

Thomas Middle School PTA Meeting Minutes 9/12/23

Call To Order/Welcome: Megan Puzen, President called the meeting to order. She called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm in the TMS Library. 24 PTA members were in attendance plus on via Zoom.

Introduction of Board

Secretary's Report & Minutes Approval: Joslyn Katz

- No changes
- Motion to approve, seconded, approved

Treasurer's Report: Diane Beardmore

- Audit was completed for FYE 8/23 in July
- Will be submitted to the council
- Expense form (check request form) will be updated on the website - please use this regularly so the right people are paid correctly and accounts are balanced
- Tax Exempt form has expired so please use the new one
- No significant changes to the budget
- Money Minder is now being used to manage, will look a little different but same function
- Sponsorship monies are not included in the budget. Per PTA guidelines, we cannot fundraise for one specific committee. Any sponsorship donations will go into miscellaneous and then distributed to various committees/events.
- Motion to approve, seconded, approved

Vice President's Report: Norah Muenkel

- Updated Bylaws last year
- This year the procedures will be updated

Teacher Liaison Report: Jackie Hallmark, jhallmark@sd25.org

- Please reach out if you need anything!
- Tracks membership dues from staff
- Online feature is wonderful! 53 staff have signed up online!
- Strive for 100%

Principal's/Assistant Principals' Report: Lori Naumowicz

- Thank you! Most attendance we have had!
- Zoom link will be available for all meetings in case someone wants to attend but has other responsibilities too.
- Attitude of Gratitude
 - Have had over 1000 at times already this year
 - Great turnout for both curriculum nights
 - Grateful for parent support, positivity
 - Our children are amazing! Thank you!
 - Started out the year with a few assemblies by team to talk about expectations and inspiration
- Utilizing the RULER program for socio-emotional learning, 2 teachers per homeroom to build connections, open hearts and open minds
- Positive behaviors being posted, modeled, reinforced, same language as all elementary schools: Be Safe, Be Mindful, Be Prepared
- Just finished MAP testing, makeups will be soon, data will be looked at by staff to make some instructional decisions
- Student group is meeting with superintendent search committee on 9/13/23
- Staff group and parent group will also provide input for the search
- About 120 staff members, very few retirements, this year only three new hires
- 9 subcommittees to embrace shared leadership, including
 - Scheduling
 - Attendance and Tardies
 - Staff wellness
 - Embrace equity
 - Social
- Extracurriculars are in full swing, you can see all announcements on the school website, each club should also have its own Schoology page - please chat with your students to know when they will be staying late
- Talent show info was just sent out
- Attendance has been great, please make sure they get to school on time! Keep them home when they are sick. If it is emotional (anxiety), please reach out! We want them here!
- Veteran's Day Breakfast, Friday, November 10
- Monday, November 6 - Author Visit
- Pack the Piggies in November
- Fall Festival is coming!
- Many student teachers this year
- Inclusion Revolution - Service Over Self club from JHHS
- Always looking for subs! Reach out if you want info about getting your sub license
- Thank you to all parent volunteers from picture day!

Presidents' Report/Thomas PTA News: Megan Puzen, Kris Dugan

- Thank you to all committee chairs who have already done so much work!
- Spiritwear, picture day, fall festival (and others) are all up and running!
- Reflections Committee still has no chair but has lots of explicit directions. Just once a year. Please reach out if you are even possibly thinking about it!

Committee Reports

- **ABC/25** - Bliss Hansen
 - The foundation is going through a rebrand - www.abc25.org
 - New fundraising strategy - no race this year - more to come!
 - Would like a second rep if possible, no race or grant reps needed anymore
 - Foundation provides funding to teachers who have new, innovative ideas that are not yet part of the curriculum
 - Only at 16% membership, need to get to 25% for our staff to qualify for the funding, if you've not registered yet, please go to the website to join!
 - Applications due October 15
 - Thursday, September 21, 7:00-8:00 at the Ale House if you want to learn more!
- **Staff Appreciation** - Sheryl Terrill
 - Looking to have a few volunteers at each of the luncheons/dinners to help it run smoothly
 - First one is in October for conferences (then spring conferences and teacher appreciation week)
- **Membership** - Kate Halley
 - Maintains directory spot, facebook page, instagram
 - 575 families joined plus at least 53 staff
 - Directory should be updated by the end of the month
 - Will get an email if you do not have an account yet
 - Users can go in and update your personal info if something changes
 - If anyone is interested in taking over the social media component, let us know!
- **Spiritwear** - Heidi Sienna
 - 20 orders, 52 products sold, \$5 per product, at \$260 at this point
 - Goal this year is \$600, goal this store is \$400
 - Please let us know if there is something you would like to see in the future
 - Holiday store will launch second week of November, will arrive before winter break
 - Spring store can be sent to elementary schools for incoming sixth graders
- **Student Activities** - Katie Rausch

- October 27, 4:00-5:30, \$5 admission
- Working on the events, looking for a combination of interactive and lower key (dodgeball, magician)
- Will be looking for parent volunteers and snack donations
- Tickets will be sold the week of (probably Monday through Thursday)

Old Business

- None from May

New Business

- None

Announcements

- Next meeting: October 11 at 7:00
- Dr. Bein will be here at the beginning of the meeting!

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm by Megan Puzen