November 21, 2024, PTO Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Karin Greenberg, Leslie Grodin, Dana Blitstein, Simone Taubenberger, Mara Svoboda, Judith Adelson, Aviva Lubowsky, Ilyssa Ringold, Eileen Gorry, Madison Grogan, James McCoy, Lyndsey Van Luik

Meeting begins at 6:03pm, led by Karin Greenberg.

Review and approval of the October 2024 minutes: Ilyssa Ringold moves to approve. Dana Blitstein seconds. Approved.

Communications' Report – No Report

Treasurer's Report - Leslie Grodin reviewed the report. Deposits for the month total \$2,688. Disbursements total \$561.50. The balance is \$21,127.93 for the checking account and \$24,625.32 for the Dragon Spirit account. The total is \$45,753.25.

Fundraising Report -

Spiritwear: Ilyssa Ringold reported that new Spiritwear has been ordered including a new design logo. There will be a Spiritwear sale on December 12th during all the lunches. Ilyssa is looking for a volunteer to help. Dan Elsass will be selling Spiritwear that same evening at the multicultural dinner and winter concert. The Spiritwear will be kept at the school between events.

Dice Dragon Drive: Dana Blitstein reported that the goal of \$5,000 has been surpassed. The total is currently \$6,100. This fundraiser will end on Thanksgiving. Dana wants to encourage teachers and parents to apply for grants. At Dr. McCoy's suggestion, Dana will attend the faculty meeting on December 11th at 2:45pm.

Events' Report – Aviva Lubowsky will coordinate the multicultural dinner this year. The dinner is on December 12th at 6pm. The winter concert will follow at 7pm. Spiritwear will be sold this evening. A Sign-Up Genius will be sent out soon so parents can sign up to bring a dish and to volunteer. Teachers participate at the dinner. Dr. McCoy would like a flyer that he will share on his weekly email.

Grant Proposals – Maddy Grogan shares that some of the grant request amounts may be incorrect. Judy Adelson will confirm the amounts. Judy Adelson recommends funding for 6 grants.

- 1. \$500 for Helping Hub Pantry (Social Work / Student Services). Ms. Kylie Tautkus-Malobisky.
- \$68.48 Poster Stock (AP World Hist 10th, AP Seminar 10th / 11th, American Democracy 12).
 Ms. Price
- 3. \$129.95 Positive Behavioral strategy "Dum Dum (lollipops) Fridays" (AP World Hist 10th, AP Seminar 10th / 11th, American Democracy 12). Ms. Price
- 4. \$300 (partial funding recommended) STEAM Team materials and competition fee (Engineering). Mr. Brinkman. 3rd year making this request.
- 5. Up to \$400 Specialized printer (Ceramics class). Ms. Kramer. Allows images to be printed on the clay.
- 6. \$148.53 lunch during off-site Community Service Project (Consumer Science). Ms. Chicas. Other funding comes from an in-kind donation from a restaurant.

All grants approved. Grants 1,2, 5, 6 are unanimous. Grants 3 and 4 pass with a 6 to 1 vote.

Ms. Grogan will create a scan code so teachers can easily find the grant request form. Teachers and staff aren't sure what they can request. Ms. Grogan will list examples of what they can request.

Principal's Report - Dr. McCoy reports that there was a rededication ceremony for the Tree of Life plaque. It was a small event with 40-50 guests. Guests included Dr. McCoy, people who attended the initial installation, victims' family members, representatives from the school district, Mayor Gainey, members of the Jewish Student Union, and members of the Eradicate Hate group. There was some media there and it was livestreamed on the PPS Facebook page. There is a camera pointed at the plaque and there are discussions on ways to fortify it.

Discover Allderdice night had a large turnout. There were questions about the magnet program, feeder patterns, etc... The next day it was announced that there won't be any changes for next year.

There are 846 AP Exams being taken in the spring.

College Applications: Approximately ½ of the seniors have sent out early action applications. 1000 applications have gone out so far. College fairs are winding down.

Students, staff, and teachers are getting ready for Thanksgiving break.

The semi-formal is on December 13th.

Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Report - Ms. Grogan extends a thank you to the PTO for being at the Discover Allderdice night to sell Spiritwear and help families.

She asks a question from Vice Principal Humphries. Would the PTO donate money so that items can be purchased for raffle baskets? The students will be raising money by selling raffle tickets for \$1. They want to know if the PTO will match the amount raised. This is part of an idea where the students will pledge not to drink before the semi-formal dance. When signing the pledge, they will get a raffle ticket making them eligible to win prizes. Judy Adelson and Karin Greenberg say that this will be discussed at some point after the meeting.

Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Report - No report

Student Report - No report

PSCC meeting to follow: The topic is the college application process, led by Ms. Van Luik.

There is no December PTO Meeting due to the multicultural dinner and winter concert.

The next PTO meeting is January 16th at 6pm.

Meeting adjourned at 6:41pm.