



MANN PTO BOARD MEETING AGENDA

DATE:	Thursday April 17 2025
TIME:	6:30 PM
LOCATION:	In-person in the Mann Library (2nd Floor)
ZOOM:	https://op97-org.zoom.us/j/3257685670#success

ATTENDEES

highlight who is present

	Board Position	Board Member	Board Position	Board Member
2024 – 2025 PTO Board	Co-President	Karley Wyss	Fundraising	Kim Luckey
	Co-President	Julie Spyrison	Communications	Betsy Riley
	Co-Treasurer	Matt Arata	Volunteer Coordinator	Julie Spyrison
	Co-Treasurer	Jequeatta Smith	MannPower	Erica Wessel Pete Senechelle
	Co-Secretary	Maggie Wickett-Altier	Principal	Mr. Ali
	Co-Secretary	Brad Rist	Student Support Specialist	Ms. Breyer
	Diversity	Kate Odom	Teacher Representatives	Ms. Miller + Ms. Bolis
2024 – 2025 PTO Committee Chairs	Committee	Chair	Committee	Chair
	Kindergarten Liaison	Ashley Zak Amanda Shaker Anna Kakos	Assemblies	Emilie Caulfield
	Mannapalooza	Gauri Khatkhate	Mann on the Run	
	Social Media	Erin Cottingham	Yearbook	Katie Zapata
	Green Initiative	Chris Anderson	T-Shirts	Kate Odom
	Indoor Composting	Melissa Lobring	Outdoor Gardening	Chris Anderson
	Special Events	Laura Thomphsen Elizabeth Marklein	5th Grade Ceremony	Megan Elsener
	Olympic Day	Adam Petrzelka		
Other Community / PTO Members:	If large numbers, simply put # parents and # of teachers present		About 8 additional parents were present.	

MEETING AGENDA

Time	Topic	Discussion Leader(s)	Key Meeting Outcomes
3 min	Welcome and Mustang Motto Be Respectful Be Responsible Be Safe	Co-Presidents	
1 min	Board Introductions <i>Name, role, and children at Mann</i>	Board	The Board members present introduced themselves.
1 min	Approval of Minutes and Consent Agenda <i>A motion should be made, seconded, and then passed by vote for both previous meeting's minutes and current meeting's agenda</i>	All	A motion to approve the March minutes and agenda was seconded and APPROVED .
3 min	Celebrations and Acknowledgments <i>Opportunity to give recognition and appreciation</i> - PTO DivCo team for Mann Culture Night - Variety Show - Teachers for IAR testing - Mrs. Collins during Social Worker Appreciation Day (March 18) - School Librarian Appreciation Day (April 4) - Admin Assistant Appreciation Week (Week of April 23) - Mannpower Spring Session - thanks to Pete and Erica's last hurrah - Mr. Hayward for facilitating Can Do Challenge that ends Apr 30 - Mr. Hayward, Mr. McKinney, Ms. Ventura for Chicago Wolves Game / Chorus Family Day - Teachers and parents for field trips	All	We acknowledged and thanked the school and community members to the left. The community thanked Julie and Karley for their PTO leadership this year.

