Question if we track donors so we don't over ask from the same people. Comment that we have not done this.

Back to budget! Went through budget line by line. Changes made with vote on each change:

- Add \$300 to No Buy Fundraiser expense to cover mailing & postage. Steph
- Add \$210 to Principal's discretionary fund (more funds for working meals for staff)
- Remove \$510 in yearbook funding (not needed per staff)
- Reduce 8th Grade Dance/Graduation from \$1500 to \$1200.
- Add line item of \$600 to fund Culture & Climate Committee incentive
- 2 corrections: Top Chef expense of \$425 reduced to \$225 to not include starter cash for change. Principal's discretionary fund was listed as income instead of expense, so reversed that.

Parent volunteered to coordinate mulch donation School Gardens for Spring Beautification Day – Kirk

Side discussion about where beautification should occur outside vs inside and the best way to make a difference with the PTG's limited funds. Exterior mural repainting vs art in hallways, student events, etc.

Budget approved with plan to have future discussions regarding funding mural project, culture & climate committee, hallway art.

6th grade parent asked about how to get info on Afterschool clubs, directed to PTG Facebook page and posters in school hallways.

Teacher's lounge has area for PTG storage & has left over ice cream supplies we can use.

Question was raised from parent volunteer Jo Ann Kraus about interest to continue using metal spoons for ice cream socials instead of disposable pink plastic spoons... parents like idea to continue to "go green" and use metal spoons. Question about best way to get volunteers for ice cream social beside using Signup Genius? Suggestion was to contact parents through the Encore teachers also. (nice idea)