

PTO Board Meeting Minutes

March 15, 2021, 5:00 pm

Present via Zoom:

Ross Ingram
Jeanine Weiss
Kuei-o Lin
Stephanie Livshin
Lisa Zur
Natalia Duarte
Karey Kluesner
Dr. Woods

DISCUSSION:

Treasury Report

Natalia went over the latest expenses and revenues. She facilitated all the PBIS Rewards Store and Science-In-A-Bag purchases. Kuei-o is working on the audit. The 2020 taxes are close to being filed by the accountant. Also, there is a chance that the PTO will need to pay approximately \$3K in taxes to the IRS for 2019 because the taxes weren't filed properly (reflecting non-profit status). Natalia is working with the accountant to see if this can be fixed.

Old Business (updates)

Filling PTO Board Positions 2021-22 and beyond

As of now there are no new volunteers expressing interest, though this is not uncommon at this stage. This is a priority item.

Events – Community Book Drive

Community Book Drive. Stephanie reported that she has a great number of books and workbooks. Collection will end March 26th. After spring break parents will receive information on how to make requests. Methods of communication will include PTO email, PTO FB, Talking Points, and even paper for those back in the classroom. All requests and deliveries will be kept confidential.

Remaining Party 4 Play class basket/casino items.

Ross has all the items stored at his house now. There are a number of games. Ross will keep with them a list of possible uses, such as the PBIS Rewards Store, replenishing the Game Locker used for indoor recess, a future raffle, and a school Game Night. There are also a number of gift cards remaining. These will also be held for now, for a potential raffle in the future.

New Business

Draft Budget

Ross went over the draft 2021-2020 budget he is proposing. It is the same as the 2020-2021 with the exception of increases for teacher gift cards (increased staff numbers), the PBIS Rewards Program, and Enrichment (e.g., books), to reflect the similar increases made during this year based on agreed upon additional spending.

There was discussion from three members regarding a desire to change to the 2nd grade \$5K line item for the Frick, the issue being the value of the house tour and that it is the most expensive line item for a single grade. An alternate such as the History Center could be popular. There is some belief that the Frick trips may align with the curriculum. Ross and Stephanie will reach out to the 2nd grade team to discuss this.

There is also an open question regarding how many students are impacted by the \$3K chess line item; Ross will get the answer to that.

There was a proposal that this is a good time to have a general reassessment of what types of items are approved, based on all that has occurred in the past year and potential better alignment in the area of equity and supporting the school improvement plan. There may be a change in teacher and parent preferences and this is the time to gather input from the teachers and parents regarding PTO spending.

There was a question as to why certain items were not added back in for 2021-2022 (that were line items in 2019-2020), particularly those that would occur past the fall, such as the Musical, Ice Skating, and Movie Nights, since items such as on-site PTO meetings, the Overnight Trip, and many Field Trips are included.

Any other specific comments should be sent to Ross. The budget will be discussed again next month.

NEXT MEETING:

TBD