

McKinley CJA Middle School PTO Meeting

August 8, 2022

6:32 - Meeting Begins

- **Introduction of current PTO board and committee members**
 - Eleanor White - Vice President (Previously served as secretary)
 - Denise LeBegue - Treasurer
 - Wendy Hamstra-Smith - Secretary
 - Jessica Shatto – Box Tops and Cashback Programs
 - Jennifer Anania - Fundraising Chair (Previously served as treasurer)
 - Krista Bohler - Teacher Appreciation
 - Collette Edson - Past President
 - Jinal Doshi - 6th grade class representative

Requested help with bulletin board project– Need assistance updating the board with teacher photos and their subjects. Jessica Shatto volunteered to assist Krista Bohler.

- **Principal Update - Dr. Holloway and Mr. Lischwe**
 - Today was the first day back in the building with teachers. They spent time doing team building before diving into more training later this week.
 - Mr. Lischwe notes that this was also the first day for Dr. Holloway as the official principal!
 - One to one devices will still be the case. Last year lots of families had issues with supposed missing chargers but that have been straightened out.
 - Enrollment is around 550 students – 117 6th graders which is a pretty big class. 9th grade class is also trending large.
 - They are working on releasing social media sites run by a teacher – Instagram and Facebook for more immediate updates, etc.
 - District will be providing school supplies. Dr. Holloway sent out a suggested list of school supplies.
 - Focusing on building camaraderie with the teachers and staff. They are moving the existing teacher lounge and converting that one to a middle school art space. The new lounge will have space for meetings, etc.

- Staffing – There is no secret that the world is looking for teachers. Holloway wants to be transparent that they are actively looking for a teacher for middle school science and one for high school math. There are backup plans in place with building subs and making sure the department heads have the curriculum still in place. Putting out a call for people with degrees in science or math, send them to Holloway. The retired French teacher is coming back so students won't have to start over in another language.
- Registration - Email with details have been sent out. Check spam mail if you haven't seen it yet. If you still can't find it, call the school to see if they can confirm you are on the mailing list.
 - Technology Pick up
 - Stations will be around the building to collect various information such as schedules and handbook.
 - Teachers will be at training so they won't be as present as much but staff will be around to assist.
 - They are toying with the idea of suggested blocks of time for registration day just to help with the flow and staffing. Will send out more information about this.
- They will be including in the handbook a map for drop off logistics. They are also going to do a day 1 video or robocall to help with the first day Q&A
- 6th and 9th graders will go through a week-long orientation.
- More information will be broadcasted for middle school sports.
- Plan is to have an open house for the entire community so families can tour the building etc. Estimated for late September.
- Holloway is planning on releasing a vision for the school year after getting input from the teachers. Their focus will be on high quality instruction.
- HELP REQUESTED FROM PTO:
 - Assistance setting up for the first day of school so it is awesome. Working on getting balloons and music. Would love pto help to set up.
 - Early morning risers can help welcome students with signs the first day by the buses, etc.
 - Need help with decorating and stocking the teacher lounge, maybe once a month fill it with snacks. Need help painting
 - Beautification was done as much as they could. District is still planning on painting. Need help with picnic tables and door frames.

- **Budget Update**

- Ended the year with \$25,600 (split between accounts held by PTO & SLPS Foundation) + \$10,000 held aside for this year's 8th graders (carryover from BWCJA - Wyman)
- Of that balance, \$6,500 is committed for school branding & beautification (checks going out tomorrow)
- Up to \$3,000 of prior year funds can be used between now and when the new budget is approved
- Goal for the 2022-23 FundDrive is expected to be in the range of \$23,000-25,000 (will be based on upcoming approved budget)
- Plan for a mid-September FundDrive kick-off and it will run until Nov. 1
- Plan to use Venmo and the SLPS Foundation platform (e-Tapestry) again this year
- Goal to have new budget for approval at the September Meeting
- Examples of past spending
 - Yearbooks, teacher funding, appreciation and thank you gift cards (8K last year), student enrichment and ice skating event (2K), 8th grade dance, graduation and field trip, school beautification, field day/grade level field trips

- **Open Positions Needed**

- President
- Parliamentarian – open and close meetings, follow by laws and voting regulations
- Teacher Appreciation -Sybil Naidoo, Krista Boehler and additional volunteer
- Diversity and Inclusion Chair
- 7th and 8th grade class reps
- Beautification Committee

- **General Member Q&A**

- **Q. Will there be advisory?** A. Yes, they are working on building a curriculum to take advantage of the time. It will continue to be the last 30 minutes of each day
- **Q: Can you bring kids from multiple grades that same day for registration?** A. Yes

- **Q. Will locks be provided for lockers?** A. Lockers are in an opt-in basis and will be done with the advisory teacher. There are not enough lockers for all the students but it works out because high school students tend to opt out. Students can bring their lock and give the combination to the teacher. Recommendation that the kids practice before they come to school if you have. Always have bolt cutters on hand just in case!
- **Q. Can 8th graders shadow at McKinley High before apps are due?** A. Only 30% of McKinley 8th graders go to the high school. They want to continue growing the numbers organically and think that shadow days would be great. They will look at creating shadowing opportunities.
- **Q. What can we anticipate receiving class schedules?** A. SIS says Monday, August 15. Holloway says schedules will be at the registration day and emailed.
- **Q. Any updates on Covid mandates?** A. Holloway asked the same question at a leadership meeting. They said stand by for more information, but he has heard that it will be more a return to “normal” with masking being voluntary.
- **Q. Will there be people to help direct students the first day?** A. Yes for both first and second day since classes will be different. Staff will be stationed all over. Current students are always happy to help direct new students as well!

General plug for the Membership Toolkit! It is a way for you to access student directories and also for the PTO to send out emails, updates, etc. . Even if you already have access you should update your info because you might be marked as inactive after a year. Register/update info at mckinleycjpto.membershiptoolkit.com

7:17 - Meeting Adjourned