45 min	Special Guests - Dr. Starks Turner: D97's Chief Safety Officer - Mr. Filipowski: Julian's Middle School Principal - <i>May Meeting</i> - <i>Dr. Shah: D97's Superintendent</i>	We welcomed Dr. Starks Turner and Mr. Filipowski. Mr. Filipowski welcomed rising 6th-grade families from Mann. Mr. Filipowski shared the administrative team, including two associate principals (Adrienne Court and Dawanda Dotson). Jayhawk Weekly is distributed on Sundays. There are about 930 students at Julian. There are three student success coaches, supporting students with academics and social-emotional needs. Coaches serve as case managers for students with 504s. One student success coach will be departing at the end of the school year and a new student success coach will be identified. There are three social workers, one for each grade. These professionals loop with the grades, so the current 8th-grade social worker will support the rising 6th-graders. Mr. Filipowski introduced the office team, including the school Executive Coordinator, Admin Assistants, and Receptionist. Mr. Filipowski shared the school's School-Wide Expectations. Middle School Connections is a great way to introduce these expectations and middle school life to rising 6th-graders. This year, it will be held on 8/12-8/14. There are a number of middle school transition events and orientation activities - see the flyer at the end of this month's minutes. Each school year has a theme, this year: "Birds of a Feather, Jayhawks Together." Next year's will be shared at the beginning of the year. Karley asked about the upcoming change to the curriculum for the 25-26 school year. Mr. Filipowski clarified that students will be able to select two electives and the process to select electives. World language will now be an optional elective. Generally, the community response was that families and students wanted more choice for electives.
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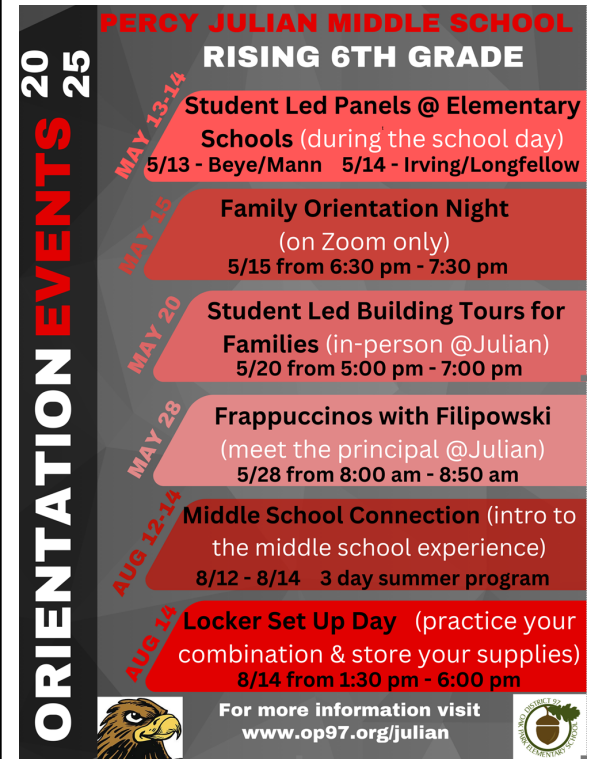
		Julie asked how classes are selected. Mr. Filipowski noted that they aim to balance teams with kids from the feeder elementary schools (3 teams for each grade, 120 kids/team). There are 4 teachers for each team (math, ELA, science, social studies), plus 1-2 special education teachers who team with the general teachers. The school aims for 25-28 students per class. A parent asked how the grades are mixed within the school. Generally, grades stay on specific floors. Karley asked about parent-teacher conferences. Mr. Filipowski noted that each teacher becomes familiar with all students on their team and will be available for conferences. Conferences are scheduled online. Conference windows are brief, 5 minutes. PowerSchool and Canvas are available. Mr. Filipowski recommends checking these once a week, sitting down with your student to review grades and assignments. Karley asked about Chromebook distribution. This is still being decided. Julie asked about school supplies. Mr. Filipowski confirmed school supplies generally live in a student's locker, and students will receive a locker checklist. Students are required to leave backpacks in lockers during the day. Karley asked about the school phone policy. Phones are "away for the day" and meant to stay in lockers. First violation - the phone goes to the office and a student picks it up end of day. Second - a student speaks with a school administrator. Third - a parent must pick up the phone. Julie asked how rising 6th-grade families can help and support their students through this transition. Mr. Filipowski reminded parents to ask questions and encourage their students to ask questions. Karley directed a question to Dr. Starks Turner about soft lockdowns and whether families will be notified. Dr. Starks Turner said a communication would be distributed with a high level overview of the occurrence leading to the lockdown (or hold).
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Time	Topic	Discussion Leader(s)	Key Meeting Outcomes
			Kim asked what Mr. Filipowski would want families to know. He replied that he thinks middle school is “just the best stage ever.” He recognized the amount of growth that happens in middle school. They will make it as easy as possible, they will try to have fun, but when it gets hard, the school and team are there for students and families.

