



BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Mills Park Middle School PTSA

Student Services Conference Room

Date | time 3/11/2016 9:33 AM | *Meeting called to order by* Daphne Stam

In Attendance

Daphne Stam, Cheryl Cleaton, Christy Hanson, Sandy Hankinson, Lisa Burke, Kim McKnight, Nan Zhou, Mrs. Dyer, Mr. Smith. Quorum was met.

Presentation of Minutes

Cheryl Cleaton presented the minutes from 2/12/2016. Christy Hanson motioned to approve. Kim McKnight seconded. None opposed. Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report

Report was distributed by Christy Hanson. Everything is in balance. Discussed Mills Madness \$5600 in preorders, \$155 for basket donations, \$650 sponsor checks, also a \$500 donation from Bovenizer Orthodontics.

Principal's Report

Mrs. Dyer & Mr. Smith discussed Hope Street, which provides information about things happening in the NC legislature that could impact teachers. A representative was supposed to come and speak to the committee, but they don't think they will reschedule until they get more information. At first they reached out for a PTSA representative, but now they don't think this is needed. It's still in the beginning stages, but maybe in the future she can drop in and update us on issues. Wake county is looking at recruiting and retaining good teachers. It's part of the 20/20 plan. What can we do for teachers that want to progress in their careers, but don't want to go into administration? Proven teachers are mentoring to younger/less experienced teachers. Teachers need encouragement, show support, maybe through twitter... #whyiteach or #iamwake for teachers in the Wake county school system. Maybe PTSA could put that in the newsletter. A way to show the passion that teachers have.

Mr. Smith loved the new sign for Mills Madness. Mr. Wilson will be the MC tonight... with Mr. Smith filling in if needed. They will pull numbers next Friday for allotments for next year. Number has grown from the initial 1515; there were about 80 students that were grandfathered in. They are now sending letters for those on the waitlist. So he's thinking the number is closer to 1700. With growth in the area, "growies" will surpass those coming back. If our numbers go from 1750 to 1700, MPMS could lose 2 positions. We are in a transfer window. From March thru May, teachers have the opportunity to be on the transfer list and talk to anyone without Mr. Smith's approval. We might have more on that list than usual. They are discussing dates for EOG testing. Window is last 10 days of school. They also setting dates for updating 6th grade open house. April 19th & 20th. Tours start at 5:30pm and then the general meeting, so then everyone goes home closer to 7pm. Put virtual tour on website. We've had Reggie come a few years in a row. Do we need to have him every year? He is awesome, but would it be more of an impact for him to come every other, or every three years? There is an erosion problem when you walk into the school. Mr. Smith discussed possible solutions... Sod? Walk across it. Cement? More permanent but not as appealing. Can the PTSA

help? Maybe shrubs? Mr. Smith will get some cost estimates. It needs to be done during the summer. But if we get sod, who will come in the summer to water it? Students tend to pull leaves off shrubs. We asked Mr. Smith if there were other needs the school has since we are making amendments to the budget and have extra funds from decreasing the agendas. He is not aware of another area that needs this attention. Not sure if PTSA could help with extra person expenses, like NJHS, Spotlight Theater, etc. Need to let him know if we are able or willing. Can we have Open House in January before the transfer/decision making process? Mills Park does it later. Mr. Smith said the policy is to call for a personal tour at any time. Mr. Smith doesn't want parents coming in to open house if there's no way for them to get into the school. He will pass this on to the counselors and see what they think. Larry the Leopard will make an appearance tonight at Mills Madness... he only needs to walk around for 15-20 minutes at a time because it gets too hot in that suit.

VP/Committee Reports

Communications: Carla Kent needed to buy more email credits to send out emails about Burger 21.

Staff Appreciation: Kim McKnight discussed the success of the last lunch! Pie Day is on Monday. After that, focus will be on Teacher Appreciation week. It's the first full week of May. Reflections entries are in the front case on display for Mills Madness tonight. There are two county winners!

Ways and Means, 8th Grade Events, Advocacy / Leadership Committee, and Mills Madness: Nothing to report.

