



Larson PTO Meeting Notes

11-15-23 2023-24 PTO Meeting

Location: LMS Collaboration Room

Attendance: Brian Zawislak, Rick West, Cijay Avery, Chris Tallman, Judy Bunao, Maria Mendola, Caty Beydoun, Joanne Cruz, Online: Kate Fellin, Beth McCarty, Elizabeth Blakely, Mrs. Wishaw

Call to Order: 7:00 pm by Cijay Avery

I. Officer Reports

- Speakers: Rick West, Deputy Superintendent (TSD Updates)
 - Discussion of the TSD Bond
 - Gave statistics of the City of Troy; 18k live births, contributed to increased school enrollment
 - \$189.4 million in expenses in Troy, 95% of expenses are people focused on staff and students. We have resources available for students, value students
 - \$190 million bonds sold. Student were able sell these bonds “live” and were a witness to the whole transaction.
 - He presented a schedule of when (year) which TSD school will get a renovation, and which ones will get furniture at what time.
 - The plan for the schools was a collaborative effort from staff, students and teachers to how their space was going to get designed.
 - Discussed the “Portrait of a Learner”. What characteristics embody this student?
 - Addressed the 6 C’s that promote deep learning
 - Heavy investment of Pre-K to set the blueprint for each student
 - 6-C’s: Character, Communication, Citizenship, Creativity, Collaboration & Critical Thinking.
 - The TSD teaching staff are trained to support and promote these characteristics into their teaching

- Principal Report– Mr. Brian Zawislak (School Updates)
 - Report from students stating effective student learning—a positive learning experience.
 - Fall Sports, largest teams in terms of size
 - Cross country had a great finish
 - And IM sports had a great week as well
 - Robotics teams are currently participating in tournaments for the Fall
 - Follow up with teachers’ promoting outside the school for field trips
 - 8th graders went to Washington DC
 - Students attended Wizard of Oz earlier today
 - Life Skills group visited Wass
 - Band Concert was great and music clinics were done
 - Fall Assemblies for sports
 - 6th and 7th students participated in WEB
 - 8th graders participated in their annual raking service project
 - Application for the renewal of the National School of Character Recognition was completed at 68 pages and was submitted.
 - Parent Teacher Conference was well-attended with 3000 conferences in those 2 days
 - Wellness Weekend over the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday and taking the time to unplug and spend time with family



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- Secretary-Joanne Cruz (Review of Minutes)
 - Need meeting minutes from 9/20/23 approved
 - Motion to approve: Maria Mendola seconded: Judy Bunao

- Treasurer-Chris Tallman
 - Budget sheet reviewed
 - \$1000 donation came in late, bringing is at @ 89% of that goal
 - \$60.93 was recently approved for the mini-grants and more requests coming
 - Christine Clifford receiving receipts for requests for exact amounts
 - \$16, 374 on our balance sheet
 - Chris Cermack has more fundraising coming up

- Vice President-Kate Fellin
 - Link to be sent to teachers
 - Money set aside for mini-grants for teachers
 - For the 2nd round, the same link needs to be sent and passed out to all teachers
 - The requests to be approved at the next meeting
 - Mini-grants to be promoted, and a Grant page needs to be dedicated acknowledging what the grant provided to students (pictures posted, and a thank you note encouraged and what it was used for, requested by whom, what the items were etc)

II. Committee Reports

- Teacher Liaison Report-Maria Mendola
 - Kindness Week this week
 - Leaf raking event had great stories to share
 - 10 teachers want grants and are generating ideas for their grant requests
 - ELA is requesting books in their classrooms
 - Kate Fellin to approve book request
 - Yearbook teacher, Mrs. McHugh requesting any Trunk or Treat Pictures to be sent to her email smchugh@troy.k12.mi.us

- Elizabeth Blakely and (Beth McCarty)
Trunk or Treat
 - There were 24 trunks
 - Having 24-25 trunks is adequate given size of crowd
 - 97 bags of candy passed out
 - All the candy was passed out in 45 minutes
 - Pre-ordering the donuts was helpful. Rochester Cider Mill came through with orders
 - Oakland Orthodontics helped sponsor the event (Dr. Tamaro) and they passed out toothbrushes
 - There was a lack of NHS volunteers, 7 were supposed to show up, some showed up
 - Will change how voting for trunks is done, some may have voted more than once.
 - Next year will find 6th graders to form a ToT club, can be a WEB mstudent ran project

- Chris Cermack Other Restaurant Fund Raisers -
 - Goal \$1000
 - 12/6/23-Buddy's Pizza
 - 1/17/24-Noodles
 - 2/7/24-Panera's
 - 3/6/24-City BBQ
 - Nothing but Bundt Cakes will get 10% back to LMS PTO



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- Judy Bunao-Adopt a Family and Receipts for \$
 - \$200 total collected from receipts
 - Digital receipts accepted
 - Paper receipts can be dropped off, has to be 2 weeks old
 - Judy coordinated with Mrs. Garavanta and Mrs. K about the project to address privacy the 3 families. They will be labeled Family A, B and C
 - Items on the list include: socks, winter gear, gift cards, cleanign supplies
 - 3 big boxes will be in the vestibule for donation drop offs
 - They will be sorted out and gift wrapped and dropped off to family A B and C

Meeting Adjourned 8:09 pm

Next meeting 1/24/24 Wed @ 7pm

Location: Media Center

TEAMS link to be posted on Larson PTO on Facebook

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanne Cruz

Joanne Cruz

23/24 Secretary