Time	Topic	Discussion Leader(s)	Key Meeting Outcomes
30 min	• Principal Updates - IAR testing complete - Vote on tutoring funds: + Request for tutor funds: 27 students - a goal with getting half of them help; 10 weeks roughly. - School Improvement Plan - Update on Classes / Sections will be at May Meeting - Kindergarten Updates: + Blast Off for Kindergarten - May 18 (10a-12p - Rehm Park) ◆ Ms. Eble is creating a welcome packet for K families, PTO to help with this ◆ Incoming K testing starting in May ◆ K Family tours starting in later June - End of Year Field Trips - D97 Facilities Master Plan - improvements to teachers lounge not currently in the scope	• Mr. Ali	Principal Ali shared that the school officially finished IAR testing yesterday (4/16). Results will not be available until the summer for the school and the fall for families. Scores will be used to set goals for the 25-26 school year. Mr. Ali shared a request for funding from the PTO for summer tutoring for focal core students. These funds would support tutoring for approximately 13/14 students this summer, with the aim to keep them on track over the summer for the next school year. The amount requested is \$10,000. Motion to approve this funding request for 2024-2025 budget (for the 2025 summer), seconded and APPROVED by the general membership present. <i>Action Item - Julie will email the Board for approval.</i> Mr. Ali plans to distribute a school survey and set a summer meeting date for a school focus group date. Data will be used for 25-26 planning and goal setting. Mr. Ali shared that class section planning for next year is ongoing. He hopes to share additional detail at the May PTO meeting. Teachers will get assignments by May 31. Mr. Ali shared kindergarten updates, including the district's Blast Off for Kindergarten on May 18. The expected K class size is 70 students. Mr. Ali shared plans for incoming K family tours and K readiness testing. There are lots of end-of-year field trips upcoming. Mr. Ali thanked the PTO for sponsoring field trips. Mr. Ali is working with D97 to create a new Facilities Master Plan. Karley mentioned PTO interest in upgrading the teachers' lounge. There are several parents interested in helping redesign the teachers' lounge. Donation requests need to go to Dr. Shah or the D97 BOE (depending on the amount involved). Mr. Ali will start this process by submitting a donation request for upgrades to the teachers' lounge soon.

Time	Topic	Discussion Leader(s)	Key Meeting Outcomes
5 min	• Student Support Specialist Update –	• Ms. Breyer	Ms. Breyer was not present. Julie shared that there are two remaining Horseshoe Hooray stores for the rest of the year. For April, the third-grade and first-grade day/time will swap due to a third-grade field trip.

