

PTO MEETING 3/13/24 - Virtual

Called to order at 7:07pm.

In attendance: Rebecca Pineault, Jess Smith, Alison Sullivan, Shannon O'Brien, Kristen Nill, Liz Klish, Lisabeth Jorgeson, Meghan Bradford, Abigail Fusaro, Katrina Knights, Reema Smith and "iphone" - would not identify themselves

Review and approval of meetings from 1/31/24 meeting. Board approved, will be posted to the website for public access.

President's Report: Rebecca Pineault

- Teacher appreciation is the week of May 6th. Will have sign up if anyone wants to help on a specific day of that week.
- Tentative date of 5/17 for spring dance, confirmed gym availability with school.
 - Kristen Nill offered tips from old board: charge for event to at least cover the DJ, maybe a free giveaway of popcorn or something. Maybe a raffle to give away dance tickets, offer tickets to families that might need them (guidance would have them).
 - Liz Klish - SEPAC member, inclusivity advisor offered tips for making event inclusive to all. Also advertising that to families. Utilizing OT room, early start time with lights on and music low for instance.
 - Lisabeth Jorgensen - making inclusivity ingrained into PTO planning without having a SEPAC member saying it.
 - Vote to have a spring dance: long discussion about a community event loved by all vs the cost of it. No objection to having a dance.
 - Charging per family discussion brought up - guidance can give a list of kids who might need financial assistance.
 - Liz asked if we need a police detail - depends on numbers, but not if we don't know the numbers ahead/sell at the door.
- Volunteers for carnival needed! Board meeting with old board next week to gather more info. Plea for volunteers from Rebecca.
- Kristen Nill booked bounce houses (Busy Bee Jumpers) are booked for 6/14. Pluses and minuses from last year discussed. Tap into HS volunteers. One suggestion was to put out there that "if we are not 80% staffed by whatever date, the carnival will not happen".
- Liz K suggested sending sign up sheet out sooner.
- Alison suggested incentivizing HS kids with things (giveaways like free prom tickets?).
- Liz K suggested giving stats - how much it costs to run, what it makes, what it pays for so people know and that might make them be incentivized.
- PTO will circulate a preliminary sign up so people can put their name on the events that they are interested in helping with. Sign up genius forms will go out closer to events for specific tasks.

- How do we get volunteers?
- Liz suggested offering information of what wouldn't happen if PTO didn't fundraise/ sending out an email of what the PTO does and what they pay for.
- Kristen spoke to volunteer problems in general at Lilja in the past and ongoing.

Treasurer's Report: Jess Murphy

- Pilates fundraiser total: \$610 raised. Thanks to Casey Shevin for running with it.
- Would posting a loose balance sheet be helpful to what our funds are being distributed/allocated? Open to suggestions. Jess is happy to put something more specific on the bog.
- Tax time, will review with Kristen the CPA used in the past. Looking forward will try to find a free CPA, utilize resources of the PCC.

Ongoing/Upcoming Fundraisers: Shannon O'Brien

- 4th grade committee events: pizza & a movie ½ day event today was successful and raised approx. \$1,000 for 4th grade fundraising efforts.
- Scrub-a-Dub: Jess suggested room parents push out info for scrub-a-dub info. Thanks to Kate Grzesiuk for organizing and dressing as the Lilja lion today to hand out flyers!
- Talking about issues around people subscribing to information/newsletter. Shelby gets about 200 readers for her blasts, Alison our last newsletter was opened 295 times (could be repeat readers opening to check something, no way to know that).
- Jess asked about a paper print out? In the past they have for certain events, trying to be environmentally aware.
- Rebecca talked about how parents aren't activated by the newsletters.

Bookfair Update: Kristina Law not on call. Sent update to PTO. 4/24-4/27. Sign up genius for specific dates will be available by the end of month (decorating, setup, working the fair, cleaning up, etc.). Time slots will be finalized soon.

Cultural Arts Update: Meghan Cobb not on call. Sent update to PTO. 4th grade to MoS at end of month. Recently the Discovery Museum was in to talk to 4th grade about lights & lasers and also recently came to talk to younger grades about Force/Motion.

Yearbook Update: Shahnaz Islam not on call. Will make ordering available soon (\$25 per book). Will send image of cover for PTO to put on site. Finalizing design/layout over April break and sending to print.

To table for next time: is there an app we can use or how can we make messaging easier/better for parents to receive?

Open floor to public for questions/announcements: Nothing additional

Adjournment 8:25pm.