

September 2024 PTO Meeting Minutes

Meeting starts at 6:02, led by Karin Greenberg

Board introductions

Parent feedback and concern for purposes of proposals: ppscommitteeproposal@gmail.com

- -Approval of May 2024 minutes: Ilyssa Ringold moves to approve. Judith Adelson seconds. Approved
- -Communications Report (Chair absent)
- **-Treasurer's Report** (Leslie Grodin): Report given. ~\$14K of balance is restricted. Board is working on getting it unrestricted but the rest is available for grants.

Question: What is the annual fundraising goal? Answer: No specific goal; it's usually just the Spirit Wear sale and plant sale in Spring. This is the first year for the ask drive with a goal of \$5K

- **-Fundraising Report**: (Ilyssa Ringold) No Spirit Wear sales at half day lunches, as lunches won't be served. Looking for co-volunteers for Spirit Wear Sales
 - -(Merav) PTO Table at Squirrel Hill Night Market fundraiser. Spirit wear, green and white cookies, and raffle tickets. Volunteer schedules is one-hour time slots.
- -Dana Blittstein: Because plant sale is a lot of work for a little money, so she and Cassie decided on a fundraiser with a goal of \$5K. Launched on Monday, 9/16, it's already up to \$1,100. Parents ask parents. Hope is to reach goal by Thanksgiving. Please share with friends, family, and parents. Take fliers to sporting events.

Student report (Zamorrie Reeves): Mental Health Day planning is underway.

Grants: (Judith Adelsen) Microgrants from \$100 to \$1000 or more. Parents and students can find a staff/faculty sponsor or reach out to grants committee to help find a sponsor.

Grants page is on the PTO website with an application. ptograntsdice@gmail.com with questions

Merav: Feedback from grantees from 2023-2024

Current grant proposals:

- 1) Mr. Battaglia: Looking for an additional 3D printer for Engineering magnet and electives. The district declined to finance it \$875
- 2) School nurse applied for new bed, table and chair for sick room. \$1065.98
- 3) Social studies teacher Sam Milkie: Shop tools for theatre department \$1522

All approved by unanimous votes.

Community Relations Committee (Merav): Grants committee can't make changes to building. Committee has taken Ericka Strassberger and Yael Silk (separately) on tours of the building to highlight issues that need to be addressed. Anyone welcome to reach out and assist.

Principal's Report: Bathroom upgrades in progress. Hand driers have been installed. After bumpy start with heat days. Projection 1247 students. 1395 actual students, so not staffed for that number at this time. Classes are pretty full. Adjustment to backup at doors since homeroom is not first this year. A third entrance has been opened up for security in the morning. Down to 3 from 4 lunches. Homecoming are coming up Sept 28. Meet the teachers – Thursday Oct 17 afternoon, or on Friday, Oct 18. Support from families is appreciated.

Family and Community Engagement Coordinator (FACE report): Video by Ms. Grogan, who could not attend. Explains role of FACE coordinator – bridge between school and families/community. The Back to School Bash was a success. Announcements: Oversees Craig's Closet, an initiative started by Heyward Foundation which gives suits, dress clothes, shoes, etc, to men in need when they have job interviews, proms, etc. A lot of kids used it last year. Kids can come pick out a suit/outfit. PAC – Parent Advisory Council. Dinner and child care provided at meetings. If interested in being a PAC parent, look at District website and/or reach out to Ms. Grogan mgrogan2@pghschools.com

PAC Report: Katy is not available at this time. Justin Hsieh – no meetings to report on as of this Fall.

Email prezallderdicepto@gmail.com with any questions.

Any questions?

Night market Sept 28, 6-10: Reach out to Merav

Next PTO meeting Oct. 17

Adjourned at 6:50 PM