45 min	• Committee Updates/Reports <i>Refer to attached table</i> - 2025-2026 PTO Board Elections + Announce who has shared interest + Any other parents can still express interest by emailing Secretary + Community will vote at the May meeting - Treasurer: + - DivCo: + Mann Culture Night on Friday, April 11 - Fundraising: + Mann on the Run will be moved to the Fall - Special Events: + Teacher Appreciation: coffee cart / snacks, providing lunch, gift cards/ small treats, maybe teacher stamps. - Olympic Day + - 5th Grade Ceremony: Jun 2 + - Yearbook + - MannPower +	• Co-Presidents • Matt / Jequeatta • Kate • Kim • Laura / Elizabeth • Pete / Adam • Megan • Katie • Erica / Pete	2025-2026 Slate: Open Mann PTO Positions and Candidates - Co-President: Kim Luckey - Co-Secretary: Jessica Whiting - Co-Treasurer: Amanda Adkison, Sarah Burrows - Fundraising: Devon Brennan - Volunteer Coordinator: Tina Feters - Social Media: Rachel Molter - Indoor Compost: Rachael Barten - 5th Grade Ceremony: Gina Demes - Kindergarten Liaison: Madeline Reto, Caroline Abrahams - *Special Events Lead: Laura / Elizabeth & Maggie Potthoff Adam shared updates for Olympic Day, scheduled for Thursday, May 29. Lunch details are still TBD. Adam will distribute a flyer to PTO and school to share information and sign up volunteers. The same format as last year is planned - students will be with their Mustang Stables in the morning and homerooms in the afternoon. Julie shared that Board Elections will be on the agenda for the May 15 PTO meeting. Dr. Shah will be at this meeting, along with (possibly) 1-2 D97 Board members. This meeting is expected to start at 6:00, with Dr. Shah's Q&A to start at 6:30. Julie announced the Board candidates (listed above). If more volunteers raise their hands and more than one person is interested in a role, there will be an anonymous vote. Chris Morgan shared a DivCO update (from Kate). Thank you to administration, teachers, and volunteers for a fantastic Culture Night. Shark Night is upcoming. DivCO is always looking for more volunteers and those interested can reach out to Kate.
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Time	Topic	Discussion Leader(s)	Key Meeting Outcomes
10 min	Discussion Topics / Business Items <i>New topics; to be identified in advance of meeting</i> Middle School Upcoming Events: - Course selection letters sent home week of April 14 - Julian student led panel at Mann week of May 12 - Orientation zoom session for parents and guardians week of May 12 - Student led tour of Julian for families week of May 12 - Aug 12-14 Middle School Connect 9a-12p - Aug 12-14 Welcome Back Events at Julian - Locker Day Prior to that	Co-Presidents	
5 min	Upcoming Events - Middle School Events - Spring Sing K-2 on Wed, May 7 - Spring Sing 3-5 on Thu, May 8 - Blast off to Kindergarten is on Sun, May 18 - Olympic Day on Thu, May 29 (Rain Day is Wed, Jun 4) - Last Day of School on Jun 4	Co-Presidents	 PERCY JULIAN MIDDLE SCHOOL RISING 6TH GRADE ORIENTATION EVENTS 2025 MAY 13-14 Student Led Panels @ Elementary Schools (during the school day) 5/13 - Beye/Mann 5/14 - Irving/Longfellow MAY 15 Family Orientation Night (on Zoom only) 5/15 from 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm MAY 20 Student Led Building Tours for Families (in-person @Julian) 5/20 from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm MAY 28 Frappuccinos with Filipowski (meet the principal @Julian) 5/28 from 8:00 am - 8:50 am AUG 12-14 Middle School Connection (intro to the middle school experience) 8/12 - 8/14 3 day summer program AUG 14 Locker Set Up Day (practice your combination & store your supplies) 8/14 from 1:30 pm - 6:00 pm For more information visit www.op97.org/julian

Time	Topic	Discussion Leader(s)	Key Meeting Outcomes
0 min	Action Items and Discussion Items for Follow-up <i>Review status of open action items and parking lot items from previous meeting(s)</i>	Co-Presidents	
5 min	Meeting Adjourned <i>A motion should be made, seconded, and passed to adjourn</i>	Co-Presidents	Motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded and APPROVED .

Action Items Tracker

Action Item	Date Assigned	Assigned To	Target Due Date	Current Status	Comments
•	•	•	•	•	•

Decisions Tracker

Decision	Date Made	Who Was Involved	Comments
•	•	•	•

Parking Lot Tracker

Parking Lot Item	Date Identified	Current Status
•	•	•

Committee Updates/Reports

PTO Committee	Chair(s) / Team	Major Event	Date	Update	Decisions / Support Needed
• Presidents	• Karley Wyss	• Welcome Back Coffee & Donuts	• Aug 22	•	• mannpresident@
		• New Family Welcome Potluck	• Sep 19	•	•
- Kindergarten Liaison	• Ashley Zak • Amanda Shaker • Anna Kakos	• Kindergarten Meet & Greet	• Aug 20	•	• kindergartenliaison@
- 5 th Grade Ceremony	• Megan Elsner	•	• Jun 3	•	• 5thgradeliaison@
• Diversity	• Kate Morgan	• Mann Culture Night	• April 11	•	• manndivco@
- Assemblies	• Emilie Caulfield	•	•	•	• assemblies@
• Fundraising	• Kim Luckey	•	•	•	• fundraising@
- Art Appreciation	- Karley Wyss	• Art Appreciation	• Oct-Feb	•	• mannpresident@
- Mannapalooza	- Gauri Khatkhate	• Mannapalooza	• Mar 8	•	• mannapalooza@
- Mann on the Run	- Therese Burkle	• Mann on the Run	• ??	•	• funrun@
- School Supply Kits	- Gina Demes	• School Supply Kits	• Early Jun	•	• supplykits@
• Communications	• Betsy Riley	•	•	•	• communications@
- Social Media	• Erin Cottingham	•	•	•	• socialmedia@
- Yearbook	• Katie Zapata	•	• March 1	•	• yearbook@
• Volunteer Coordinator	• Julie Spyrisson	•	•	•	• volunteers@
- Green Initiative	• Chris Anderson	•	•	•	• greeninitiative@
+ Indoor Composting	• Melissa Lobring	•	•	•	• composting@
+ Outdoor Gardening	• Chris Anderson	•	•	•	• greeninitiative!

