

August 11 Pizitz Middle School PTO Meeting

Welcome Katie Howell, President

-Katie H. began meeting at 12pm.

-Dr. Hunsberger introduced admin staff.

- Donna Morgan – 6th graders – scheduling and course selection.
- Ashley Perry – 7th graders – events around school (awards day), video, web maintenance, carpool, lockers, testing, etc.
- Russell Leonard – 8th grade, facilities (plans, custodians), attendance.

Pizitz Teacher Tips and Tricks Michaela Spence (instructional partner)

Michaela was previously a Science teacher at Pizitz and is now an instructional coach for all of the Pizitz teachers. Today's tip is how to use Google classroom, which is platform to find all things for your student.

- All kids have access to Google classroom. Students should have a classroom for each of their classes. On the homepage, they can click on any classroom. The stream page comes up first and is a running log of announcements.
- To understand your child's classwork, click on the classwork tab at the top. It is organized by weeks.
- The WAAG is usually posted at the top of the classwork tab, or within the week link. The WAAG will have the daily activities and often includes hyperlinks to additional materials.
- Unit guides will sometimes be linked at the bottom for an overall view of the curriculum.
- There are icons on the left of each item posted. The bookmark is a resource that the teacher has posted but doesn't require action. The clipboard with lines icons signals an assignment. If your child clicks into the document, they'll have something to turn in. It's important to ensure child is hitting the "submit" button. Grades tab is not utilized.

Officer Reports

-President

Katie Howell

- Gave overview of Institute day. Pizitz was the only school present to perform a song. It was a great experience to learn how amazing Pizitz is.
- Quick shout out on the success of Private Preview Day, Hospitality Back-to-School Lunch, Supply Sale, MTK, Community Partners, and Spirit Shop. Private preview day went well.

-President Elect

Lindsay Almond

- All grants will be due on the 12th.

-Treasurer/ Treasurer Elect

Jamie McClure

- A hard copy of the budget was shared.
- The budget was approved.

-VP Communication (MTK)

Anne Michelle Barnett

- As of May 1, we have 530 members that brought in approximately \$6,000. All in about \$11,000.
- Mary shared homeroom students with Anne Michelle. She is working on getting those into MTK.
- Working with Jamie to finalize supply sale. They figured out an in-person shop this year.
- One more push for membership, and then will start assigning students.

Katie shared that it was really helpful that Jamie and Anne Michelle figured out a way to provide tap and pay for the supply sale this year.

-VP Community Partners

Brittany Jones

- We are at \$30,000 – cash and in-kind donations.
- Council level has been fantastic and provided another \$13,500.
- Mountain High Outfitters has been so generous with gift cards for faculty.
- Be sure to shop with these community partners.
- We are going to try and do more hospitality. More Sunshine Committee.
- If a committee needs something, Brittany can try and find the funds.

Committee Reports:

-Teacher Feature/ Newsletters

Beth Anne Loudermilk

- The teacher feature is finished. Ashley Perry is uploading.
- This year adding what each teacher does extra – coach, sponsor, etc.
- There will be 4 newsletters – spotlighting PTO, sports, etc. There is typically one every 9 weeks.

-Homeroom Parents

Lindsey DeRieux

- If you're new to Pizitz, being a room parent is a great way to get involved. It's not an overwhelming job. It is really just a two-day commitment.

- There are two parties throughout the year that we handle for your child's academic strategies teacher. A holiday and end-of-year party. The room mom coordinates the food.
- The sign-up will go out the week of Aug. 25 to all PTO members.
- There are two room moms per class.
- It's not a big commitment and is a great way to get involved in the school.
- There will be a meeting in October to go over the details.

-Supply Sale

Deana Callison, Andi Marquez

- The Supply Sale was a big success. We are still waiting on the final numbers. It's looking like we will surpass last year's totals.

-Spirit Shop

Tracy Thornton

- Alex Ryan and Bob Barker at Big Color are working on a Spirit Shop geared towards middle school and older kids (more Aviator Nation, Daily Drills looks). Plan to launch in a week or so.
- Going to go through School Shares. PTO at Pizitz will be the first to use school shares for the Spirit Shop.
- The Shares card has done really well. It's a digital discount card. It's split 50/50. Next year it will go directly into the School Shares account.
- Also handling lost and found.

-Hospitality

Holli Carr, Melissa Wood

- Back to school lunch went well. Brittany Jones handled. We have a December and end of year lunch planned. Iz too did the box lunches for back to school.

-Sunshine Committee and Landon Nash

Angela Marshall, Ali Pilcher,

- Once a month, we will be dropping off a treat to the conference room. They have already confirmed all of the dates and let the front office know. They will be trying to use community partners.

-Teacher Workroom Volunteers

Hollye Stigler

- We need volunteers to work in the work room making copies. It's a great behind-the-scenes job. Volunteers come on the first Monday of every month and spend an hour and a half to two hours making copies. If possible, please try and stay to finish the copying job you start. If you're interested, let Hollye know. This will begin in September.

-Faculty Representative Report

Button Smith

- We will be having an online book fair (books only – no extras) this year from Sept. 15-30. Everything will be done online. You'll pay online and the books will be delivered to the school. Information will go to the English teachers.
- Last year, we planned to have Jordan Sonnenblick (author of Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie), but he got sick. He is going to try and come this February.

-Administrative Report

Alicia Hunsberger

- Thanked everyone for all of the support this summer.
- Have a smaller group of students this year. It's been a great start to the year.
- School goals – empowering students to be leaders. Meeting with 8th grade classes about leadership skills. "Creating conditions that allow people to do their work" is Alicia's favorite quote. Talked about the idea of being a leadership class – courage, integrity, and what is it that we're communicating to the world around us. Asked 8th graders to model leadership.
- As a district launching new strategic plan – safety, character, excellence, and community.
- Mentioned being proud of 8th graders for being leaders during the medical emergency on Friday during the pep rally.
- New bells and apps.
- Will continue to have drills and lock down practices. Kids will know that it is a drill.
- Goal is effective teaching in every classroom – grading practices, teaching, etc. Asking teachers to be having good discussions about what grades represent. It's not about bringing extra things, it's about where is your child in the trajectory of learning. It's a big jump from elementary. It's a learning curve to understand where they are and how they can improve. Adding an assessment of students work habits. This will happen in academic strategies – completing homework regularly, respecting authority in classroom, etc. At the end of the 9 weeks, you will get a report with the report card about where the teacher feels they are. Our goal is for parents to know more about work habits and be equipped to have these conversations.
- Asking students to set personal and school work goals.
- Parent orientation is Wednesday. Upper gym for first 10 minutes, and then go to core 4 classes.

Katie closed meeting at 12:46.

Upcoming Pizitz Middle School PTO Dates:

Aug 13th

Parent Orientation 6th 4:30-5:30

7th 6:00-7:00, 8th 7:30-8:30

Sept 1st

No School- Labor Day

Sept 8th

PTO Meeting at noon

Sept 12th
Staff

Grant Submissions due from Faculty/

Fall PTO Meetings:

Sept 8th 12:00

Oct 6th 12:00

Nov 3rd 12:00