

## **November PTO Meeting Notes 11-27-2023 @6:30 pm**

PTO Attendees: Diane Thiels, Molly Darsow, Jennifer Yiangou, Michelle Klonec

Parents/Staff: Dr. Kate Hinton, Meg Flowers, Rachel Weirich, Jana Tarlton, Erin Cramer, Jacob Shellenberger (student) and Mr. Shellenberger

**Director Update**—New Executive Director Kate shared her appreciation of PTO hosting Pizza Days, and how much the kids look forward to it each week.

**Treasurer Report**—Jennifer presented the budget. Current balance is \$11,885. Our PTO Donation Appeal failed to solicit much response. Donations for the year are only \$33. Pizza Days have been surprisingly lucrative despite Domino's price increase. Things started off a little slow, but demand has increased (and so have volunteers). We've already made \$2500 profit so far this year. We've made 20% of our budgeted goal (only two months into the school year!)

### **PTO News**

- **Staff Conference Dinner** (11/6) went really well! Lots of great contributions and plenty of leftovers for lunch throughout the week.
- **Pizza Day Update**—Diane did cost analysis by calling around to Little Caesar's, Davanni's, and Papa John's. Both Davanni's and Papa John's are beyond our price point, but Little Caesar's is a possibility. Fourteen-inch pizzas would be \$1 less per pizza, but we'd have to be really certain if we want to make the change because the owner would have to make an investment in pizza bags. Diane said he's very interested in the business. Molly expressed a concern that the kids might be averse to such a change and that could upset current demand. NOTE: students who collect 5 FIRE slips can redeem them for a certificate for one free slice of pizza.
- **Restaurant Nights**—Molly has our first restaurant scheduled for Zupas on December 5 from 4-9 pm. Kate said she would work with one of the staff to coordinate a school-wide Restaurant Night schedule so there will be no more overlapping restaurant nights between PTO and the different MSA organizations. This schedule could then be made public for anyone looking to support school events.
- **Volunteer NEED**—PTO is still looking for a PIZZA DAY COORDINATOR, someone who can manage pizza orders on a weekly basis (accounting for school happenings such as fieldtrips, testing, etc.). We are also looking for a RESTAURANT NIGHT COORDINATOR.

### **Upcoming Events**

- **December Staff Appreciation and Gift Cards** (12/20)—based on the current MSA staff count Diane received from Shauni, 80 gift cards are needed. PTO will host a bagel/cream cheese breakfast at 12/20 staff meeting and cards will be distributed at that time. It was decided that \$15 Target gift cards will be purchased on Saturday 12/2 (Target is running a 10% sale on gift cards this weekend). Diane and Molly will meet Saturday morning to make the gift card purchases with Molly's Red Card; she will then receive PTO reimbursement.
- **Skating Event** (1/22 or 1/29/24)—Molly will look into fieldhouse or indoor rink rental to offer a place for MSA kids to burn off some energy on these non-school / digital schooldays.

### **Other Items of Note**

- **Music Ambassadors**—Mr. Shellenberger and his son Jacob reiterated the request to have the PTO offer some type of scholarship toward the Music Ambassadors European trip. PTO budget has only just reached a moderately healthy level and is not in the position to administer funding to clubs or groups at this time. Molly spoke on this subject, saying parameters could be put into place at some future time for funding requests such as these.
- **Coffee with the Director**—Kate expressed an interest in hosting a monthly coffee chat with interested parents after the first of the year. PTO could provide coffee and/or treats.
- **Stadium Cushions**—Parents are interested in purchasing MSA-themed stadium cushions for use on metal folding chairs at future MSA events. Jennifer will reach out to her branding contact to possibly acquire such an item as another PTO fundraiser opportunity.

**Next PTO Meeting Dates**—Next meeting dates are January 8, March 18, and May 6 @6:30 pm.