



Martensdale-St. Mary's School District  
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## Minutes of the PTO meeting October 19, 2021

### Attendees:

Megan Appell, Becky Deitenback, Katie Eads, Ashley Gideon, Beth Happe, Colleen Krogman, Gaby Palmer, Susan Palacios, Lisa Roetman, Jen Troll, Lori Vodraska, Dana Yonker

### I. **Welcome 2021-2022 PTO Goal:**

Jen Troll (President) welcomed the group. Shared the goal for 2021-2022 is recruitment / involvement – getting more parents involved. The success of PTO is dependent on parents' involvement.

### II. **Principal's Report**

Ms. Happe delivered the Principal's report.

- The **field trip list** was presented.
  - Discussed these requests and a potential process for requesting. PTO isn't comfortable having kids deliver checks to school. We'd like to be able to mail, deliver ourselves, etc. Its critical that we're aware farther in advance in order to make this happen.
  - 6<sup>th</sup> grade will do Junior Achievement's BizTown. They're also able to earn class points for a movie in Dec. and then a fun event in the spring as it hard to find field trips that are interesting for this age group.
- **Fall FAST screenings** found that 1/3 of our students are not at grade-level in math and a 1/3 are not for reading. As a result, intervention groups will be started. These are an extra learning opportunity for those identified through the FAST screenings
- **Halloween parties** will be happening the last Friday of October. There will not be a costume parade this year and they'll remind parents that weapons shouldn't be used as costume accessories.
- **Concrete and shade structure** – A new location has been proposed so as to avoid removing or relocating the tree that's in the current proposed location. The new proposed location is near the buddy bunch and may not require laying any additional cement, which would cut down on costs. Given the school was willing to cover costs of the cement, if this isn't needed, we can explore if there is still financial support they can give to the project. Ms. Happe suggested the committee chairs get in contact with the custodians. We'll begin fundraising in the meantime.
  - The preschool playground was identified as a phase two need for playground improvements. The underlayment is wood chips and the area takes on the rain drainage. We'll explore this as a future effort we can support.

- **Drop off** – reminder to please have students who are eating breakfast to school at 8:05 a.m. so they have time to eat and can get back to class on time.

### III. Treasurer's Report

Lisa Roetman (Treasurer) delivered the Treasurer's report.

- Current balance: \$14,388.55
- \$273 was brought in from Blue Devil Day, but we have with many leftovers (pop, cookies, etc.) that we can use for other future events.
- A Paypal account has been created to streamline collecting payments and donations.

### IV. New Business

Jen Troll presented and/or called for updates on several efforts:

- Conference meal:** The meal for Tuesday, Nov. 2 will be covered by PTO. **Jen Troll** is willing to lead this effort. A survey was already sent to teachers to learn if they have preferences on the type of food served.
- Staff appreciation in Dec.** – A festive, holiday staff lunch was suggested. This topic was tabled until November.
- Bulletin board** – **Kristina Whitely** is handling the bulletin board and updating regularly. A budget is needed for supplies and \$100 was proposed for the remainder of the year. Colleen Krogman motioned to approve \$100 for the budget. It was seconded by Susan Palacios seconded.
- Surprise and delight idea** for classrooms – This idea was tabled for a future meeting. Tabling this for a future meeting.
- Un-sport fundraiser** – **Katie Eads** is coordinating. A website is ready and will go live next week. Two designs are available and we'll have t-shirts, sweatshirts, etc. We'll see a profit of \$5-7 on each apparel item. Through a different vendor, we could order car flags and /or pennants, but we need to bulk purchase in advance – 100 at a cost of ~\$11.10. Gaby Palmer motioned to approve to spend \$1,100 to pre-purchase and then sell, it was seconded by Susan Palacios
- 4/5/6 grade dance** – **Wendi Eckelberg** is coordinating and this effort is in progress.

### V. Old Business

- Community Day** – overall a success and we brought in \$273. We had great volunteers. It was noted that next year a rolling cart would help sell more items to other areas.
- Die Cut machine** replacement – PTO is willing to help purchase, but needs a recommendation from the teachers. Ms. Happe will work with Jess Hart to come up with a recommendation.
- Amazon wish lists** from teachers – The kindergarten teachers have done this. If/as more teachers do it, the PTO will help promote their lists.

- d. **National Custodian Day** – Jenn Troll coordinated. A bag of chips, soda, etc. to show appreciation was delivered to each custodian.

**VI. Open Items**

- a. **Trunk or Treat** – Gaby Palmer gave an update.
  - i. There are 12 trunks signed up, bake sale volunteer slots are filled, and two roasters of chili being donated.
  - ii. She’s working on final logistics and the event should be a success.
- b. **Pergola / Shade structure committee update** – Lori Vodraska is coordinating.
  - i. A promotional flyer is ready and will be distributed as soon as the Paypal information is added.
  - ii. The committee will connect with facilities to determine location – a new area by the buddy bench has been suggested. Would also like to begin a bid process to determine a true costs.
- c. **Carnival planning committee update** – Dana
  - i. The committee has been formed and a Kick off meeting will be held on Thursday @ 6 p.m. Their planning meetings will be virtual.

**VII. Volunteers for other annual events**

Jen Troll noted there are other annual events that we did not discuss. Some have chairpersons and some will still need chairpersons.

**VIII. Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned. Our next meeting will be November 16 at 6 p.m.