

SCARLETT MIDDLE SCHOOL PTSO



Meeting Minutes April 11, 2022 – 6:30 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, Dr. Peterson, Nicky Geyer, Victoria Engling, Mimoza Ramaxhiku, Harmony Hoekzema, Stephanie Riegle, Kathy Owens, John Franks, Tiffany Marra.

Secretary's Report

- Mr. Vazquez motioned to approve the minutes for February. Nicky Geyer seconded. All approved.
- There were no meeting minutes for March.

Principal's Report - Gerald Vazquez and Dr. Peterson

- Mr. Vazquez announced that \$22,143.50 was raised for the Day of Awesomeness fundraiser! Students also made some cash donations to the Day of Awesomeness at school.
- **Testing Updates** - They are currently working on coordinating testing for the students. Students will be undergoing testing through the end of the school year. Dr. Peterson added that PSAT testing will take place this Wednesday and 6th Graders will come to school late. In two weeks, students will have MSTEP testing. Then there will be more MSTEP and NWEA testing closer to the end of the year.
- **Construction Update** - Scarlett will still be under construction next year. In the Fall, parents will be able to see classroom updates and building lighting updates. Dr. Peterson added that all of the classrooms that have been worked on will now have air conditioning.
- **8th Graders** - Mr. Vazquez and Dr. Peterson would like to plan something special for the 8th Graders as they move on to high school. They will share updates on this at the next PTSO meeting.
- Dr. Peterson noted that there are a few potential end of year field trips that have been district approved. Each grade level may have an art field trip.
- Nicky let the principals know that numerous 8th grade parents have reached out to ask about the Chicago trip. Dr. Peterson said that the cancellation of this trip was a

district decision. She also noted that planning for next year has been difficult because travel agencies are short on bus drivers.

President's report - Nicky Geyer

- **Supply Fundraiser** - Slauson's PTSO had a supply fundraiser and sent some of the donated supplies to Scarlett. They also shared with other middle schools.
- **Day of Awesomeness** - The planned date for the event is April 20th. We are all set with volunteers.
- **PTSO Board Elections** - We need to fill positions for next year's PTSO.
 - The budget for next year will need to be flexible at first.
 - Nicky thinks it would be helpful to make some changes to the PTSO positions. Fundraising could be a committee instead of a job for one person. Hospitality and Restaurant Nights could be under one position. A major job duty for the President is to be in communication with the school administration.
 - Someone will have to take on Spirit Wear for next year. Nicky asked if the School Store will be allowed to be open next year. Mr. Vazquez said that he doesn't have any definitive information, but thinks there would be benefits to having it open. He suggested that it could be open biweekly instead of weekly, and that maybe the student council could help it to run. Nicky noted that we will have to decide on what will stay in inventory.
 - Nicky thinks that co-presidents might work well in the future so that the co-president can take over when the president moves on. Tiffany added that offering leadership training might help to recruit people who might be intimidated.
- Mr. Vazquez is going to find out if our May meeting can be in person. Nicky noted that there will also be a budget meeting in the summer.

Treasurer's Report - Mimoza Ramaxhiku

- The March balance is as follows:
 - The ending Savings Balance was \$10,778.71.
 - The ending Checking Balance was \$24,899.64.
 - The CD Balance was \$6,048.65.
- We had a restaurant night at Noodles and Co. and it made \$333.00.
- Mimoza noted that our Paypal account is connected to our Savings account and that we cannot get access to the Paypal account because it was started by someone who is no longer on the PTSO. Mimoza suggests that we cancel that Paypal account and start a new one.
- Tiffany asked about treasurer training and thought it might be good to ask other PTSOs how they handle rollover (to avoid issues like the Paypal issue).

Tiffany also noted that having a co- position could help. The co-treasurer would be in training for when the treasurer moves on.

PTOC Report - Harmony Hoekzema

- At the last monthly PTOC meeting, they continued the discussion on PTO equity.
 - A woman from Portland, Oregon attended the meeting to discuss their PTO system. In the 1990s, their district created a separate Equity Fund to help serve underserved parts of the district.
 - It was established after the state had removed a level of funding that greatly affected parts of the district. All the PTOs contribute to this account. And their PTOs have paid employees. Her team manages the Equity Fund and makes sure that it's being used appropriately.
 - She noted that when it was first established, many parents had negative feelings about it and were against it.
- The PTOC Reps went into breakout rooms to discuss what their PTOs are doing well, and what things are not working.
- The next meeting will be April 25th. The topic will be *Student Voice and Emotional Wellbeing*.

Open Discussion

- Dr. Peterson did a lot of work for the Day of Awesomeness fundraiser. Nicky proposed that we give her a \$200 gift card to thank her. Mimosa seconded and all approved.

Meeting Adjourned.