

McKinley PTO Meeting Agenda & Minutes

November 14, 2022

6:32 PM - Meeting Begins

Welcome and Introductions

Principal's Report

- School safety update - how can the PTO help?
- Field trips scheduled
- Fall social events postponed
- Winter sports and extracurriculars

Mr. Lischwe

- Thanks for the communication and feedback after the shooting at CVPA and Collegiate. We are doing many things to further secure the building and continue to make safety a huge priority. We appreciate everyone's flexibility.
- This Friday will be Wellness Day. Students will still be going to all their classes but they will be doing wellness activities that range from structured activities to fun activities. They are bringing in speakers from the community and have counselors on hand. They will have some fun no-cafeteria food. Goal is to send them off to Thanksgiving break with a good note.
- First Friday breakfasts are incredible and they are blown away. Helps with morale tremendously
- Big weekend for 3 Cross Country - Boys and Girls, Volleyball - Girls and Soccer - Boys

Dr. Hollway

- Ask the parent community if they know of any devices being used to help with safety pass them on. They are looking at certain devices and methods for 3rd floor students to have an escape route. Funds are being used towards this. They redid their emergency plan and the SLPD is more actively involved to make sure they are aware of McKinley's plans.
- Maybe a small-scale Winter Dance for Middle School to replace the canceled Teen Town this fall.
- Request will be placed out to help install the new materials for the building (i.e. desks, flexible seating, etc) Goal to be done before students return from winter break.
- With the Beautification funds, they have purchased a banner which is waiting for better weather to install but that They have been trying to get the wraps for the building but the vendor delayed and now can't install until it is above 70 degrees.
- Mr. Nordike (Instructional coach) is leaving. There are potential internal applications which might cause another vacancy but it is being opened district wide. Since it is an administrator position, potential for parent involvement in the selection process.
- Spirit Wear - The vendor site redid our crest and misspelled Middle (!) so the link was deactivated. Hope to have it up and running ASAP.
- Dr. Holloway wants to ensure that no matter what has happened, they are committed to academic instruction. Teachers are getting support for counseling services but still being held to providing a strong education to our students.

Q: Field Trips - Is that happening? Heard that there is a time constraint with buses that require a 9-1 timeframe by using our school buses.

A: We have been having a couple field trips weekly. Grade levels and content subject teachers should be planning on them. For larger and/or longer trips, charter buses can be procured to get around this. About 50 HS students went to Cape

Increase in apps for High School They had 300 apps and can only take 75. Very excited to see more interest. Dr. Holloway gave Mr. Lischwe a shout out for planning on the shadow days.

Q: Will the 75 allotment remain in the future?

A: Really comes down to staffing and the amount of electives that can be offered.

Q: How are they selected?

A: Selection is based on transcripts, attendance, etc. Current 8th graders have to apply but they have the advantage of the administration already knowing them.

Executive Committee Update

- Open positions still available: President, Parliamentarian, Grade Level reps
- Looking into becoming a 501(c)3 - if you have ever applied and have expertise that you'd be willing to share, please contact us

Fund Drive Review/Results

- Goal was 27,000 and we raised just about 17,000. We don't have final numbers because a lot of our donations went to the SLPS fund. The fund manager only sends us statements quarterly and we don't have the updated one. Might have additional funds.
- We have 13,000 left over from prior years and we could vote to use that to cover the gap in our fundraising.
- A possibility would be to do a special fundraiser for individual projects like has been done for smart boards.
- **Donations can still be made at ANYTIME!** <https://mckinleycjapto.membershiptoolkit.com/donate>
- Reminder - if you need your donation to be tax deductible it needs to be done through the SLPS Fund. Please remember to note 860-McKinley so the funds are allocated to us.

Treasurer Report

- Budget Update
- Current Financial Position

- US Bank Account balance = \$13,637
- Projected SLPS Foundation Balance = \$30,400
- Total Balance = \$43,637
- Funds Committed to 8th grade (carryover from CJA elementary) = \$(10,000)
- Available Balance = \$33,637
- Ms. Licklider requested \$256 to use for online subscription for Spanish books.
- We spent \$132.44 on cookies and ice cream for advisory classes that brought in the most items for the recent food drive at school.
- Ask is out there to help with either fixing some existing Ping Pong tables or lend a truck to pick up the used ping pong tables.

Volunteer Opportunities

- Signup at https://mckinleycjapto.membershiptoolkit.com/sign_ups
- Opportunities needing a champion:
 - Temporary Fence Repair
 - Paint eSports Room
 - Weight Room - write grants or create a donation drive for newer, modern equipment. High school students can use it as part of their curriculum. Need assistance with improving this experience. Middle school does not seem to use it.

All School Social Event

- Ice skating at Steinberg, other ideas?
- Timing - before, during, after Winter Break?
- Exec Board was looking at ice skating as an option because it is outdoors and relatively low cost. Parents on the call provided feedback that their students had a great time last year
- Last year current students + chaperones were free but others (i.e. siblings) were charged a reduced rate.
- Throwing out January as an option to avoid winter break.
- Steinberg opens at 11 AM and you can rent it from 10-11 AM for a private event and then people can stay for an open skate.
- **Looking for a volunteer to help coordinate this event**

Support for CSMB and CVPA

- How can we show our support of staff and students as these schools return to their campus?
- We want to help make the return to school as positive as possible.
- Idea -Provide a bagel/coffee breakfast for teachers/staff that 1st week.
- We will need to vote for a \$400 allotment from the carry over funds to pay for this event.
- Vote was brought to the table by Jennifer Anania and seconded by Jessica Shatto. Vote was passed by 11 out of 15 with 4 note voting. No votes against. Motion was passed.

Teacher Appreciation Update

- Sign up to donate snacks for teachers' lounge (only one volunteer each for Nov. and Dec.)
- December Teacher Appreciation event, something special other than breakfast?
- Teacher Appreciation week (May 1-5)
- Book Donations for book swap shelf
- Looking for ways to make December a little more special for teachers - examples of ideas are hot chocolate bar, small gift baggies, etc. Money is set aside for Teacher Appreciation in the budget so we can use those funds.
- After discussing, it looks like the breakfast is really popular, but Krista will add some seasonal type donations like cookies, etc.
- If you want to donate to the teacher's lounge, there is a sign up. November and December look light so please sign up. You can also send things with your student and give to Ms. Thomas who will take add them to the lounge.
- Signups - Staff Breakfast: <https://mckinleycjapto.membershiptoolkit.com/volunteer/102235>;
Teacher Snacks: <https://mckinleycjapto.membershiptoolkit.com/volunteer/99035>

Yearbook Details

- Free yearbook for every middle school student!
- Link to submit photos - anything and everything school related - bit.ly/MCJAYearbook
- Reminder! WE NEED PICTURES!! Deadline is March but SOONER THE BETTER!!!
- Mr Lewis and his advanced art class are working on the design of pages and cover.

Fundraising Competition Update & Details

- Turn in those codes! - <https://mckinleycjapto.membershiptoolkit.com/cashprograms>
- Grade Level Competition Standings: 8th = 366; 7th = 199; 6th = 218

- Winning grade will get to silly string teachers!

Meeting adjourned at 7:23 PM