

McKinley CJA PTO Meeting Minutes

MARCH 10, 2025

- **Welcome – 6:30pm**

- PTO officers/members present: Eleanor White, Terri Green, Krista Bohler, Shannon Bailey, Elizabeth Allen, Jessica Schunke
- Admin/Staff present: Dr Polkinghorne
- Total present: ~13

- **Admin Updates**

- Update from McKinley admin – Dr Polkinghorne
 - P/T conf on March 11-12
 - 11th – virtual
 - 12th – in person
 - The same scheduling platform will be used per grade level
 - NJHS - Applications are due March 31st, they can be picked up from Mr. Greenlee
 - Dr Polkinghorne will follow up on NHS process
 - District ID policy – is now being enforced; students need to have their ID with them at all times
 - If lost... 1st replacement – free, 2nd replacement - \$5 fee
 - 3x w/o a badge = lunch detention (special table to sit at). This is not a behavior detention unless it has not been served.
 - Registration for the district is open for 2025-26
 - Rat issue – not a current issue but because of age of building the age of the building, on-going effort with Rottler for maintenance
 - Music program updates
 - Interviews are scheduled for a new Band teacher as Mr. Dorries is retiring at the end of the school year. The administration is looking for an experienced candidate who will continue the program at the same level as previous years but with some necessary changes.
 - Ms. Neubling will be leaving McKinley; she was promoted to director of Visual and Performing Arts for the district
 - Interviews are scheduled. The admin is looking for someone who will continue growing and the program. Ms. Neubling has agreed to mentor the new teacher and there will be demo teaching going on with candidates.
 - Question regarding if this has been mentioned to the students directly? Mr. Polkinghorne will discuss with Ms. Neubling
 - There is no parental involvement for faculty interview process; important that standards be maintained and all interviewees have the same experience
 - Important Dates:
 - March 28th – Teen Town
 - April 10th – Betty Wheeler 6th graders will shadow
 - April 11th – 6th graders from Mallinckrodt and other SLPS schools will shadow
 - April 23-24 - Spring Dance performance
 - May 16th – 8th grade trip to Swing-Around Fun Town in Fenton
 - Mr. Baker provided an update. He was able to negotiate a lower price
 - May 21st – 8th grade dance
 - May 22nd – 8th grade graduation
 - July 30-31st – McKinley Orientation for 2025-26 school year
 - PTO can send a representative
 - Admin requests Fall PTO Orientations be on Saturday, August 2nd

- **Discussion**

- Members of the PTO for 2025-26 will be voted on in the May meeting. If you are interested in an open position, or co-chairing a position, please contact mckinleypboard@gmail.com and be present for voting at the April meeting

- Summary of current positions for 2025-26 school year:
 - President – OPEN
 - Vice President – OPEN
 - Treasurer – Jonathan Danieleley volunteered
 - Secretary – Jessica Schunke volunteered
 - Parliamentarian – possibly OPEN / no response from Amber Ibanez
 - Yearbook – Jessica Shatto (2025-26 is her last year)
 - 6th Grade Rep – OPEN
 - 7th Grade Rep – Amelia Garcia
 - Co-Chair - OPEN
 - 8th Grade Rep – Shannon Bailey
 - Co-Chair - OPEN
 - HS Rep – Heather Jacobs volunteered
 - DEIB Chair – OPEN
 - Fundraising Chair – Jenifer Garcia willing to continue
 - Teacher Appreciation – OPEN
 - Beautification Chair – OPEN
 - PTO will notify the elementary schools for 6th grade parents
 - BW – Cindy Ulmenstine-Fitzgerald
 - Mallinckrodt – Terri will check on the name
 - 8th grade graduation – Student council will send students to help out
 - August Welcome Events
 - Admin requests PTO schedules events on Saturday, August 2nd
 - 6th grade – Last year was a success, will continue
 - 9th grade – Exploring options as last year had minimal attendance
 - Heather Jacobs will look into options for High School
- **Budget/Treasurer's Report**
 - Update from Treasurer and Budget info
 - Fundraising goal
 - Goal of \$25K, we have raised ~\$19K (~75% to goal!)
 - Teachers funds/grant requests
 - Add'l request for 8th grade field trip – there is a line item in the budget for 8th grade
 - Vote on \$2,700 for 8th grade field trip - PASSED
 - Teen Town fundraising
 - Very successful! \$1700 in designated donations is more than we should need. Thanks for your generosity!
 - Will have pizza at Teen Town!
 - Yearbook ads fees have been collected
 - Box Tops – small amount was generated
 - Question about HS Budget line per class
 - TBD as there is no historical PTO funded events for the High School. High School PTO previously had minimal attendance and no fundraising
 - Discussed adding \$1,000 per class for future budgets
- **Important Dates**
 - Grade specific and other social meet-ups
 - Spring Teen Town
 - Scheduled for March 28th
 - Volunteers – sign up genius has been posted, still need slots filled
 - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C44AEA929AAFD0-55355698-mckinley>
 - 8th grade dance – will need parent volunteers
 - Same DJ as Teen Town has previously participated

- There are notes available on what was done for the dance for 2 previous years
 - 8th grade graduation –
 - MS Student Council will help - We will have 6 members that can help with Passing out brochures, escorting families into the auditorium and helping set up the reception.
 - Ms. Stortzum suggested decorations and plants needed would be needed for graduation as well
 - Class reps can plan outside of school activities for each grade level
 - Upcoming events/Important Dates
 - March
 - 3/10 – Q4 begins
 - 3/11-12 – Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - March Teacher Appreciation – dinner during conferences, Nacho and Taco Salad bar
 - 3/14 – No School
 - 3/17-21 – Spring Break
 - 3/28 – Teen Town @ 2:15-4:30pm
 - 3/31 – Last day to submit photos for the yearbook (exception for band at Disney, which are accepted until 4/6)
 - Send to mcja.yearbook@gmail.com
 - April
 - 4/11 – Q4 progress reports
 - 4/23 and 4/24 – Spring Dance Performance
 - May
 - 5/8 – Spring Choir Performance
 - 5/14 and 5/15 – Spring Band Performance
 - 5/16 – 8th grade field trip
 - 5/18 – HS Graduation
 - 5/21 – 8th grade dance
 - 5/22 – 8th grade graduation @ 10-11:30am
 - 5/22 – Last Day of School
- **Volunteer Opportunities**
 - Ongoing:
 - Open PTO positions for 2025-26 school year
 - See above for details
 - Teacher Appreciation donations
 - Monthly meal or event
 - Donate snacks for the Teachers Lounge anytime (bring to the office)
 - Teacher Appreciation week in May – various requests will be made as needed
 - Chaperones for field trips and school events:
 - Become an Approved Volunteer!
 - The process is now online: [Nimble \(hirenimble.com\)](http://Nimble(hirenimble.com))
 - Check volunteer status by emailing program director: Romel.Jackson@slps.org
 - Middle School Yearbook Photos
 - Send in your photos from Middle School related events to mcja.yearbook@gmail.com until March 31st
- **Important Dates and upcoming information**
 - McKinley Calendar: <https://www.slps.org/Page/10294#calendar152972/20231009/month>
 - District Calendar: [SLPS 2024-25 Student and Family Calendar English.pdf](#)
- **Communication**
 - Sign up for Membership Toolkit
 - Membership Toolkit is the site the PTO uses for our school directory
 - [McKinley CJA PTO - Home Page \(membershiptoolkit.com\)](#)
 - Join HS or MS Facebook pages, or grade specific pages

- MS: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/214650668582110/>
- HS: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/MCLAHSParents/>

- **7:17pm - Meeting Adjourned**