

PTO Agenda - April 17, 2023

Meeting Started: 6:33 PM

1. Principal Update - Mr. Lischwe

- a. ELA MAP testing started today with other tests continuing through May
 - i. Stortzum sent a newsletter with good information
 - ii. Please have the kids eat breakfast and charge their ipads before school
- b. MS Positions
 - i. No info on 6th grade science or Mr. Miller. Will update families once there is more information.
 - ii. Getting interest with the science and French positions
 - iii. Interviewing for additional Social Studies and Math
- c. Sports
 - i. Girls soccer and Flag football finished their regular season and are on to championships
 - ii. Track season just started
- d. No update on Spirit Store yet but should be getting back to PTO very soon.
- e. Very active spring with dances, field trips, etc. Keep an eye on the school calendar for updates.
- f. National Junior Honor Society
 - i. Apologies for the long wait for decisions.
 - ii. Faculty committee is finishing their reviews and will notify families as soon as it is complete.
 - iii. Great news is that there were a high quality and quantity of applications which is contributing to the delay.
 - iv. Induction will happen early in the 2023-2024 school year.

2. Open Board Positions

- a. Positions (to be voted on):
- b. Chair - OPEN
- c. Vice Chair - Eleanor White continuation
- d. Treasurer/Fundraising - OPEN
 - i. Technically one position
 - ii. Has been broken into two roles for the last 3 years
 - 1. Fundraising Chair - Samantha Fisher maybe with help from Rebecca Sparkles as co-chairs
- e. Secretary - Krista Bohler nomination
- f. Parliamentarian - OPEN

Other available positions (non-voting):

- g. Grade level reps - TBD (Shannon Bailey - 6th grade)
- h. Yearbook - Jessica Shatto will take this on again next year

- i. Teacher Appreciation Chairs -
- j. Beautification Committee revival?
- k. Diversity/Equity/Inclusion Committee?

3. Potential MS/HS Merger -

- a. Due to limited parent involvement, the HS PTO is reaching out about a potential merger going forward.
- b. Main goal of the HS PTO is for teacher funds through a fundraising event.
- c. General conversation
 - i. How does allocation happen for fundraising? I.e. if middle school families raise more money, does a larger percentage go to those teachers?
 - ii. Ginger Lewis (current HS PTO member) noted that the goal is to have a space for HS parents to have a space for their voice. She said they get about a dozen donations and small funding requisitions, example is the movable basketball goal.
 - iii. A parent noted that she will have students in both MS and HS who would love to see one big PTO so there is one place for donations and one time for meetings.
 - iv. PTO board member said that there might be less competition for fundraising and some streamlining that can be done.
 - v. A parent shared that it feels most logical to combine PTOs because the extracurriculars (assemblies, plays, etc) McKinley is one big school with one principal.
 - vi. PTO board question about yearbooks prompted discussion to say that the MS and HS yearbooks should be separate. HS yearbook is sporadic based on student interest.
 - vii. Another difference brought up by current HS PTO members is that the HS students are really the ones that get involved rather than parents.
 - viii. Rebecca Sparkles offered to review and provide support with any amending of the by-laws.
 - ix. Suggestion was made to make the merger of the MS and HS PTO
 - x. Motion was made to combine the MS and HS PTO for one year as a pilot by Eleanor White and seconded by Jennifer Anania. Vote was taken and everyone was in favor.

4. 501c3 update

- a. It will still be a couple months before we find out about it. It was filed about a month ago.
- b. If we get this approved by next school year, fundraising will be more streamlined because we will be able to collect money from paypal rather than having multiple accounts
- c. Requirements are minimal - our tax return is on a postcard and an annual report that is just updating names and addresses and sending a check.
- d. Question from parent attendee - can extracurriculars use the 501c3 to raise funds? For example, the choir did a concession fundraising and if they could use Venmo or Square they probably could have done double that amount. Response

was that the band already has their own and if we raise over \$50K collectively with all entities we would have to do a larger and more detailed tax return.

5. Budget review/funding requests
 - a. Remaining class budgets will go to field day.
 - b. Mr. Lischwe is looking to have a sports banquet.
 - c. Mr. Lewis (art) is running a Beautification Club and funds went to buying supplies.
 - d. PTO expenses went over a little bit with fees for 5013c paperwork, Membership Toolkit, etc
 - e. Teacher stipends are given to teachers who take on after-school clubs and above and beyond activities who are not being paid.
 - f. At-risk student budget has not been used yet but PTO has reached out to administration for families who might need it.
 - g. Mr. Boyle asked for supplies for snacks, coolers, etc. for middle school sports
 - h. Betty Wheeler fundraising from 2020 is being used for 8th grade activities.
 - i. Ms. Dent \$550 toward dance costumes fundraising - motion was made to vote for this fund request by Denise, seconded by Jennier and was approved.
6. Teacher Appreciation update
 - a. Week of May 8th
 - b. Monthly breakfast on Monday, decorations, donations and swag for raffles, snack day (custom Goldbug cookies), chair massage and catered lunch on Friday.
 - c. Need signs ups for breakfast for Monday and desserts for Friday
7. Call for Volunteers
 - a. Still volunteers needed for 8th grade dance and the 8th grade lock-in (there are 2-hour time shifts)

Attendee Questions:

- Q. Clue tickets update? A. Student-led initiative with a teacher sponsor. There was some finagling happening with the auditorium space so it has been moved to May 4 and 5th. 25 tickets for Thursday and 75 tickets for Friday sold so far. <https://mckinleycla.seatyourself.biz>
- Q. Dance budget was \$1200 and what if they go over? A. Probably doable - 8th grade gets \$1500 more than the other grades so we should be fine.

Meeting Adjourned:7:48 PM