Technology Advisory Committee: Lisa Burke reported that the CTE classes did get new computers. They haven't asked us yet, so assuming that they don't want our help with monitors. There are at least 3 students with serious illnesses, and they are trying to keep them engaged with school. There is a robot that can be used in school with an iPad. Looking to get donations from Red Hat, other companies. Can PTSA help pitch in for the \$2500 cost? Can be used for any child for any time they are out... broken leg, flu, etc. Maybe NC PTA grants? They're wanting one robot for all students to share. Better than regular facetime... student has more control. Adult will monitor robot so it's taken care of. Going to get more information on the grants.

President's Report

Proposed changes to budget: After discussing this with Mr. Smith and at PTSA meetings, we decided not to purchase agendas for 7th & 8th graders next year, but still purchase them for 6th graders and teachers. So our Agenda budget will decrease by \$4,000. Daphne Stam proposed to increase Instructional Grants by \$1,000; increase Staff Appreciation by \$1,000; and increase Capital Project: TBD by \$2,000. Kim McKnight motioned to approve budget changes and present it to the general meeting tonight. It was seconded by Lisa Burke. None opposed. Budget changes approved.

As we discussed and voted on the number of grant requests, we decided to take another look at the budget. We needed to increase the grant budget to accommodate the volume of requests. Sandy Hankinson motioned to increase the Capital Project: TBD by \$1,000 instead of \$2,000, so we can increase Teacher Enrichment Grants by \$1,000. That way the budget presented at the general business meeting tonight will decrease Agendas by \$4,000; increase Instructional Grants by \$1,000; increase Staff Appreciation by \$1,000; increase Capital Project: TBD by \$1,000; and increase Teacher Enrichment Grants by \$1,000. This was seconded by Christy Hanson. None opposed. New Budget changes approved.

Instructional Grant Proposals:

1. Covington, requesting \$150 for large scale mural wall map that can be used with dry erase markers. Sandy Hankinson motioned to approve, which was seconded by Christy Hanson. None opposed. Grant approved.
2. Farrell, updating grant request to \$522.24 which is an additional \$72.24 from the \$450 that was already approved for the additional green screens and iPad tripods. The original tripods chosen were not the best option; would not work well. Kim McKnight motioned to approve, which was seconded by Lisa Burke. None opposed. Grant approved.

Teacher Enrichment Grant Proposals:

1. Eddy, requesting \$250 for Master's degree work fees. Sandy Hankinson motioned to approve, which was seconded by Lisa Burke. None opposed. Grant approved.
2. Racioppo, requesting \$250 for National Board Certification Component #2. Christy Hanson motioned to table since we are running out of funds and have already approved component #1. Seconded by Lisa Burke. None opposed. Grant tabled. Once we updated the budget to increase enrichment grants, we addressed this grant again. Sandy Hankinson motioned to approve this grant pending the general meeting approval of the budget changes, which was seconded by Kim McKnight. Grant approved.
3. Kasegian, requesting \$225 for NCMLE Conference Fee. Kim McKnight motioned to approve, which was seconded by Sandy Hankinson. None opposed. Grant approved.
4. Brooks, requesting \$250 for costs associated with being one of five teachers in Wake County selected to work with NCSU professors in Finland this summer. Of the \$250, only \$45 is not associated with travel expenses. Sandy Hankinson motioned to approve the \$45, which was seconded by Lisa Burke. None opposed. Grant approved.
5. Brooks, requesting \$10 for Google Certification Fee. Kim McKnight motioned to approve, which was seconded by Lisa Burke. None opposed. Grant approved.

Nominating Committee - Vacancies:

Lots of positions need to be filled next year including: President, VP Ways & Means, Membership Chair, Advocacy Chair, Spots Breakfast, and Leadership Committee Representative. As of today, there are no potential prospects to fill these vacancies.

Other Business: Kim McKnight thinks Mrs. Dyer is going to need help with money for the DC trip. The concession stands at the dance will go towards the trip & student scholarship assistance. Kim isn't exactly sure how to handle the money. Mr. Warrick told Daphne Stam that the PTSA is not depositing money, and he's not worried about money for the trip. All he needs from the PTSA is volunteers. Could be a miscommunication because Mrs. Walton did ask Kim for help. Christy Hanson will talk with Mrs. Dyer for more information.

Meeting adjourned at 11:02 am