

MINUTES

Caleb Greenwood PTSO General Meeting 6:00pm, September 6, 2023

Meeting in Action Center

A-1. Call to Order & Welcome

- a. Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM

A-2. Attendance of Executive Board Members

Present:

Shana Nijjar – President
Kelly Parks – Treasurer
Tracey Weinstein – Vice President
Julie Garrison - Auditor
Nancy Castignetti – Secretary
Rosanne Cherry – Teacher Rep

Absent:

Elise Brown – Parliament
Amy Botill – Member At Large
Meryl – Co-Treasurer

Additional:

Jessica Kriegal – Parent
Felipe Soria – Parent
Samantha Trent -- Principal

Late:

Jenna Fortuna -- Parent

A-3. Approval of Motions

- a. General Meeting Minutes for June 7, 2023 Meeting
Ms. Cherry made the motion to approve, Julie Garrison seconded.
For: 6, Against: 0; motion passed.

A-4. Principal's Report – Ms. Trent

- a. Happy with start of school year. Support from PTSO has helped with a smooth transition back to school.
- b. Staffing: We have onboarded a new 3rd grade teacher to replace Ms. Setzer. She will be starting soon.
- c. Super high attendance as a district, and at Caleb.

- d. PTSO contributions: Chairs that we procured from fund-a-need are well utilized. Dot cams are distributed to teachers, received with enthusiasm.
- e. The automated front door: the district has decided to pay this, which relieves PTSO from paying. This means that PTSO can keep \$16,000 that had been intended for the door.
- f. Ms. Trent intended to use PTSO funds for color printers, as we had discussed in previous meetings; however, in order to get maintenance provided by district, we are restricted to a specific type of printer. Thus, the black-and-white type of printer required by the district was purchased. Each teacher who wants one will get their own black-and-white printer; Ms. Trent is working on acquiring a 2nd color printer for teachers to share, to supplement the color printer we already have. PTSO paid about \$8,550 for the black-and-white printers.
- g. We might acquire the Raptor system, which is a way that visitors automatically sign in using their driver's license. This will let us keep track of who is on campus. Ms. Trent will keep us posted regarding the cost of this system.
- h. District has purchased the testing component of iReady (for district-wide testing), but PTSO could possibly purchase the practice component of iReady. PTSO has allotted \$10,000 for tutoring services in the past, which went towards programs like IXL and Reflex. (IXL was just used for primary grades last year.) Teachers have expressed that they would like iReady to replace older system. Cost of iReady is uncertain; Ms. Trent will keep us posted.
- i. Monthly communications: Shana suggested aiming for the first Fri of the month for one hard copy, update on the website, Parent Square. Although the post will be ready on Fri, the hard copy will go home with kids on the following Mon. (This week's will be ready by Mon 9/11.)
- j. Julie mentioned that we have an Amazon account to order items for PTSO. It is limited to 3 users. These will be: Ms. Trent, Kelly Parks (treasurer), and Ms. Cordero.

A-5. President Report – Shana Nijjar

- a. Shana investigated Spirit Wear—there are many options. Shana received a couple complaints about the company, but we don't know if that is representative of the quality of the brand overall. Ms. Cherry suggested bringing the items Shana has to the office and/or other meetings, as examples so people can get an idea of just what they will receive when ordering.
- b. We have some additional spirit wear that has not been purchased. Shana proposed selling them "retro ½ priced," which got a positive consensus. Tracey and Shana are planning to go through these items.
- c. Julie says VenMo is causing trouble. When we sell the throw-back items, we will make it cash-only.
- d. Welcome Back picnic is planned for Sept 22 at Glen Hall Park, 5:30- 7:30 PM. We have a permit, Melt Down coming, Kabob Guys coming, Jill Olmstead working on getting another vendor.
- e. Shana planned 5 monthly dinner fundraisers; Julie volunteered to help with them.

- f. Yearbook goal is to sell 250 yearbooks, They will be ordering 40 extra yearbooks, in order to try to reach last-minute demand. We have given them funds to purchase promotional materials, so people can be enticed in advance to buy yearbooks.
- g. Art to Remember will be happening this year, this typically is a good fundraiser.
- h. International Day of Peace: we are thinking of ways to bring this onto campus, since it ties in with IB principles. Shana working on this with Kelly Cordero—will be on 9/21.
- i. Parents encouraged to be more participatory in Cougars on the Run this year.

A-6. Treasurer’s Update – Kelly Parks

- a. Kelly reviewed line items (see Budget Overview: 2023 – 2024 FY24 P&L)
- b. Julie suggested keeping closer track of exactly where the Fund-a-Need money has been spent. This is sometimes difficult to track.
- c. Ms. Cherry recommends: \$300 per teacher for teacher wish list. More than \$14 (the proposed amount) to supplement fieldtrips for students.
- d. In future years: Sly Park fieldtrip for 6th graders will not be payed after this year. It is estimated to be \$28,000 for the 6th grade to attend. We can think about if we want to consider this in the budget—would be nice to supplement this trip for the 6th graders.

A-7. Faculty Report – Rosanne Cherry

- a. Combo classes are ok! They are very common in the district. Kids do fine! Parents don’t need to work, combo classes are great! This should be our messaging.
- b. Changes in the lunch schedule: adjustments made to have less kids at once. This makes it easier for everyone!
- c. Babies on campus: several teachers returning and leaving for maternity leaves this school year.

A-8. Other Business- Tracey Weinstein, Jenna Fortuna

- a. Jog-a-thon: some changes made to smooth out wrinkles from last year. We will be doing a big push around getting a sliver-level sponsor, who we’ll promote at events. DJ Lady Char will MC the Jog-a-Thon this year, she’s already on contract. We will launch fundraising to families during Sept. If we reach our school-wide goal, DJ Lady Char will perform; proposed date is Oct 20th.
- b. Fall Festival: Oct 27, 2023: 3 bouncy houses purchased, 5 new games, getting decor together, including string lights from auction. They will look for a popcorn/ice cream vendor. Top Hand Ranch will offer hayrides. Scarecrow contest for families—Jenna will create a sign-up sheet. Cake Walk will be inside of the cafeteria, DJ Lady Char will perform (but should not be too close to the Cake Walk). League of Super Heroes will be there, to take photos with kids. We need volunteers!

- c. Ms. Cherry: Teachers would like one grade to split each activity (so teachers can rotate in and out). We will need parent power to work some of these activities, too! Should be 2 volunteers per booth, per hour.
- d. We will have to sell wristbands onsite; will need to figure out how to do the transactions. Possibly \$10/ person for wristband, would be cash.
- e. Food: should be easy to grab, to eliminate a line. Pre-wrapped burritos—we can call them “Boo-ritos.”

Meeting was adjourned at 7:37PM.