Roosevelt Middle School PTO *September Meeting*

10/2/26 • 8:30 am • RMS Teachers' Lounge • virtual link

Present: Carolyn Sherman, Candice Singh, Megan Mackie, Genevieve Jones, Mia Esposito, Libby Kelly, Roshni Richhetti, Erin Llanes, Liz Stetson, Camille McLamb, Alexis Agema, Kelly Abood, Christina Ricordati, Tina Steketee, Mark Geweke, Stephanie Rath, and Nura Yanaki.

Meeting called to order at 8:30 am

Call to Order & Approve Minutes (Carolyn Sherman)

- September Meeting minutes approved with exception of date and that Genevieve Jones was not present

Leadership Report (Tina Steketee, Mark Geweke)

Principal Report - Tina Steketee

- Safety Plan
  - D90 is in process of reviewing the safety plan – Ad code team. Roosevelt has met twice with safety team. Current plan is based on "I love you guys" response
  - Lock down from last spring triggered review
  - Hold, secure, lock down. Purpose is for teachers to have muscle memory
  - High school also uses "I love you guys" – focused on communication to families and improving messaging
- Social studies pilot
  - Social Studies teachers decided to pilot a program from Teachers Curriculum Institute
  - It's underway – tech heavy as it is an active learning platform which provides first source documents and videos on iPads then turn to discussion
  - Challenge: keeping the kids off the iPads as trying to be more intentional with usage of tech
- Fall conferences
  - On Nov 11 and 12 and will open Monday Oct 5 at 10 am. Link will be in the weekly
  - Pro tip: contact teachers ahead of time. Reach out and give teachers heads up on issues to discuss
- Bulldog Breakfast
  - First breakfast last Friday. Thank you to PTO . Made almost 200 pancakes . Kids said they were the best pancakes!
  - 3 more – quarterly – each time about 100 kids
  - Lots of compliments and thank yous for GF kids
- Q1 ends on Oct 23
- Nov 6 – 7th grade dance in South Gym

Mark Geweke

- Cross County wrap ups soon. Sectionals in a week.
- Girls Basketball started this week and Boys basketball meeting next week for 7th and 8th grade then tryouts to follow week after that

President Report (Carolyn Sherman, Jessica Mefford)

- Donation from Bike Exchange
  - Got donation from last year's bike exchange for $300 from Lindsey
- Parent Social

    - There is a $200 budget for 5th grade parent social. There are no other budgets for other grades but just ask PTO!
- Teacher Grants
    - The teachers met with principal and updated the form and Tina converted it into a google form and moved up the dates so that there is more time in the year to use them.
    - The PTO gives $100/club but one off requests can be made for additional support
    - Approval is based on what will have the biggest impact and reach
- 8th grade Field Day
    - 8th grade field day was reimagined but was able to raise about $2,000 that they will use toward 8th grade gift
    - Fundraiser was based on a run - $20.26 donation for each kid to participate in a walk a thon
    - There were team building, games, caterpillar games. The PTO is also with the Art teachers to find a class gift idea which will likely be an art installation
    - It was nice to have less structure and more time to socialize
- Field trips
    - Will be able to visit holocaust museum
    - Adding a trip to science and industry museum
- Thank Yous
    - Courtney and Melissa
        - Thank you for coordinating Adventure Ed t-shirts
    - Fun lunch
        - Thank you to all that have been helping out

Treasurer Report (Candy Singh)

- Nothing spectacular happened in September
- 8th grade donation was deposited
- Tax returns are done – hired a tax accountant but Candy works closely with her to complete returns

Cash Balance as of 9/30/2026	Key Expenditures (September)	Key Revenues (September)
$106,077.35	Free Pizza Fun Lunch: $1,579 Spirit Wear (new staff & fee waiver kids): $612 Bulldog B-days: $713.54	School Supplies: $3,722 8th Grade Donation: $1,913

Committee Reports

Spelling Bee (10/14) – Christina Ricordati

- Will take place in less than 2 weeks and will take place in auditorium
- There are many people signed up but mostly the younger kids. We are unsure if any 8th graders signed up
- Deadline for signing up by end of Oct 5
- Kids can sign up in the office but the sign up requires information more than just their names. Lisa to run Powerschool report to provide the missing information
- Cindy Rubin will be the parent reader but there will be a teacher acting as judge
- Christina will make new numbers that can be reused over the years
- Guides available at the office
- There is $500/budget
    - $200 will be for registration
    - Gift card to teacher for participating
    - Supplies
- Reuse the video from last year created by Sarah Mayeda – Broadcast

Penny Wars - Genevieve Jones

- Penny Wars begins 10/19
- Service club is going to pick the recipient
    - Suggestion: crossing guards
- We are using pennies
- There will be a special day where dollars will be worth double
- Franks deli donated certificated for slushies – only 100 certificates
    - Candy to provide a tax receipt
- Whoever wins on Wednesday will get Oreos

7th Grade Coordinators – Megan

- Dance – glow in the dark theme
- DJ and photobooth are being vetted
- $10/registration
- Revenue from tickets covers the budget for the dance
- Suggested theme: "Let's GLOW Bulldogs" – posters available in google drive

8th grade coordinators – Kimberly

- Booked Friday May 21 at 19th Century club for 8th grade dance

Enrichment – Camile

- Tina reached out to teachers for suggestions for topics
- You Uplift (Doug Reavis) – "kindness" is the theme for 7th grade
    - His message is where he did things to fit in even though he knew it was wrong but turned around
    - Clips on his website are compelling
    - Contracts were sent this week and it will be booked soon
- Nov 23 the week before thanksgiving
- $2800 – 3 presentations: 5/6 grades together, 7th solo and 8th solo

Hospitality – Genevieve Jones

- Custodian day today –coffee mugs and $40 dunkin donuts gift card will be given to each of the 6 custodians
- Principals week – Oct 19th week
- 11/12 - Fall is parent teachers conf dinner

Fun Lunch - Roshni Richetti

- No more tropical smoothie – they do not want to participate anymore – losing it will affect bottom line
- Tropical Smoothie will stay until end of the semester
- Culvers no longer wants to participate on Fridays
- Fun lunch will be changing schedule for Q2 and Q3

Spirit Wear

- Goods will arrive in a week or so
- A handful of additional shirts were ordered to use for prizes or baskets
- Will be passed to homerooms and kids will bring them home
- PTO purchased spirit wear for fee waiver children and every new teacher gets to pick one new item – didn't buy for crossing guard bc didn't know their sizes
    - Suggestion for crossing guards: winter hats

Green 4 good - Claudia

- This week is walk and bike to school week
- 7/11 slushie
- 3 teracycle bins were ordered

Fundraising – new Chairs Andy and Natalie

- Chipotle raised $250
- Another coming up at Panera
- Happy Apple pot pie

New Business & Partner Announcements

- Fundraise for crossing guards
    - Last year $2000 was collected and $500 was given to each
    - Suggestions to partner with Lincoln and Willard were made, however, each of the schools rejected the partnership

Adjourn at 9:30 am

Upcoming Activities	How You Can Help
Walk and Bike to School Week- Oct 5 Spelling Bee- 1st Round-Oct 14 Penny Wars- Oct 19	● Check sign ups for volunteer opportunities ● Invite a friend to the next PTO meeting

Enhance and enrich the learning environment • Offer fun and educational opportunities for the school community • Model and encourage community service • Provide exposure to areas outside the curriculum