

PTA Meeting Minutes 04.25.23

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, Sam Monson, Jessica Gorman, Monica Groh, Alexa Metrick, Jenn Ebetino, Emily Tuleja, Jessica Furlong

Non PTA members: Matthew Barkley, Meghan Eddy, Lauren Ake, Dana Hall, Rachel Burton, Renee Maxwell, Carley Spargo

1. Approval of minutes from Feb .23th/2023 - approved with no opposition

The agenda order was changed to prioritize the elections (due to some members had to leave earlier).

2. Old Business

Elections were held.

- July 1st starts a new term.
- Elections were held for President, Vice-president, Treasurer, Secretary. Terms are for one year for each position. Typically we have had positions filled for two years, so two positions overlap with other two positions for continuation.
- Matt read President and Vice-President duties (according to bylaws).
- Nominations 2023-2024:
 - Secretary: Sofia Chang. All in favor/No opposition. Elected.
 - Treasurer: Allison Ridenour. All in favor/No opposition. Elected.
 - President: Meghan Eddy. All in favor/No opposition. Elected.
 - Vice President(s):
 1. 1st VP: Jessica Furlong. All in favor/No opposition. Elected.
 2. 2nd VP: Renee Maxwell. All in favor/No opposition. Elected.

3. Principal Report, Janelle Nelson - Gardner

- Last week was the last MCAT meeting of the school year. Suggestions and recommendations to freshen up the Mitchell Elementary website will be taken into consideration to start the next school year with a new website!
- Lots of field trips, music performances. Students are finishing different projects and assessments.
- Highlight the strong connection on Western on Washington.
- Mitchel Miller was explained. Fun race on May 12th. Pre-runs at PE time. A race timing company is a partner for the race this year.
- Matt: Mr. Lars. have requested funding for race timing equipment, and to paint a mustang in a rainbow logo in the playground. Total needed: \$550. There is US\$405 left in the budget. We might supplement \$200 to complete the projects. Carly: asking to buy basketballs adding \$100.

- **Motion to supplement \$300** PE budget for timing equipment, painting the logo, and other PE equipment. **Motion approved.** All in favor.

4. Teacher Report - Laura Frappaolo

- Thanks again for loading the lounge.
- Do not forget to sign up for modified contact days.
- Allison: Next year we might try to load the lounge once a month. A grade can be in charge each month, starting by 1st grade, and keeping it more consistent. Get more variety. Money donations/gift cards instead of stuff. Matt: Rebecca has opened a Venmo account for the PTA which will make this easier.
- Jessica Furlong: Idea: to have a “boss parent volunteer” per room. Laura: Some teachers like and others do not like parents volunteering in their rooms. And they just use sign up genius if they need help. At the beginning of the next year Laura might do a small survey among the teachers to see if something else can be done.

5. Financial Report - Rebecca Geswein

- The PTA gave the school \$15,000 for technology, and in Dec. we voted for \$6,000 for modular tables and chairs for the conference room. The school could not buy the tables (6) through the Jeffco system and the PTA agreed on to buy that (see minutes 02.23.23). In technology the school spent \$17,000 and in chairs \$3,300. Tables cost \$5,500 including freight. We need to approve this.
- Matthew: Are there better uses to support our children than hard goods? Bring additional people to work at school.
- Carly: What does the community want to do? Special treatment for these topics. See what other schools are doing.
- Alexa: According to my experience working on an architecture firm. The price of the tables is totally reasonable.
- Rob: Offering a different perspective. Funding staff is aversive to me. Not because other schools are doing this it's something Mitchell should do. This promotes inequities that already exist.
- Matt: We appreciate everybody's opinion. We need to run the meeting effectively according to the agenda. We can appoint a special committee to survey the community/where we want to focus the funds. We want to have this discussion. . We need the tables until the next meeting.
- Rebecca: soft numbers of Western of Washington: \$25,000 gross. So far \$9,600 expenses- some more are coming. \$12,000 net. This does not include sponsorships. Before WOW we had \$36,000 in the bank.
- PTA Venmo was set: @Mitchell-PTA. They take 1.5% off.
- Set up a meeting for next year's budget.

- Matt: overall these numbers show that during covid years we were able to fundraise but we didn't have as many expenditures. We're still supporting the school on technology funding, and we still have reserves. We don't want to lose the fundraise infrastructure we have built. We're overall in a good place.
- Matt: We are looking for a motion:
 - **To purchase the conference tables: \$5.500. Motion approved. All in favor. No opposition.**
 - **To change the \$6.000 purpose we gave to the school in december. Instead of using it for chairs and tables, this will be used in chairs and technology. Motion approved. All in favor. No opposition.**
- Matt: A budget meeting will be set to work on the framework. Next year in the first PTA meeting the budget should be approved.

6. Committee/Program Reports

- Hospitality (Jessica Gorman)
 - Looking for someone to take over this committee. Approx.10 events. Dedication: 2 hrs. On each event.
 - The committee can be run for 2 or 3 people.
 - There is a google folder with the information of each event.
 - Sign up genius helps.
 - Rebecca Geswein and Lauren Ake will take over.
- EDI (Equity/Diversity/Inclusion) (Sam Monson)
 - Mandy will need a co-chair.
 - Having an EDI committee is a national PTA best practice.
 - A Better Together Event is coming on May 9th. New this year: DJ, PhotoBooth. In the art room there will be a build day to help families with their displays. Sign up genius to get volunteers. It might be great having middle/high schoolers helping.

7. Old Business (continuation)

- Fundraising (Monica Groh)
 - We are always looking for new businesses to participate. It can be through the sponsor's program or the ruffle.
 - Monica will continue running this next year.
- Garden: (Alexa Metrick)
 - We started a garden recess club every M,W, F. Spinach, mix greens, and radish in the cold frames. We might have a full cycle at the end of the school year.

- There are no automatic timers for watering. For the summer pumpkins will be planted in all the boxes. We might have a competition in October/which grade has the biggest pumpkin.
 - Looking for volunteers for the recess club, and for help/watering during summer.
 - Earth Day celebration was done even though it was snowing all day.
 - Autumn festival date might be proposed to put it in the calendar.
 - Email expenses to Rebecca.
- Golden Gallop: (Jenn Ebetino)
 - End of September. 5k, 10k. Ralston won last year.
 - Winner: \$1,000-school PE
 - Teacher Appreciation Week (Jenn Ebetino)
 - Teacher recognition awards.
 - Spirit wear (Jenn Ebetino)
 - To have more options/designs for the next year. Mrs. Hudson's brother owns a company so we might have more options on hoodies, etc.
 - We still have lots of beanies.
 - New order Yo Colorado T-shirts.
 - Continuation for 5th graders (Sam Monson)
 - Theme: 80s. May 25th.
 - 5pm ceremony at Mitchell
 - 6pm after-party at New Loveland Mine Park
 - Food trucks. Picnic, etc.

Next meeting: May 18th, 3:15 pm at Mitchell Library