



Middle School PTO Meeting MINUTES



Date: October 22, 2024 Time: 2:15 pm Location: Virtual

1: Attendance

- Jamie Holmes, Nancy Beckwith, Tricia Craig, Megan Guthrie, Margaret Rich, Katie Mills, Karen Wiczynski, Amy Dobski, Allison Hammer, Janine Jones, Alysha Glazier, Andy McCarthy, Jen Carberry, Jen Martinson, Jess Anderson, Julia Fruscione, Leslie Moesta, Patti Demins, Silvia Dubinsky

2: Budget

Stony- Minor Updates based on recent bank transactions reviewed

Blanchard- Minor Updates based on recent bank transactions reviewed

3. No Fuss Fundraiser Update

Stony \$8940.00 (23% participation, almost 60% of goal)

Blanchard \$8071 (54% of goal) 102 donors (19% participation)

Discussed other way to advertise and get people to donate:

-send consecutive texts in order to use more characters; possibly shorten URL

-remind parents that this is NO FUSS / SIMPLE / EASY fundraiser; remind them what we are NOT doing (not selling wrapping paper or candy or plants)

-consider grade specific asks/reminders with PTO funded initiatives (like Ancient Egypt and Jack Gantos just occurred)

-use old yard signs to use as more of a general reminder

-possibly putting QR codes at some local businesses

-be more outright with the ask "we need this \$\$...costs this much..."

4: Academic Enrichment Programs (AEP)

FALL PROGRAMS: Ancient Egypt (Grade 7 fall program) happened October 1 & 2nd- [Results of survey here](#) Jack Gantos (Grade 6 program) happened 10/21 (Survey results pending) Discovery Museum to **Blanchard December 5&6 (Grade 8 program) Save the date and get those coris in, looking for volunteers)**

WINTER PROGRAM: Sub Zero to Stonybrook 2/5 (Grade 8 program)

SPRING PROGRAMS:

Mythmasters (Grade 7) June 11, Contract pending.

Midsummer Night's Dream (Grade 8) June 2 requested, awaiting performance schedule

***New Inca Son (Grade 6 program)** "potential" date March 13 or 21st (Grant applied for by the band- if the grant comes through we book? If not, may be cost prohibitive)

***Greg Tang- (Grade 6 program)** Greg is asking for potential spring dates from us, and then he can let us know his schedule. (He's just starting to think about Spring) Will be about a little over 1K per school ~750 +300 travel if he's already on the east coast) if we have him come here, and 600 per school if he does a remote program. (Maybe we book a remote program to start and see how it goes?)- we would do in-person, not remote

Depending on the financial look in November/December? ***Rob Surette-** Whole School program (in Gym) should we book? \$1500 per school

5. Teacher Appreciation

Stony- Muddy Water Coffee Truck was a success, may look into teachers pre-ordering if we do this again. We will do a grab & go breakfast in November/December



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Blanchard- Looking to do an appreciation in December. Will be looking at the budget numbers with Janine to see what they can do for this.

6: 8th Grade Dance-

potentially at WA this year- Friday 6/13... would need to pay for janitors due to clean up \$360-\$450 for their services. Vote to approve taking on this overhead in addition to decorations and DJ cost and hosting at WA. **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY TO TAKE ON ADDITIONAL COST AND BOOK AT WA**

7: Joint Volleyball Game-

potentially at WA this year- on a Thursday in March at 3pm. Would need assistance from staff to Play in the game and also to assist with crowd and bench management. Staff feedback/ interest form Created to be sent out by principals.- *Discussed potential concerns from previous years. Plan to book at WA, still need to confirm a Blanchard staff organizer. Ms. Craig happy to share tips and tricks to make sure fair play, control of game, etc. We will reach out to the volleyball coach/team to see if they would be interested in assisting.*

8: Meeting Times

We will discuss the results of the survey and our meeting times moving forward. *Meeting time survey showed that the majority prefers the 2:15pm meetings, but Blanchard admin still has concerns over attendance, especially from staff. Blanchard exec board prefer the 2:15 meeting, but are willing to do 7am if it includes more people. Stony Brook only has 1 staff member available at the 7am time and it is a more difficult time for their executive board. Our joint meetings will continue at the 2:15pm time, but for November our meetings will be separate. **Blanchard will do a 7am meeting on Tuesday 11/19 and Stony Brook will do a 2:15pm meeting on Tuesday 11/19. Our parent/admin only on December 17th will remain as a joint meeting at 2:15pm***