

SCARLETT MIDDLE SCHOOL PTSO



Meeting Minutes

February 8, 2021 – 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

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!

Welcome and Introductions

- **Attending:** Gerald Vazquez, Jaye Peterson, Heather Hooppaw, Aaron Kraft, Nicky Geyer, Victoria Engling, John Franks, Jill Pritts, Melahat Canter, Stephanie Gayle Riegle, Mimoza Ramaxhiku, Temperance Wilkerson, Sarah Martin, Sarah Russman.
- Reminder to type name and email into the Zoom chat for our records.
- **Approve January meeting minutes:** John Franks motioned to approve January's meeting minutes, Mr. Vazquez seconded, and all approved.

Principal's Report - Mr. Vazquez and Dr. Peterson

- Mr. V is proud of our school today and the representation at the NAAPID sessions today.
 - If you attended any of the sessions today, you will receive a Google Form asking for feedback.
 - Any of the recorded sessions will be available to watch on the school website.
 - The NAAPID morning coffee session was encouraging. It was a chance to connect with parents. Jill suggested that they offer more coffee sessions and vary the times.
- Mid-winter break begins after school on Thursday. School will resume on Tuesday.
- Grades will be posted in Powerschool on Friday.
- Wednesday, February 10th, is Student Count Day.
- Dr. Peterson added that they are planning another round of virtual conferences in March. They plan to open it up to all parents. More specific information will come out soon.

President's Report – Nicky Geyer

- **8th Grade Recognition**
 - There will not be an 8th Grade Trip this year and our Dine to Donate

funds usually go toward that trip. Nicky asked Ms. Baugh and Ms. Morning if they have any ideas of something special we can do for the 8th Graders.

- If we have a Hybrid situation by the end of the year, there may be more options, such as an outdoor graduation, etc.
- John and MIMOZA will look at the numbers in the account to see how much money we'd be able to spend on each student. We have about 200 8th Grade students.

- **Scavenger Hunt**

- We've been discussing the idea of a virtual scavenger hunt. It would be something simple like searching for things around your home and taking a picture of them.
- Mr. V wondered if this is something that the Student Council would want to help organize.
- The PTO could provide prizes from the school store.
- This could be fun to do over Spring Break.

- **Vice President Opening**

- Our Vice President has moved her middle schooler to A2 Virtual. John Franks offered to stand in as Vice President through the rest of the year.

Treasurer's Report - MIMOZA RAMAXHIKU and John Franks

- The January monthly summary is as follows:
 - There was an income of \$94.11 and \$789.08 in expenses.
 - The ending Savings Balance was \$10,777.95.
 - The ending Checking Balance was \$24,691.94.

Restaurant Nights

- There will be a TMaz restaurant fundraiser on Wednesday.

PTOC Report - Jill Pritts

- The PTOC is made up of representatives from all the PTOs. They also have an executive leadership board.
- Because PTOs are parent funded, there are a lot of equity differences within Ann Arbor's schools. At the Feb. 25th meeting, there will be guest speakers from the Equity Committee who are starting to discuss this problem.
- At this meeting, each PTO Rep. can discuss our concerns as a school. What concerns would you like Jill to discuss at the meeting? What do we

provide for our students and where do we need more help?

- Nicky would like us to be able to sponsor more kids for the 8th grade trip. Many families can't go.
- Losing the PTO Thrift transportation grants has been a huge blow. That takes away money that could be used for actual field trips and enrichment activities. Our only contribution now goes toward bussing because the cost is so high.
- Some PTSOs can raise in one night an amount that would take us several years.
- The district should recognize the differences and help to make us more equitable. All of the district's students will end up together in high school, so it makes sense to give all students the same experiences. We're all in this together.
- In relation to the equity discussion, Mr. V noted that Scarlett students are currently studying Globalism. "If we do this right, our students will have a global mindset, not a first world mindset. The world is not about us being self serving."

Meeting Adjourned.

Looking Ahead:

- The next meeting is on 03/08/2021.