

Metro PTO Meeting November 9, 2022

Welcome and Introductions

- Meeting called to order at 6:32
- Angel W. highlighted goals and meeting norms for our PTO meetings
 - Goals:
 - Encourage parents' involvement in their child/childrens' education.
 - Support Metro staff, teachers and school community
 - Facilitate good communication between Metro staff, parents, students and school community at Metro
 - Grounding Rules:
 - Keep in mind that we may agree to disagree.
 - Be respectful of others
 - Do not interrupt
 - Stay on topic
 - Some concerns/issues may or may not be resolved at this meeting
- A moment of silence was held for the school communities of CVPA and Collegiate.
- All attendees introduced themselves.

Approve September Meeting Minutes:

- Tricia motions to approve October meeting minutes, Ami seconds; minutes approved.

Chairperson Report

1. Teacher Appreciation Activities and First Friday Breakfast
 - A. November: Sophomores provided breakfast for the staff, kolachis, juice.
 - B. December: Freshmen will provide breakfast in December
 - C. January: Seniors
 - D. February: Juniors
 - E. March: Sophomores
 - F. April: Freshman
 - G. May: everyone
2. Beautification (Patty G.):
 - A. 19 students came to the first semester beautification event, worked for four hours, accomplished a lot in the yard, including spreading mulch. Garden Club should take care of the bamboo.
3. Book Fair at Left Bank Books (Genyne)
 - A. Book fair is the weekend of 11/12-11/13 at Left Bank Books. On Saturday from 1-2, they will be doing a read aloud to young children. They are looking for a student to read, and we're looking for more student volunteers, especially Sunday. T
 - B. The online portion starts on the 11th and goes through the 25th.
 - C. Metro will receive 20% of proceeds from that weekend, as well as books off the teacher wish list.
4. Fund Drive

- A. Fund drive chairpeople are in contact with the administration of CVPA and Collegiate about donating a portion of the proceeds. Someone has volunteered to donate \$5 to CVPA/Collegiate for every donation made to Metro.
 - B. Lisa: Is there a launch date set for the fund drive? Tricia: After November 7
 - C. Rebecca: How will the money raised for CVPA and Collegiate be used? Could we support StuCo efforts to provide care packages for the students returning to in person class? Sonali: Students are writing handwritten cards to go in each care package. StuCo's goal is to have care packages available for students when they return.
 - D. Lisa: Sonali, can you get a sign up genius together with what you need and we can send it out to parents via Membership Toolkit and Dr. T?
 - E. Discussion ensues about having Metro PTO send CVPA and Collegiate staff donuts upon their return to their building. Lisa: motion to buy donuts for Collegiate and CVPA staff upon their return to the building, from health and wellness budget. Ami seconds motion; motion passes.
5. Diversity Committee
- A. Guest speaker event originally scheduled for October 26th has been rescheduled for Dec 8 at 6:30. It will be facilitated by students.
6. Trivia Night (no chair present for report)
- A. Date will be April 22

Treasurer's Report

Electronic copy was not provided, but very little money was raised or withdrawn in the past month according to Tiffany Ayulo's report.

- Parent question: Has Naviance been helpful to the college application process? Parents present at the meeting said it has been, we will ask Mr. Young if it has been helpful from the counselor perspective.

Principal Update (Dr. T)

Principal Update

- Wellness day was last Friday, kids seemed to have a lot of fun. Large variety of activities. BSU did a great job coordinating.
- APUSH books have arrived.
- Picture retake day: Friday, November 18
 - Dr. T was talking to Ms. Seiler about including more a senior section in the yearbook, a little more traditional
- Graduation Day: Sunday, May 21 2:00 at Harris Stowe.
 - Seniors would also like senior t-shirts or hoodies, she would love to have a class picture taken in front of the Arch
- Metro Learning Academy (MLA): put together for seniors who need additional support; on Saturdays, from 9-12.
- NHS Day of Service Thursday, Nov 17: NHS day of service, they wanted to go back to the schools they volunteered at.
- Recruitment: Metro is in the midst of recruitment season: we have 240 applications right now (pool A), so they're unlikely to look at pool B. We really only have 92 spots available.
- Mental Health: Dr. T is waiting on a letter drafted by the district, she had to contact emergency services for a student's mental health crisis. She urges us to have conversations with our children

about mental health and well being. Dr. Williams (interim superintendent as of January) and Dr. Mitchell came over right away to support Metro with this. Teachers are working to balance rigor and mental health.

- Rebecca: One thing we planned a couple years ago was a professor at SLU to come and talk to students about mental health. That professor is now a Metro parent, and might be willing to come. Dr. T: It's really hard to jump through the hoops to get that to happen.
- Genyne: Her daughter said how much she enjoyed the stress relief days; maybe they could have a speaker on one of those days. Ami: Would the same hoops be in place if we had an evening event? Dr. T: probably not.
- Colleen: How are teachers doing? Dr. T: They're stressed, but pushing through. We did a check in with them at a staff meeting. Tricia: Could there be something for teacher appreciation for the holidays?
- Minyon: Is there an opportunity for seniors to have an event to raise money for the additional expenses? Dr. T: They have \$7000 right now, they're waiting to figure out how things.
- Genyne: When is final week? She is hoping to do a senior event at Steinberg after finals. Dr. T: She is talking to the district about that. Genyne: Did the PTO pay for the event at Steinberg? Patty: Yes. There is a group rate.

Class Updates

- Seniors
 - no updates
- Juniors
 - They have a couch donated by a parent
- Sophomores
 - Christina pulled off a great breakfast
 - Great feedback on the stress day
 - Students in personal finance are going to finance park for JA, those in personal finance next semester will go
- Freshmen
 - no updates
- StuCo (Sonali)
 - No updates

New Business

- Christina Robinson: BSU is planning a family night Dec. 9
 - Metro BSU is hosting a fundraiser on Friday, December 9 from 6-8 pm. The event is a family fun night and is open to the entire Metro Community! Our goal is to have people come out and spend quality time with their family and friends during the holiday season while also helping our club raise money for our Black Culture Festival in February.
 - Ways we are raising funds:
 - In advance:
 - Sponsor a room: We are in need of room sponsors. The cost of each room is \$25, with the exception of the gym and auditorium which will be \$35 each. As of right now, we have about 12 rooms to be sponsored. The \$25 rooms will host activities like crafts, card games, trivia, dancing, etc. The \$35 rooms (the gym and auditorium) will be used for kickball, family feud, and possibly old school jump rope. If you'd like to sponsor a room, please see the signupgenius room.
 - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094faaaa2aa0fec16-family>

- 50/50 raffle: \$2 for 1 ticket, \$3 for 2 tickets, and \$5 for 5. Once the winner is drawn, 50% of profit would go to the raffle winner and the other 50% would go to BSU.
- At the event:
 - BSU will be selling snacks and drinks. If you'd like to contribute items for us to sell please see the sign-up genius food and drink link below.
 - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094faaaa2aa0fec16-bsufamily1>
 - We will continue 50/50 raffle sales, with the winner announced at the end of the event.
- Payments for room sponsors are being accepted in cash and checks at the school office. Checks should be made payable to Metro with 'BSU fundraiser' in the memo line. Please write Ms. Washington BSU along with your name on the envelope so that we can match sponsors to the appropriate rooms. If you don't want to sponsor a room but still want to contribute, any donation amount is welcome. All donating families will be acknowledged. Note: BSU is looking into Venmo as an option.
- Amy Yelm: Are all the teachers supposed to be using teams to post assignments? Dr. T: yes. Amy Y: As a freshman parent, it doesn't seem like this is happening.

Meeting adjourned at 7:49