

McKenzie PTA
GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 10, 2019, 9:30 am – Cafeteria

Attendees: Evgeniya Drizhchenko, Amy Falkowski, Gwen Faulkner, Melissa Fenwick, Allison Frazier, Mary Fratini, Anthony Haddock, Nathan Harada, Christi Harrison, Kelly Higgins, Alexis Hubbard, Laura Keslosky, CJ Leahy, Kelly Levine, Mark Martello, Dana Nasiakos, Seth Reinick, Shauna Smith, Jane Tomlinson, Megan VanBuiten, Megan Virtanen

Kelly Levine and Mark Martello, Fall Frenzy Co-Chairs

- Volunteers – CJ Leahy, Seth Reinick, Jimmy Jones.
- May want to expand Cake Walk to blacktop and do Park District rental of Bounce House.
- Lighting and weather to be considered. Bounce House should be okay – MaryAnn Essler to be contacted for paperwork.
- Potential to move event to 5-8p with first hour for Kindergarteners and children with special needs. Request for quiet room for younger children and children with special needs with artwork and crafts. Considering middle schoolers to volunteer, Girl Scout troops, Confirmation students needing volunteer hours.
- Greater focus on pre-sale tickets and move check in to outside. Cheetah costume to be worn week of event outside to drum up interest. Room Parents to communicate to Kindergarten families to drum up interest.

Gwen Faulkner, 2nd Grade Teacher

- Teacher Update - attached.

Dana Nasiakos, Principal

- Administrative Goal – Focusing on community through relationships, partnering with parents, building relationships.
- Phase 2 Flexible Furniture project nearly done: kindergarten, art, special ed classrooms, reading offices and classrooms and student lounge.
- Focusing on professional development and education with staff – partnering with LakeShore Learning.

Amy Falkowski, President

- New Family Orientation – Successful event. Tours and presentation well received.
- District 39 Fashion Show – Volunteers needed. Contact MaryAnn O’Keefe.
- Pedal Power – People in community donate used bikes, fixed up and donated to CPS kids, need approval to use our blacktop. Date Nov 2, 2019 9a-12p.
- Creative playscape – Repairs complete, district made it safe. District wide building land grant agreements being written to ensure ongoing repairs are covered. Dana to contact district PTO with example of flexible seating as reason PTAs cannot be held responsible for ongoing costs.

Megan Virtanen, Treasurer

- Financial Report – attached.
- A to Z did not multiply \$125 per child when quantity listed as more than 1 child.
- Suggestion to email parents letting them know of the glitch with request to check and donate – perhaps “Fundraising Friends” video via Facebook.
- Flex seating – Suggestion to host fundraisers to fund future flex seating roll outs.
- Communication needed to clarify which rooms need to be complete, enhancements and replacements to be made. Offline budget meeting to occur. Mrs. Hartman completed survey last year asking what they used and like. Suggestion to do a “coffee with the kids” gathering and video to communicate uses.

Nathan Harada, Enrichment

- 1st Graders did not increase to four sections. Others increased: 4th Grade – 5 classes, 2nd grade – 5 classes.
- Garden – Shed was not installed last year. A vote was completed last year to install it and funding is available for it.

Shauna Smith, Communications

- Reviewing types of communication: A to Z, Monitor, Facebook (unofficial), Room Parents, Getting to Know McKenzie Guide (online only), Magnets.

Melissa Fenwick, Room Parents

- Orientation meeting went well. Representatives for all classes. Email will go out to room parents with targeted messages as we get closer to click bid.

Seth Reinick, Community Building

- Ice Cream Social this Sunday.
- Play practices begin today.
- First Day Coffee will need host for next year.

Megan VanBuiten and Mary Fratini, Fundraising

- Spirit Wear Sales - \$800 in August
- Fall Frenzy – Leaders coming to General Meeting
- Sign Up Parties – 14 confirmed parties, Amazing Race and Tacos and Tequilas already taken over. ClickBid launch October 20th. Have four events with ClickBid so have multiple opportunities. Read-A-Thon in previous years very successful – suggested as Flex-Seating specific fundraiser.
- Parent Party – April 18th confirmed. Michigan Shores paperwork on its way for \$800 reduced fee to include linens, seating, votives, space, etc.

General Public Notes

- Evgeniya Drizhchenko, Way for kids with Special Needs to have a parent accompany them to lunch? Contact Melissa Stambor to schedule or work with District to secure observation hours.

Next meeting October 8, 2019 at 9:45a.