GO-PTO Meeting Minutes
November 7, 2023
Ottoson Middle School

Attendees:

Board Members: Garret Alyea, Aravind Basavapathruni, Jessica Douglass, Allison Drew, Janine Duffy, Shelly Fichera, Valerie Geary, Andrea Haas, A. David Lewis, Jessica Nordgren, Laura Tikonoff

Non-Board Members: Amanda White, Silvia Rodriquez (Gibbs Family Liaison), Joel Obermayer

- October 2023 Minutes accepted
- Amanda White - voted in as Vice President
- Treasurer Report
    - Spent $6940 on teachers - office products, sports equip, printer, drill, refurb computer
    - We've received over $7800 in donations
- Fundraising Updates
    - Appeal letters have gone out to families with a paypal link. It is listed in the newsletter.
    - Blue Ribbon night in December
    - We've received an inquiry from the Red Sox for spring tickets
    - Past fundraisers - Weco, A-Cafe, Dells, Blue Ribbon twice

Principals Time - Mme. Pierre-Maxwell and Mr. Meringer

- Ottoson
    - November is starting to get busier, end of quarter coming up, Minuteman trip occurring this Thursday for 8th graders
    - MM - about 100 students apply. We will have a few waves of students that get accepted.
    - The appreciation events are great for teachers.
    - I would like to brainstorm other things that we can bring in besides food (ex. Yoga studio could host, teacher lounge upgrade) interested in meeting with a few PTO members for ideas
    - Also thinking about getting speakers in sponsored by the PTO to reach out the parent community
- Gibbs
    - Update on the overnight experience for the students (science camp). We've selected Nature's Classroom. We will need to take 3 trips given the number of students. 3 days and 2 nights (April and 2 trips in May) Still

working on final costs. Approx. $404 per student plus transportation. We can only use town buses for the trip out to camp, but not the return. We are looking to have overnight nursing services. Teachers have the choice to go or stay at Gibbs. If they do go they have various choices of hours. Additional costs if we do not have enough teacher coverage. We are working with the Union to determine pay for staff that stay overnight. Nature's Classroom have their own policy on electronics for students and discipline. Possibly looking to invite parents for the overnight portion but not for daytime.

- Silvia Rodriguez - Family Liaison (first and only in the district)
  - We are looking to do various activities during the school year for the teachers - Breakfast 2x month, Nov 15 soup and bread, Jan potluck, Feb gratitude and appreciation month, April beautification month, May - invite families to clean and plant flowers and celebrate teacher appreciation week.
  - We had 51 families sign up to help out. We had our first breakfast for teachers and the teachers enjoyed it very much and we had bagels/donuts/coffee.

Next meeting date:

Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at 7pm at Gibbs Media Center