

October 22, 2024 PTO Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Karin Greenberg, Leslie Grodin, Simone Taubenberger, Dana Blitstein, Katy Rank Lev, Eileen Gorry

Meeting starts at 6:02, led by Karin Greenberg

Review and approval of September 2024 minutes: Katy Rank Lev moves to approve. Leslie Grodin seconds. Approved.

Communications Report - Karin Greenberg reported for Dan Elsass that we are looking into using MailChimp again or another service to easily send PTO announcements about meetings/special events/volunteering opportunities

Treasurer's Report - Leslie Grodin went over the Treasurer's Report. Deposits for the month from Spiritwear and donations total \$4400.50. Disbursements from grants and other expenses total \$3845.49. Total PTO balance is \$43,651.75

Fundraising Report -

Spiritwear Update - Karin Greenberg reported for Ilyssa Ringold and Emily Lovelady. It has been a while since we have had a new design. Therefore, Emily put together a few T-shirt designs as well as a poll for the students that we are trying to get onto Teams or another way for them to vote. Currently there was a poll that Dr. McCoy sent out on his weekly Sunday email, and we had 45 votes. Will try to get the students involved and voting on a new design winner. Then we plan to order more inventory and have our first in-house Spiritwear sale possibly in November. We are looking for someone to take over Emily's position and if anyone is interested in joining the Spiritwear team this year, please email prezallderdicepto@gmail.com

Squirrel Hill Night Market - Karin Greenberg and Dana Blitstein reported that it was a huge success with lots of parent volunteers and lots of Spiritwear sales and donors for the Dice Dragon Drive.

Fall Fundraiser - Dice Dragon Drive - Dana Blitstein reported on how well the Drive is going and that we are close to our goal and to keep the momentum going and to encourage parents to ask other parents to donate.

Grants -

Simone Taubenberger presented a grant that was submitted by Mr. Ricketts. He requested \$479.97 to purchase 3 sets of Maker Bot robot kits for the engineering and robotics electives. Ms. Grogan spoke on his behalf. This grant was approved.

Events Report -

The multi-cultural dinner and winter concert will be on December 12th.

The social worker is starting a food drive. There are collection boxes in various common areas in the school. There is also an Amazon wish list. Many students use the pantry.

Principal's Report –

It's almost the end of the 1st quarter.

Homecoming was successful with 600 students attending. It was held in the gym.

The sophomores and juniors took their PSATs.

Teacher conferences were last week. Appointments filled up quickly. 60%-70% were virtual. This Friday, teachers will have the opportunity to connect with parents who weren't able to get an appointment last week.

Picture day is today and tomorrow.

The Cabaret is this Thursday, October 24th at 7pm.

Friday, October 25th is a ½ day. There will be a teacher vs. student volleyball game after school.

October 30th is the end of the 1st quarter.

The Black Student Union is hosting a Halloween Party on the 31st.

The volleyball team won their 11th straight city championship. They are going to states.

The cross-country team won the city championships.

Soccer finished their regular season. Post-season starts next week.

Tennis wrapped up their season.

Swimming pre-season started this week.

Rowing had a big race at The Head of the Charles in Boston.

The Tree of Life plaque was discovered to be missing on October 10th. Reviews of the camera footage showed that it was missing as far back as September 17th. A temporary plaque will be in place for the anniversary. A permanent plaque has been ordered and will be in place in November. The school will cover the cost of replacement.

Family and Community Engagement Coordinator (FACE Report)

Maddy Grogan's report:

Craig's Closet, started by the Heyward Foundation and includes Najee Harris's mother.

They are gathering dress clothes including suits and prom dresses. They hope to have this up and running in the next few weeks.

Pittsburgh Penguin's tickets are available for students. The Allderdice page has a link that shows how to get the tickets.

PAC Report – Katy Lev reported that the most recent meeting discussed Title 1 and how the funds are distributed.

No student report.

The next PTO meeting is November 21st at 6pm.

Meeting adjourned at 6:25pm.