

SCARLETT MIDDLE SCHOOL PTSO



Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2019 – 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, Margarita Barrientes, Victoria Engling, Amy Balzer-Pemberton, Leslie Wilkins, Devin Hutchings, Jill Priestley, Kathy Owens, Tara Campbell, Nicky Geyer, Temperance Wilkerson.

President's Report - Margarita Barrientes

- The Noodles & Co. restaurant night is December 17th. Mention the fundraiser at the register BEFORE you're rung up. The next restaurant night is Chipotle on January 21st. November's restaurant night at Leo's was canceled due to a snowstorm, but will be rescheduled for Spring.
- We will get an update on Socktober at the January meeting.
- Chili's Restaurant Fundraiser made about \$510.

Approval of October Minutes

Minutes were read and approved.

Principal's Report - Mr. Vazquez

- An anonymous donor paid for all unpaid lunches.
- It's the end of Term 1. Grade reports are posted in Powerschool. Mr. Vazquez sent a reminder in his email on how to look at the grades. Formative vs. Summative can be confusing for parents at first. We are currently in the second week of Term 2.
- Mr. Vazquez and PTO members discussed the policy on test retakes. Retakes do not totally erase a grade - they give students the opportunity to work on what they've struggled with. A parent with a freshman at Huron noted that students who are used to doing retakes in middle school are struggling at the high school level where they can't retake tests. Mr. Vazquez would like to bring that issue up with Huron.

Student Council Report

- Student Council is finishing up their holiday food and supply drive. They are partnering with Huron Hills Baptist Church and New Life Church who will provide main staples for a Christmas meal and distribute items to those in need. Jewish Family Services have also partnered with us to support refugee families at Scarlett over the winter break.

Discussion on Communication

- The PTO discussed parent/teacher communication and parent involvement.
- Parents have expressed being more involved in the day to day or on field trips. Helping in the school store is a good way to be involved and see your student at school.
- Are there ways to improve teacher communication with parents? It was noted that it would be nice if all teachers used the same platform. It is difficult for parents and students to keep track of multiple communication methods.
- Are there ways to improve PTO communication with parents? It was noted that a bigger Facebook presence could be helpful with communication.

Treasurer's Report & Budgeting - Nicky Geyer and Amy Balzer-Pemberton

- We are waiting on a check from the AirTime fundraiser.
- We had a big expense for spirit wear, so the budget looks lean because we haven't done any fundraising yet.
- Buses were approved for a school-wide field trip in February. The PTSO also put down a deposit for the field trip which will later be reimbursed when a grant comes in.
- Buses were approved for language students to visit the Language Center at UofM.
- Some funding requests are being tabled until the bus quotes are received.
- The ice skating field trip has been paid for.
- Theron's Memorial account will sponsor some students for the 8th Grade Trip.

SCARLETT MONTHLY SUMMARY

ACCOUNT BALANCE	October
SAVINGS	\$10773.35
CHECKING	\$21080.27
CD	\$6045.67
CURRENT MONTH	
DEPOSIT	\$426.91
WITHDRAWAL	\$9606.77

For the month of September, we had income as follows:

\$10.00	Misc.
\$416.91	Spirit wear

Expenses were as follows:

\$66.81	School store
\$9489.96	Spiritwear
\$50.00	Misc. Fees

Restricted Funds Total:

2019 8 th grade trip	\$1132.14
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2020 8 th grade trip	\$653.24
2021 8 th grade trip	\$170.00
Athletics	\$917.68

Fundraising

- Discussed reaching out to other PTOs to find out what fundraisers have been successful for them. Devin said that he can reach out to the PTOC.
- Discussed ways to keep students interested in a fun run. Would a color run get them more excited? Would a competition between grades result in more participation? myfunrun/school-color-run.com is a good source for Color Run preparation.
- Little Caesar's Fundraising went well last year. Students will get forms before winter break and turn them in after the break, giving them time to sell.

Carnival Planning

The Carnival is the biggest fundraiser of the year and will take place on March 13th. We need volunteers.

- Laura Lovasz and Devin will help with games.
- Discussed the legality of a 50/50 raffle.
- Points of Light will give us Disney tickets if we provide them photos and information about an event in which families volunteer together. Last year, we did a drawing through random.com to give away Disney tickets to a volunteer.
- We still need a volunteer to organize food. Temperance said that she might be able to help in this area.
- When Nicky returns from Africa, she will be able to take over as point person for the silent auction. Ideally, donation letters should be sent out in December.

Looking ahead

- Next Restaurant Night: December 17, 2019 at Noodles & Co.
- Winter Break December 21, 2019 to January 4, 2020
- Next PTSO Meeting: January 13, 2020
- Pizza Kit Sale: January 2020
- Scarlett Carnival: March 13, 2020