



BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Mills Park Middle School PTSA

Student Services Conference Room

Date | time 2/12/2016 9:31 AM | *Meeting called to order by* Daphne Stam

In Attendance

Daphne Stam, Cheryl Cleaton, Jen Willis, Christy Hanson, Kim McKnight, Joanna Hayes, Carla Kent, Colleen Gregg, Pin Pin Jong, Lisa Burke. Quorum was met.

Presentation of Minutes

Cheryl Cleaton presented the minutes from 1/8/16 with an amendment from minutes emailed correcting "claw print" to "paw print". Jen Willis motioned to approve amended minutes. Kim McKnight seconded. None opposed. Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report

Report was distributed by Christy Hanson. She filed a \$400 sales tax refund from all the big NC purchases from last year. Thanks Christy!

VP/Committee Reports

Communications: Carla Kent discussed an email from a parent wondering why we don't include sports on the newsletter. We all agreed that the newsletter is for PTSA events. It's not intended to include every activity at school, such as sports, band, dance, etc. It is available on the school calendar. It would be a huge undertaking & we could mix up the dates. Maybe we could add a link to the athletics website.

Staff Appreciation: Kim McKnight reported that the staff lunch is scheduled for Monday, but the weather is subject. Should we postpone it? Most said that postponing it to next Friday would be a great idea. Kim loved the idea of paw prints from last meeting. Student council is going to man the tables at lunch a week before TA week, and help students fill out the paws. Then we can hang them on doors. Question came up, how do you make sure all teachers get paw prints? Maybe we go to the tables while they are eating to ensure more participation. Have certain paws for specials teachers. Maybe we could use volunteer hours for NJHS students, and those kids could make generic paws to fill in the blanks. Possibility of handing every kid 2 paws, one for an elective teacher and one for a core teacher. Kim will talk to Mrs. Barber. Maybe some generic prints for the AIG and teachers that don't see kids but do a lot of work behind the scenes.

Membership: Nothing to report.

Ways and Means: Jen Willis wondered if the Harris Teeter check come in; yes on the 16th. And the boxtops check came in as well. Burger21 reached out to Jen. She explained that sending something home to bring to the restaurant is cumbersome. He wants to do a daylong event, and prompt people when they come if they are with MPMS. They will also run a marquee to advertise. So that seems like a good option. Provide 10% of sales all day if they were with MPMS. Jen will check with Ann for a date.

8th Grade Events: Nothing to report.

Advocacy/MPMS Leadership Committee: Nothing to report.

Mills Madness: Colleen Gregg reported new ideas... raffle first spot in carpool line and raffling 4 front row seats to band concert. Someone asked about raffling tickets to graduation, but that's difficult because you don't know which side your kid will be on. Could use some of these raffles ideas for membership next year. Taking all of the money out of the equation this year, so it's all tickets. So then only cash at tables and the pizza line should go faster. Drinks is a new thing... the nice refrigerator in the concession station. No pre-order of single slices, just whole pie... so then there's only a preorder whole pie line and a right now, by the slice line. Offering cheese and pepperoni only. Colleen checked pre-orders from last year and there was only one mushroom. \$5 admission pre-order or day of, just easier with change. No Family admission, just everybody is \$5. Do have a deal with pre-order tickets... 25 for \$20, 60 for \$50, 125 for \$100. We'll be selling spiritwear and candy as well. Have someone traveling around the food sales, so that they can buy tickets and not have to get out of line. Pin that person with a balloon so you can find them. Do we want to do drink pre-order... good idea so you don't have to go in an extra line. Preorders out on 22nd, gives them 2 weeks to get them in. Newsletter... need for baskets, beach house or season tickets you'd be willing to donate? Raffle those off. Silent auction online? Ask the people you rent often if they'd be willing to give money off or a free night. Stickers on the back of the photo booth, maybe get a dentist to donate for booth. Get businesses to sponsor beats headphones or iPads. Larry the Leopard? Who is in charge of Larry? Put it in the newsletter at elementary schools. Business owner offered to do a signage display for us. Usually it's \$150 but she's a little less, but she'll donate it!!

Technology: Lisa Burke could not attend the last MTAC meeting (Media and Technology Advisory Committee). She did receive a copy of the minutes: big thank you to the PTSA from the teachers that received the Apple TV & Doceri grants. It has revolutionized the way they teach! Melanie Farrell is looking at more green screens. Need three, one for each floor. Digital Learning Day is March 17th. The Media Minions are coming up with ideas. Digital Learning Day is for the whole school, although it is limited to no more than three students from every teacher at one time. Staff are working on Google Certification, which is only \$10. Capital plan for devices has not been decided yet, although high schools will go first. BYOD should begin next year. We have 6 teachers that will participate in training, strategies and policies. CTE classes are getting 83 new desktop computers, so there is an opportunity to distribute the old ones, but we need new monitors, keyboards and mice. Could the PTSA help pay for these? Need to wait until after Mills Madness and look at our financials. Lisa suggested getting a tech company to help with a grant or match donations? Or could they donate old monitors? Question was asked about a parent resource to help choose a BYOD. Lisa relayed that there isn't a resource yet, although most kids are using their phones, which is not preferred. Most LA teachers liked laptops, while math teachers usually liked tablets. There was discussion about the need in high school and how the firewalls present problems with Chromebooks. Another question was raised about the success of the Apple TV grants & if this would create a lot of requests in the future. Lisa was going to look into it.

Technology updates submitted after meeting: Lisa Burke spoke with Melanie Farrell (our Instructional Technology Facilitator or ITF), and she said that if parents are looking for something to buy for BYOD, they also might want to consider a mini-tablet or regular sized tablet with a keyboard instead of a laptop. She said that in the teacher training, they are encouraging teachers to seek out web based applications to use in their instruction so that kids can access the software from any device, at any time and from any place, and it can work in conjunction with Google apps (if/when they need to).

Also, only about 50 teachers were issued iPads from MPMS (although some might have gotten them from their respective departments at WCPSS and some might be using their own personal iPads, too), not the 100% that many of us at the PTSA meeting today thought. As for requesting more AppleTVs in the future, those requests will not flood in because there are teachers who are still just learning how to use the iPad and how to integrate it into their teaching and aren't up to the point of needing an AppleTV at this time. Lisa is working with Mindy Tomasevich to help remind teachers to submit receipts for their AppleTVs grants.

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Instructional Grant Proposals:

1. Melanie Farrell, media, requesting 3 additional green screens plus tripods & mounts. Since the one green screen is so popular with classroom teachers, she would like one for each grade level. Cost is \$450. Joanna Hayes motioned to approve, which was seconded by Lisa Burke. None apposed. Grant approved.
2. Bye, special education, requesting \$96 for a Flocabulary one year subscription and \$30 for Doceri. Cost is \$126. Flocabulary will help keep her students engaged and also offers life skills and current events on a low level with high interest. Lisa Burke motioned to approve, which was seconded by Jen Willis. None apposed. Grant approved.

Enrichment Grant Proposals:

1. Farrell & Dalton, both requesting Google Certified Educator Test. Cost is \$10 each. Colleen Gregg motioned to approve both grants, which was seconded by Lisa Burke. None apposed. Grants approved.

Briefly discussed that going forward we need a time stamp on approved grants and we need to reiterate that property approved by grants belongs to MPMS, not to individual teachers.

Meeting adjourned at 11:06 am