

General PTO meeting

9-11-13

The meeting was called to order by Abbie at 7:10.

1) VOTE ON MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSICAL. Lori Goldstein introduced the idea of a middle level musical which is a line item of more than \$2500 thus requires full body vote. Bridgette Purdue, a theater professional from Point Park Alumni Theater and has worked with other public schools. Lori also expanded on the importance of musical theater for team work and academic performance

Musical would be with a core of 12-20 students, and an ensemble Start in January, once/week and then move to more frequent rehearsals prior to the spring performance. The project will involve developing a playbill with ad space, students to do art work, sets, and work with Mr. Lee and Ms. Moule will contribute to the project too. The possible musical include:

Fame Jr.

Hairspray Jr.

School House Jr.

Cost for the Middle Level Musical is budgeted at \$6300 (4500 for director + purchase of the musical, props, costumes, etc.)

In part t-shirts, advertisements and fundraising will support the effort. The body raised a question about establishing a budget line for future years, thus making this a yearly thing to add to the budget; also Henry placed the expenditure in the context of the overall \$48,000 budget and clarified that there are funds in the PTO account to seed this project; also questions about how to increase interest in the musical. Questions also were raised concerning the involvement of children from younger grades and we will consider the idea of younger students contributing some small parts.

VOTE: Approximately 90 yeses, 1 no and no abstentions.

2) The 2013-2014 Executive Board Introduced themselves
Savon Earnest and Camille Harris

3) Abbie encouraged all of us to register our Giant Eagle advantage cards for extra \$. Remember that you need to RE-REGISTER each year.

4) Abbie announced that the pool renovations are almost complete. The new pool includes a new liner, new decking, paint on the walls.

Pool renovations were supported by the school board not the PTO!!!

5) Fiesta – a pot luck dinner with a Latin/Spanish theme

6) Remember to sign up for the Yahoo group, which is maintained by Camille Harris

7) Mary Lou Robinson—VP of fundraising introduced the first fundraiser, which is spirit wear.

a) Spirit wear: The deadline for spirit wear is this Friday 9-15-13

b) Run Shadyside: In October 5, Run Shadyside, a 5K, which is a joint venture with the Boys and Girls Club in Shadyside. Please sign up for the FUN RUN, either via the form (checks payable for or PREFERABLY ONLINE. When you enter the code, TCOLFAX2013, this allows a portion of your registration fee (\$10 of 25 for adults and \$10 for children)

c) City Dining Cards: A deck of cards that which will offer a \$10 off bill when you spend \$30 at the restaurants

8) Ida-Volunteer Coordinator- she reviewed how to get clearances. It takes about a month to obtain the child abuse clearances, shorter for others. You can volunteer, chaperone, and She has prepared an easy sheet to follow for how to obtain clearances.

9) Sukanya- also reminded people to volunteer at Colfax lunch/recess.

10) Gaby introduced the 100 Mile Club. (100mileclub.org) This free program is an effort to get children to move more all year long. As kids reach various milestones along the way there are prizes and

11) Jenny Ganger –Middle Level (ML) Programs. A big focus of the ML is on fundraising for end of year trips, such as the end of the year trip, Costa Rica for 7-8 grade and maybe an 8th grade trip to Washington, DC. She also reviewed the middle level fundraisers, which are separate from the general PTO funds.