

## **KES PTO General Membership Meeting Minutes**

**November 20, 2024 at 7:30 PM**

### **KES Stream Lab**

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Winter Wonderland Update – Formerly Holiday Fair or Boutique will be Sat Dec 7<sup>th</sup> 11 – 3 pm – there will be a change of format this year to focus on student makers market. Sold out student spots (35 booths); Alumni corner with middle school students; a few business sponsors; lots of fun festive activities (photographer, Random Farms children's theater, ornament making, cookie decorating, scholastic book fair pop up), will coincide with holiday plant sale (pick up at the boutique) and spirit wear launch. Email reminder will go out this Friday.
3. Technology Update: Chris Nelson (Director)
  - Provides Tech Support for Elementary, Middle, and High School
  - Goal is to support and enhance the learning process across grades and schools
  - 5<sup>th</sup> year with student issued devices
  - Covid response was reactive but now moving more towards a more intentional and purposeful approach to tech in the classroom
  - District wide tech committee – explores trends, evolving tech, leads decision making on what tools to use, lots of dialogue and debate, also rely on state for guidance NYSED Comp Science and Digital Fluency Standards. They've asked now to provide data on performance. NY State Requirement - every 3 years need to provide tech plan to the state for funding. BOE will receive a presentation on a Current State survey (compiled a 90 page report) and next step is to craft a plan based on that.
  - One to One Devices – benefits include personalized learning, enhanced engagement, preparing for the future, and flexibility for diverse learning styles.
  - Will typing be required? Digital state tests require some competency in this area (ELA for example). Seeing a gap in that area at the Elementary level. Look for ways to find time in curriculum to teach along with at home learning.
  - Reviewed software and tools at different grade levels (Seesaw, IXL, BrainPoP, Padlet, Typing Club, Schoology)
  - FAQs – all k-5 students have devices, they don't travel home, parent controls are available, LinWize provides internal controls and there's a home piece that is for

parents called Quistidio (can put on all devices). Shared QR codes with information – reach out to office with any questions on how to use.

- AI and plagiarism – filter categorizes and narrows using to 3 AI sites - School AI, Blackout Browsers lock students in so they can't explore and cut/paste, still learning but a great opportunity to teach academic integrity. Nature of work requires deeper thinking. "Turn it In" program reviews for plagiarism at the High School level.
  - Working with PTO to have a Screenager screening in early Feb/Spring at the Bedford Playhouse
4. Review Sept GMM Minutes – Approved
  5. Fall at a Glance – Successful Halloween Fair, KES Spirit Wear for Halloween Fair was great and there are items available for holidays, and Holiday Share Food Drive happening now – delivery is Fri at 4 pm
  6. Certificates of Appreciation – Thank Yous – 5<sup>th</sup> grade Pie sales – Ali and Anatasia; Tanya and Amber for leading Halloween Fair and ALL the volunteers.
  7. Treasurer's Budget Report –
    - **Funds Raised:**
      1. 5th Grade - nearly \$1000 raised
      2. Halloween - close to \$10K goal
      3. Buddy's Bonus Activities - successful fall session
      4. Spirit Wear - \$800 away from \$2000 goal
    - **Planned Changes:**
      1. December budget forward will be based on checks issues, not checks clears - better view of budget line items for planning purposes
      2. Moving budget software to vendor designed for PTOs (will help with transitions and will allow for reporting the budget, planning and goal setting)
      3. Streamlines budget tracking & Reporting
      4. Smoother transition during role changes
      5. Direct expense submission (TBD)
  8. Spread the Word – Minted fundraiser 20% off, Label it Up and Deciccos. Spread the word that all Lost and Found items will be donated over the Holiday Break.
  9. Fall Committee Updates (see PPT for full list)

- Book Fair – in line with PARP (Starry Story Night kick off). There will be a scholastic pop up during Holiday Boutique (plus an online component).
- Fifth Grade – Hot Coco stand at Holiday Boutique; New Memory Keeper instead of tiles, will meet with Cristy; Pie pick up 11:30-3.
- Kim Buckley - Thanks to the PTO from teachers for the Coffee Bar yesterday!

#### 10. Volunteers Needed (*see upcoming events below in Save the Dates*)

- Get involved in helping the PTO fulfill its mission of enriching our student's lives. Open opportunities include:
  - Sharing Drive Delivery
  - Holiday Fair Volunteers
  - Wrap Night Volunteers
  - Corresponding Committee Chair
- If interested and want to know more? Email [VicePresident@kespto.com](mailto:VicePresident@kespto.com)
- Look at incoming K parent meet up/orientation and get them engaged early
- PTO will reach out to coordinate a Focus Group to learn more about how we can engage parents.

#### 11. Save the Dates:

- Upcoming Board of Ed Meetings: 11/21
- Last Day of Holiday Share Drive, 11/21
- Holiday Share Drive Delivery, 11/22 4PM
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Thanksgiving Parade 11/27
- KES Spirit Day, 11/27
- Scholastic Pop-Up Sale, Early December
- Winter Holiday Fair, 12/7
- Holiday Gift Drive, 12/2 - 12/16
- Wrap Night, 12/17
- KES Spirit Day & 5th Grade vs. Faculty Volleyball Game, 12/20

#### 12. Open Forum

