

Scarlett Middle School
Parent Teacher Student Organization
Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2023 - 6:30 - 8:00 pm on Zoom

Our Mission: To facilitate close cooperation among parents, teachers, and students in order to raise funds for a variety of enrichment opportunities and foster a strong learning community!

Attendees: Kathy Owens, Tiffany Marra, Karen Hulsebus, Kristen Fraser, Adelaide Lancaster, Jill Pritts, Noor Almohammad

- Welcome
 - Meeting called to order at 6:36 pm by Kathy Owens
- President's report (Kathy Owens)
 - Approve February meeting minutes. Jill Pritts motions to approve, Adelaide Lancaster seconds, all approve.
- Treasurer's Report (Tiffany Marra)
 - We had \$4k allocated in the budget for 8th grade field trips. We previously voted to allocate the entire amount to offset costs of the 8th grade River Cruise Dance. Students are still required to pay \$80 to attend. Kathy will connect with Gerald regarding resources for students who aren't able to cover that cost.
 - Certificate of deposit held at Comerica, Should we move to our savings account to simplify and have fewer accounts? It makes us 14 cents in two months and doesn't seem worth the hassle. Kathy motions to consolidate our accounts and move funds to our savings account, Jill Pritts seconds. All vote in favor.
 - PTO Today Renewal - our insurance for events. Our payment is overdue - it expired 10/22. Annual cost is \$535. Tiffany will pay that asap. It is an existing line item in our budget and does not require a vote.
 - We're receiving checks for the River Cruise Dance. They'll get added to the \$4k we have allocated from PTSO.
- Principal's report (Gerald Vazquez)- not attending, his notes are below, modified to include additional comments from the meeting:

Fundraiser Update:

- As I shared yesterday in my Roadrunner Update, we need to make a big push over the next three days. At this point, we are at 288 participants, over 2500 messages sent out for a donation total of \$21,000. We need to hit the \$30,000 mark to have a 50/50 split on what we receive from the total donation amount. If we don't hit 30k, the split will be 60/40 in favor of the PoP.
- We are way under what we hope to earn for the fundraiser. The group consensus is that there was more excitement last time around because it was the first big fundraiser in a few years due to the pandemic.
- Kathy will send out a PTSO email to remind people that every donation matters.

Everyone is encouraged to keep pushing it. The deadline is Thursday to meet the 30k goal.

Request for Funds:

7th grade Greek Olympics Request

- o PE, Visual Art, Design, and Individuals & Societies are planning a grade-wide interdisciplinary unit for 7th grade. In this unit, students will design and create Olympic-themed art pieces in art class. In PE, they will learn about Olympic and paralympic sports. Each I&S class will focus on a different country, with an emphasis on culture and sports. Our PLTW classes will 3-D print Olympic medals for the events.
- o This interdisciplinary unit will culminate with a grade-wide Olympics in which each I&S class will compete against each other in Olympic-like events. We hope to have an unforgettable center-piece event featuring zany fun with Zorb Ball Running and Wrestling! In order to facilitate this, we are asking for the PTO to provide \$500 to support the rental of this equipment that the entire 7th grade will enjoy.
- o Tiffany looked at the budget for available funds. Kathy suggested using funds allocated for interdisciplinary events or miscellaneous expenses. Adelaide motions to support the PTSO covering the \$500 cost of equipment for the event, Tiffany seconds, all vote in favor.

Reimbursement for Ms. Daugherty

- o Mrs. Daugherty purchased snacks for all students for the Step Afrika field trip. We want to reimburse her. She will bring receipts totaling \$246.
- o Tiffany notes that we could use funds allocated for hospitality to cover this.
- o Kathy notes that in the future, teachers need to ask for permission to avoid setting a detrimental precedent of "anything goes".
- o Jill motions to fund the \$246 field trip snack cost, Adelaide seconds, all vote in favor.

Spring Testing Schedule

PSAT

Wednesday, April 12 (late start 6th & 7th graders).

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MSTEP

- o Tuesday, April 18 all grades
- o Thursday, April 27 all grades
- o Thursday, May 11 = makeups all grades

NWEA

- o Thursday, May 18 = all grades
- o Thursday, May 25 = all grades
- o Wednesday, May 31 = makeups all grades

Family Fun Night

- o Postponed to April due to last month's inclement weather

- Open Discussion / Q & A

- o A new PTOC Rep is needed. Harmony is moving out of the country, Jill Pritts volunteered to take over for the end of the year
 - o Adelaide notes that it is worth looking into changing our PTSO meeting schedule next year due to ongoing time conflict with PTOC meetings
 - o Spirit wear update from Adelaide- the website is a work in progress. Spiritwear will be sold at Family Fun Night by Noor and Kathy.
 - o Staff appreciation week? There is \$2500 allocated, and \$200 has been used. No one is organizing it. Adelaide will brainstorm ideas with help from others. A couple ideas include providing food and professional massages.
 - o Adelaide looked into the ASL issue brought up last week (see February minutes). After meetings with Principal Vazquez and others, there still is uncertainty about the future offering of the language at Huron High School. It is not a part of the 11th and 12th grade IB program, which may be affecting the perceived necessity of including it in the curriculum.
 - o Adelaide asked about board votes and important communication that happens over email. Is it officially being recorded? Post-meeting edit: Karen will include that as an addendum to whatever most recent minutes document there is.
 - o Overall, we can do a better job recruiting families to help volunteer. The PTSO tends to just ask within the small group, but other people have expressed interest in helping. We need to find a way to tap into more resources.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:24 pm by Kathy Owens