

PTA Meeting Minutes 05.18.23

Attendees:

PTA Members: Matt Hills/President, Rob Ridenour/Vice President, Rebecca Geswein/Treasurer, Allison Ridenour/Co Treasurer, Sofia Chang/Secretary, Janelle Nelson-Gardner/Principal, Laura Frappaolo/Teacher Rep, Mandy Bakulski, Jessica Gorman, Alexa Metrick, Emily Tuleja.

Non PTA members: Lauren Ake, Renee Maxwell, Alison Schwabe, Sarah Barkley

1. Approval of minutes from April 25th/2023 - approved with no opposition

2. Principal Report, Janelle Nelson - Gardner
 - End of the year events: Mitchell Miler, Field trips, Gaga ball/auction winners.
 - Garden club at recess has been amazing.
 - Mileage club.
 - Preliminary data on end of the year assessments. Reading and literacy: 83% of students K-3rd performing at or above the expected benchmark. MAP-Math: 76% of students in higher high average percentiles. Language/Arts: 77% of students in higher high average percentiles. This closes tomorrow.
 - 500 bowls (compostable) from the cafeteria to donate to PTA (Hospitality might take it).
 - Alison Schwabe: I'm part of the Golden Sustainability Advisory Council. Opportunities to collaborate/make connections.

3. Teacher Report - Laura Frappaolo
 - Big thank you for teacher appreciation week.

4. Financial Report - Rebecca Geswein
 - There is a first draft for the 2023-2024 school year. School Instructional resources (used this year for technology/mimio boards): \$15,000 have been budgeted for next year. Considering the inflation, the budget for some items has been increased (Ex. Excel Enrichment funds, from \$3,600 to \$4,800).
 - The budget will be approved in the first PTA meeting next year.
 - Cash in the bank \$57,000 (May 17th, 2023). \$10,000 are kept for reserve.
 - Matt: The budget is a framework. The PTA can spend the money in the budget without needing to vote on it. The PTA has to vote to spend any other money outside the budget. So if the PTA has money and someone has a proposal or a program, it's totally doable. After it's voted, the expenses are put in the budget.
 - Janelle: Facilities came out with two sorts of proposals. Additional shade for the playground, and outdoor lunch area. It's been a long time since we've had a desire to have more outdoor eating capability. Now it's only possible

to have a class and a half. There are several approved vendors (Ex. Anova: Shades might cost \$30.000-\$41.000). Other ideas: concrete wall barriers that can be sitting plus picnic tables and shade. Nothing can be attached to the building. Facilities will work on some aerial drawings. If we commit 60% of the funds there's an opportunity to get funds from the City of Golden grant/central facilities. To make it happen this should be decided as soon as possible (in June). I can put in the order, and then say no if there are no funds. Matt: We have been raising money for these kind of things. We can survey people and get the number and see. Allison S.: the school might put solar panels on the shade, and maybe get money back with all the new funding for this. The Sustainability Council may help with the applications to get these benefits. Janelle: I will start tomorrow on this.

5. Committee/Program Reports

- Hospitality (Jessica Gorman)
 - Teacher appreciation week. Teachers got coffee, breakfast items, wellness bags, flowers, happy hour, etc. Got donations from Red Silo, Costco, others
 - This summer Jessica will pass all the information on to Rebecca (google drive) who will lead this committee next year.
- EDI (Equity/Diversity/Inclusion) (Mandy Bakulski)
 - Better Together Event on May 9th: Around 17-20 displays. Kids could reflect on this while preparing their displays. Survey: People are grateful for this opportunity. To consider next year: the DJ was loud, so it made it difficult to hear the presentations.
 - Co-chair: Sam Monson's kids are moving to Middle School. Idea: Send e-greeting. Rebecca: Flowers from Costco were sent to Sam.
 - Matt: think about EDI event dates for next year. Mandy: We might change the Better Together to an earlier date.
- Past Events
 - Talent Show. Very well attended.
 - Science Fair. Janelle: Was good having the displays for classes to go through and see the projects. Next year: having a shorter amount of time for the kid presentation public part.
 - Western on Washington: Matt: Nex year Renee, Julie, and Colleen will take over. Lauren: Consider more food. Allison: In the budget, did you expect to raise \$26.000 and only got \$13.000? Matt: The budget looks odd this year because we changed and separated fundraising

as another program (Monica Groh). There she raised \$7.400 in cash, plus other benefits that went into the event. So we actually made more than \$26.000. Rebecca: We made more this year, but the expenses also went up. This is something to look at, but still is incredibly profitable. Renee: The WOW committee for next year is meeting in two weeks. Fund event+fundraiser. Matt: We usually book the Rose for the next year the week after WOW. Put the deposit down before July. Mandy: Observation, it was so loud we couldn't hear the bidding at the end. There should be a way to make it clear (big loud: "5 min. Left for the bidding"). People miss the opportunity to bid while chatting.

