

PTO Quarterly Meeting

August 25th, 2022

Board members present: Stephanie Faulk, Kendra Bishop and Becca Parrott

Attendees: Letitia Crosby, Dalton Crosby, Amber Wehr, Joslyn D'Haenens, Melanie Farrell, Erin Gladden, Tammy Polly, Nina Wimbley, Jaimie Moss, Tia Baker, Joyce Baker, Brittany Pless, Taylor Wilson, Kara Fretwell, Aneshea Thornton, Whitney Purinton, Christy Jennings, Jenny Wallace, Tatiana Urbina, Rebecca Key, Lorrie Sheffer, Riley Dorman, Robin Lill, Marie Wallace, Heather Thomas, Lindsey Gore, Mandy Lodge, Tracie Gossett, Stephanie Wilson, Renee Rich, Angelia Banks and Kelly Merrick.

1. Stephanie began the meeting and also explained why specific jargon is used within these meetings.
2. Kendra seconded motion of passing last May's PTO minutes.
3. Stephanie welcomed Rob DuBose as our guest speaker and he briefly spoke. He acknowledged he starts office in January but wants to go ahead and be present in the schools, so he can jump right in come January.
4. Kendra reviewed finances and what PTO typically covers each year. This includes but is not limited to the following: Back-to-school celebrations, appreciation days, decorating the school (new theme each year), partial staff salaries, holiday gift and 5th grade fun day. Since we are STEAM certified we also try to provide supplies for the steam supplies. Kendra shared that our goal for this year is to also start a "bucket" for field trips for the 2022-23 school year.
5. Stephanie and Kendra started discussing the update of our sign project. Stephanie shared that this was a 3 year goal (with us being on year 3) to raise the funds for a digital sign at the entrance of the school. She also reviewed the big ticket items we were able to do for the school in the last two previous years while also saving for the sign. However, due to our school being located on a main road, the county will only allow the school to change the wording of the digital sign once every 24 hours. This brought up whether we should keep the current look and get a new marquis sign or get a traditional sign.
6. Stephanie reviewed the major fundraisers of the year and the different ways the PTO raises money. We do Read-a-thon, Cherrydale, Tidal Wave, Penguin Patch and School Store. We also have monthly spirit nights and school wide events. Becca clarified that we always strive to provide monthly events but never expect families to attend every month. We are simply trying to offer variety for our families.
7. We continued with a deeper discussion of the digital sign. It must be static and can only change once every 24 hours. Stephanie shared that this would be a school wide decision and we would open it for online voting in two weeks. Voting will include details of the three options with the majority winning. If an option is selected that is not digital (which is over \$30,000) then our goal is to replace the sign this year and also look into benches and sunshade for the younger playground area and/or at car pool pick up. All votes will be anonymous.

8. We shared that we have many volunteer opportunities this year and to please check out the sheet for more details. This sheet can be found at the front of the building at check in. We also are about to send out a digital form for parents to sign up if interested for volunteering. Also, any new volunteers will need to do the school mandated volunteer training (though this was not mentioned during the meeting).

9. TCE now offers online spirit wear!! This can be ordered all year and there isn't a minimum order (for instance it doesn't require the school having to have certain number of pieces before placing an order). Individual families order their own! Stephanie shared how 1st Place Spirit Wear has three sales a year that offers discounted prices. There is a current sale (running until 9/21) Also, any order over \$60 is free shipping.

10. Becca discussed how we now have a combined PTO and school calendar for each month. Also, the importance of the PTO facebook page and how it will keep you up to date with what's happening.

Questions

Mrs. Gladden had a question about a marquis sign vs traditional. We clarified that the traditional would look similar to a neighborhood sign where a marquis has the availability to add messages (but someone has to go outside to manually change those messages).

Stephanie Wilson asked how can we also communicate other than Facebook for those that are not connected to social media. Stephanie Faulk answered with saying that we duplicate with sending our information to teachers with the intent of it being sent to parents. We also will send home hard copies for bigger events. Finally, Kendra and Dr. Crosby shared that we try to mirror one another with the Remind app.

Dr Crosby thanked everyone for coming. The PTO board did the same. Becca did one more statement about volunteering and sharing more information about what is on the sheet and expectations of helping.

Addie drew our three give aways for prizes.

The meeting was dismissed.