Roxboro Road Middle School PTO

June 10, 2024, Meeting

Meeting called to order: _6:02 PM_____

May minutes approved: 1st: Ashley Mellone, 2nd: Melissa Brigandi

Attendance: Melissa O'Brien, Amanda Pollard, Olivia Coloton, Kaitlyn Yager, Nikki Bomasuto, Kristen Ordway, Mary Olson, Molly Wright, Melissa Brown, Brian Nicholas, Samantha Nicholas, Mallary Graber, Kelly Henderson, Kim Waddington, Michelle Wede, Melissa Briganidi, Ashely Mellone and Marsha Fiesinger

Old Business:

Current PTO Board elected in March introduced themselves.

Nominations will be held and August meeting.

New Business:

Treasurers Report: Accounts prior to new board were closed. Checking: $0.00, Savings: $1.99 – Check received. Waiting to hear what the district treasurer would like us to do with it.

President and Vice President update: Page 2

Amanda Pollard: Is looking into ordering Mango shirts. Please reach out to her if you would to order.

7th grade sendoff is 9:45-1:20 on June 21st.

Publicity/social media: Website has all PTO meeting info. New Facebook page and website. On website will be PTO bios, minutes and bylaws will be added.

Feedback from survey was consistency with dates and time of meeting and better system to sign up to volunteer for events.

Back to school barbeque: PTO and Elementary PTO will meet to figure out what the plan is going to be.

Going to look into shop with a cop. PTO does not think this should not be affected for next year, need to speak with Deputy Mike.

Meeting adjourned: _6:53 pm

Next meeting scheduled for July 15th at 5:30 pm, in the salina library. Virtual session info is as follows:

https://us05web.zoom.us/j/87352059861?pwd=ly3Moi2ebMWmdbyR1qsuaj8v4eva6h.1

Meeting ID: 873 5205 9861, Passcode: rX3sK8

President & Vice President Update:

We would like to take some time to go over the questions from the survey as well as give you an update on the PTO.

- We understand that there is some frustration around the following:
    - Time Commitment:
        - Sometimes there is a misconception about the PTO. People tend to think that you have to be a board member to attend the meetings. This is not at all true. We encourage you to attend to help us be able to provide the kids with events and opportunities. We understand that in the past some people have felt that the board was not open to suggestions. With the new board we can assure you that is not the case. Now more than ever we need your support and ideas. We also encourage you to reach out via Facebook messenger or via email with any suggestions, ideas or questions! roxmiddlepto@gmail.com
    - Meetings being disorganized, frustration with meetings being cancelled and virtual connection issues.
        - We have been doing meeting since March and have had a consistent schedule of meetings every month on Thursdays with the exception of tonight's meeting. We understand this may not be feasible for some, but we can always revisit the day that we hold meetings. We can also schedule the meetings for the entire year that way you can plan ahead so you can try to be there. If not, we are now offering virtual for an option as well. We also post the meetings up on our website page and you can read through them if unable to attend.
        - We understand in the past that you would like to volunteer for events but never received information on how to do so. Once we start having events again, we can announce on Facebook, Instagram and parent square that volunteers are needed. We can use sign up genius to help us coordinate volunteers as well.
    - Two Facebook pages is confusing:
        - Great news! We are no longer posting to both pages. We will strictly be posting to our new Facebook page. The other one will only have the occasional post to remind folks to unlike the old page and like the new one.
        - We also created a website. Here you can learn about our board, see our minutes, find our bylaws/office descriptions, any spirit wear sales, did you know?, etc. Once we can hold events again, we can post a list of these events and their dates also.
        - We also consistently provide the principal with information to post to parent square.

We know you have a lot of questions about what is happening with the PTO right now and we would like to take the time to give you all the information from start to finish that was presented at the meetings recently.

- As you know, a new board was elected back in March. The principal reached out to us to let us know that there were some invoices that were past due. This prompted Melissa and Ashley to do some investigating and reached out to vendors the PTO did business with in the last few years.
    - There is an estimated amount of $35,313.65 in past due invoices that were not paid.
    - We know there is an approximate amount of $6,856.62 that was earned in fundraising. We understand that this number is low and that there is potentially more money that we are unaware of.
- Melissa, Ashley & Marsha then went to the bank. Melissa and Ashley added themselves to the accounts, received the statements from the previous year (bank would not go back farther than a year) and closed out the accounts all in the same day.
    - Checking account had a $0.00 balance.
    - Savings account had a $1.99 balance. (Check was issued to the school. Principal did not want to accept the check. Vice President still currently has the check and is awaiting a response from the districts treasurer on what to do with the check).
    - The bank statements revealed that there were misappropriations of funds.
- At this point, Melissa and Ashley reached out to the deputy in the school and subsequently a police report was filed.
- **We are unable to disclose any information about the suspect currently. Although we understand your frustration with that, we cannot say anything further to compromise the investigation. All we can say further at this time is that there is one sole suspect and the sheriff's department, and DA's office are currently investigating.**
- You want to know more about what we can and cannot do at this time.
    - Currently the taxes have not filed since 2017. This means that after 3 years (2020) if the taxes are not paid our EIN # and 501 3c is revoked. This means as a non-profit we cannot have a business bank account and we legally cannot fundraise or receive any donations including monetary contributions.
        - We understand that this is super frustrating. It is to us as well. The district has been helping us investigate how we can get our EIN reinstated. The IRS stated that we would need to dissolve the PTO and start over, but this would involve filing 990 forms for taxes. We cannot do this because we do not know how much we earned or how much was truly spent. It also means we would owe back taxes as well as fees to do it. We don't have the funds to do this. We have also reached out to the DAs office to see if they can provide us with any information on what our next steps are. We are waiting to hear back.
        - Unfortunately, we do not have access to a lawyer due to lack of funds. We have called all local law schools and reached out to community-based lawyers. They

are unable to help us currently. If you know of a community member or parent who is a lawyer and may be willing to advise us pro bono, please have them reach out to us via email.

- A lot of people have been asking about the Rox Trot. The Rox Trot is not an event that the PTO organizes. It is put on by the PE department. We have not heard of any plans that thiis event will take place this year. The PTO in the past has just provided the water and snacks and this year we are unable to do so.
    - We understand this is frustrating. With less than a month left of school, the PTO simply does not have the time to be able to put this event together right now.
        - Regarding the money that was raised in previous years, the donations were supposed to be given to the school district to provide us with a new track, and to help with events. Why they chose to donate part of the money to a local charity instead of it going back to the school to help with other things needed, we are not sure. Sadly, we can't give you an answer to that.
- Right now, what we do to get back on track is all a waiting game. We must wait until a possible arrest is made so that we have the documentation to provide to the IRS in hopes that we are able to dissolve the PTO and start fresh without any penalties.

o We are finding ways to be creative around making things happen for our children. This is where we need your help. Let's come together and brainstorm ways to improve our fundraising efforts.