- Mitchell Miler. The race timing was amazing.
- Continuation. No news.

6. Old Business

- Garden: (Alexa Metrick)
 - Garden is going well. A \$1.000 budget is okay. An automatic drip system is not allowed, we're figuring out the solution.
 - There is a mud kitchen (kids look for worms), a sunflower garden. We will have a pumpkin garden in the 5 uncovered boxes.
 - Instead of doing a harvest festival, we will have an Autumn garden festival (Oct. 26th). Pumpkin patch plus different activities.
 - Earth day celebration was done even though it was snowing all day.
 - We have 11 families who volunteer to come over and water during summer.
 - M-W-F recess club going.
 - Matt: do not forget to submit forms for events.
- Fundraising: (Monica Groh is absent)
 - Sarah: I got a task by Jess and Meghan to contact other PTA schools to see what they are doing (Kyffin, Shelton). What the fundraisers look like, what coordinations we might do. Matt: I would start with Monica G.
 - Allison S.: What is the Fall fundraiser considering WOW is in Spring? Matt: there is not a specific fundraising event in Fall (some other events: Cannonball). Allison: A golf fundraiser might be a good idea. This might be easy to do and fun (Ex. Fairmount).
- Golden Gallop: (Jenn Ebetino is absent)
 - Date: September 17th.
- Spirit wear (Jenn Ebetino is absent)

7. New Business

- 23/24 Calendar Framework.
 - Review the draft, and send event dates to Matt or Meghan to populate the calendar. Check it out with Debie before the school starts to see if this fits with the school calendar.

- New Family Packet Update (Emily Tuleja).
 - There is a great set of information to help new families to get familiar with Mitchell operation and help them to navigate in the Mitchell daily logistic. This packet can be found on the Mitchell PTA website.
 - Next year it will be included in the packet a list of Commonly Used Acronyms for Mitchell Elementary.

- 23/24 DirectorySpot Planning.
 - Class/Teacher information still needs to be updated in many cases.
 - Evaluate whether to eliminate all those records that do not update their information at the beginning of the next year.
 - Laura: teachers can help by sending emails to ask parents to complete/update the information.
 - Big barrier: school cannot provide any information on this (privacy).

- Mitchell Yard Signs
 - Meghan Eddy idea (sent by email). This is a way for families to display their Mustang pride and increase visibility in their neighborhood. Take photos on the first day of school and share with family, friends, and social media. Signs can be reused every year. Allison S.: Spirit week? Maybe use signs at the beginning of Kinder and then at the end of 5th. Alexa: Signs could be rented.

- Parenting Safe Children Workshop.
 - Meghan Eddy idea (sent by email). Exposed by Sarah.
 - This workshop is presented by Feather Berkower. Patent educator and prevention expert.
 - Topics: raise children with healthy boundaries/body pride. Talk with your children about body safety. Healthy sexual development, etc.
 - Sessions are two Saturdays (2.5 hrs each day)
 - Minimum: 45 participants (\$55pp). Maximum: 100. \$2.475 required to book.
 - Book soon to lock the date. The Earliest date might be in October.
 - The PTA may subsidize to make it more equitable.
 - Matt: **Motion to allocate \$5.500 for this workshop. All in favor.**

- Allison S. will talk to Sarah (who had to leave before the votation) so she can make the arrangements with the expert.
 - Renee offered to manage parents' payment considering "suggested" value.
 - Janelle: Idea: To have a Series of speakers/experts on different topics (Screens, Eating disorders, etc). The PTA is totally interested in funding this.
- Community Input Discussion.
 - PTA fundraising objectives. What to spend the money on. Committee to get clarity on this.
 - Janelle: This is addressed in Accountability meetings. This is advertised in Friday Notes.