



November General Meeting
Tuesday, November 14, 2016

Attendees:

Steven Gimbelman
MaryJane Garibay
Courtney McCormick
Jenn Winkelman

Justine Buzzetta
Danielle Gibson
Stephanie Collura
January Nicoletta

Stephanie Lukowitz
Amy Dimes
Marci Klein

The meeting was called to order at 7:10.

1. Executive Board Reports

a) Patricia Pecoraro / Danielle Gibson- Co-Presidents

Fall Parent Social is on FRIDAY NIGHT! If you have not gotten your tickets, purchase them as soon as possible. Tickets are \$50 if purchased by Thursday and \$60 at the door.

MaryJane spoke about the Green Team. Patricia, Danielle, and MaryJane had a meeting to discuss the goal-oriented fundraising that will take place the next 2 years. The PTO wants to give a legacy gift, in which every child in the district will be a part of the gift. The vision is to elaborate and expand upon our innovation labs and the focus will be sustainability, energy efficiency, and making a commitment back to the community. Presently, the children are harvesting in innovation labs and eating what they are harvesting. The staff from POMPTONIAN FOOD SERVICE have been volunteering their time and helping students with the harvesting. For example, they helped children harvest lettuce and gather the lettuce in bushel baskets. The goal is to expand upon this by developing an on- site greenhouse that will be used as an eco-classroom. This initiative will require allocation of district resources (not relying on volunteers). The STEM coach is very excited about this opportunity. The goal is to receive funding from multiple sources. One outlet for funding is Sustainable Schools New Jersey, which offers different levels of grant funding. To apply for grants, the district first needs to create a Green Team. Once the district becomes part of Sustainable Schools New Jersey, the district can acquire points for sustainability and the points can be used towards grants. (For example, our energy audit gives points towards sustainability.) One

grant available that will be beneficial to the district is a \$2000 planning grant (which can be used towards materials and designs).

Danielle described the legacy gift as limitless! We can create partnerships with local farms, pool from parents, pool from kids, etc. Everyone is invited to participate and expand upon the initiative. There will be a meeting in December for anyone who is interested in participating.

MaryJane asked for innovation lab feedback. Stephanie Lukowitz shared the positive experiences her daughter had earlier today. Her daughter explained how much fun it was picking off the plants and tasting the vegetables. Justine Buzzetta added that Elizabeth loves the innovation labs.

MaryJane is going to work on getting some estimates and getting a ballpark figure for the price of the project.

b) Courtney McCormick - Vice President

Spiritwear purchase is back open until December 6th. It was very exciting to see all the teachers wearing their Spiritwear on Spirit Day!

Mini-Grant Approval - On the back page of the agenda, you can find a list of the approved mini-grants. The list includes the applicants, the amount of the grant, and the grade levels that benefit from the grant. The grants will be approved later in the meeting.

c) Amy Dimes - Fundraising / Sponsorship

-Website Sponsorship available March-June

-Newsletter Sponsorship available February-June

-App Directory Sponsorship still available

-Spring Gala: Gold, Silver, Platinum and Cocktail Hour Sponsor available

-5K Fun Run: Start and finish line and t-shirt sponsorship available

d) Jennifer Winkelmann- Student Activities Director

Thanksgiving Pie Sale - Orders are pretty much submitted (tomorrow is the last day). Thus far, we have 143 pies purchased and are donating 28 to the VFW and Lunch Break. Pickup will be at both schools on Monday and Tuesday until 6:00.

Frosty's - Steven Gimbelman will be sending out a memo for the first committee meeting. The day of the event, Stephanie said they will need body guards to keep the parents outside. Another concern is that the sports foundation needs to lock the cafeteria doors from the outside so that all people enter through the front entrance and see the different items for sale at Frosty's. Mrs. Garibay is going to notify the sports foundation of this change. New to the event this year, the children can make and sell their own crafts. Stephanie wants the principals to announce this opportunity to the children. Mrs. Garibay is going

to notify the principals regarding this announcement. Two flyers have already been created for this event. The red flyer has been distributed and the green flyer will be distributed November 28th. This year children can purchase gift bags for \$0.50 (donated by Steven Gimbelman). And outside the cafeteria, there will be wrapping paper and cards for purchase (also donated by Steven Gimbelman). Hopefully, Orlando's and Rook will be there, too!

Holiday shopping - Justine spoke about the PTO website shopping link. She has 9 different companies thus far: hollycollection.com, Pampered Chef, Touchstone Crystal, Thirty-one, Rodan and Fields, Folio Art, Rose Silvy, Emily Brewster, and Music Man. It will be first come, first serve, with PTO members getting first pick. The PTO will get a percentage back from the sales. Some companies will give back in gala basket donations. Justine asked if anyone has any other ideas of who would be interested in using the website for sales. Someone suggested Avatar so she's going to reach out to them.

- e) Stephanie Collura- Communications Director
- f) January Nicoletta - Assistant Treasurer
- g) Nancy Morin - Treasurer
September's Treasurer's Report

9/30/16 ending balances:

Checking	\$7,134
Gaming	\$8,500
PTO Savings	\$16,657

Notable income:

- 6,855 in membership dues
- 1,415 in gala donations

Notable expenses

- 58,500 towards the legacy gift
- 2,000 in mini grants

- h) Marci Klein - Secretary
The secretary moved to approve the following:
Mini-grants (Justine Buzzetta, Steven Gimbelman) all were in favor.
September Treasurer's Report (Stephanie Lukowitz, Steven Gimbelman) all were in favor.
October Meeting Minutes (Stephanie Lukowitz, Justine Buzzetta) all were in favor.

The meeting was adjourned 8:07.