PTO Committee	Chair(s) / Team	Major Event	Date	Update	Decisions / Support Needed
- T-Shirts	Kate Odom	8/23 return to school 8/31 room parents identified 9/8 class mascot and name selected. 9/29 deadline for room parents to submit t-shirt package. Package includes shirt size, design and color. 11/13 All shirts delivered to the students.	Nov	- T-shirts distributed - Invoice Paid in Full	tshirts@mannpto.org
- Special Events	- LauraThomphsen - Elizabeth Marklein				specialevents@
+ Back to School Bash	- Laura Thompshen - Elizabeth Marklein	Back to School Bash	Aug 20		Special events@
+ Olympic Day	Pete Wessel		May 29		olympicday@
• MannPower	- Erica Wessel - Pete Senechelle	Fall Sign-up	Aug 26		mannpower@

Key Mann Initiatives

Mann Initiative	Chair(s) / Team	Date	Update	PTO Support Needed?
• Kindergarten Open House	Ashley, Amanda, Anna	Aug 20	Successful	
• All School Supply Drop-off	Karley	Aug 20	Successful	
• Curriculum Night	Karley	Sep 5	Successful	
• Picture Day	Katie Zapata	Sep 27	Retakes on ??? Nov. 21 or 20th	
• RunTough for Team Owen	Julie Spyrison	Sep 28	Successful - Community raised 100K for pediatric cancer research	
• Custodian Appreciation Day	Laura & Elizabeth	Oct 2	Amazon Gift Cards to Mr. Johnson/Staff	

Mann Initiative	Chair(s) / Team	Date	Update	PTO Support Needed?
• Autumn Garden Clean-up and S'mores	• Chris Anderson	• Oct 5	• Successful	•
• Fall Bookfair	• Ms. Baylian	• Oct 21-24	• Online - No Winter Bookfair	•
• Fall Teacher Luncheon/Coffee Bar	• Laura & Elizabeth	• Oct 24	• Successful	•
• Halloween Parade	• Principal Ali	• Oct 31	• Successful	•
• Turkey Trot	• Ms. Garcia	• Nov. 6	• Successful	•
• Winter Choral Concert	• Ms. Acosta	• Dec. 3	• Successful	•
• Instrumental Music Concert	• Mr. Bigeck	• Dec. 5	• Successful	•
• Affinity Family Focus Group	• Principal Ali	•	•	•
• Winter Book Fair	• Ms. Baylian	• Feb	• Online	
• Winter Teacher Luncheon/Coffee Bar	• Principal Ali	• Feb	• Successful	•
• Mannapalooza	• Kim Luckey	• March 8	• Successful	•
• Chicago Wolves Game	• Mr. Hayward	• March 9	•	•
• Social Worker Appreciation Week	• Laura & Elizabeth	• Mar 18	•	•
• School Librarian Appreciation Day	• Laura & Elizabeth	• Apr 4	•	•
• Mann Culture Night	• Kate Odom	• April 11	• location: Mann at 6:30pm	•
• Administrative Assistant Appreciation Week	• Laura & Elizabeth	• Apr 23	•	•
• Spring Choral Concert	• Mr. McKinney	• April 28	• location: OPRF at 7pm	•
• Teacher Appreciation Week	• Laura & Elizabeth	• May 5-9	•	•
• Nurses Appreciation Week	• Laura & Elizabeth	• May 5-9	•	•
• Spring Sing K/1/2	• Ms. Ventura	• May 7	•	•
• Spring Sing 3/4/5	• Ms. Ventura	• May 8	•	•
• Variety Show	• Ms. Datz & Ms. Baylian	• Mar 20-21	•	•
• 5 th Grade Outdoor Ed	• Mr. Narvaez	• May 27	•	•
• 5 th Grade Celebration	• Megan Elsner	• June 2	•	•