

## **September PTO Meeting Notes 9/22/2025 at 6:30 pm**

PTO Attendees: Diane Thiegis, Jennifer Yiangou, Molly Darsow, Allison Gilbert

Parents/Staff: Dr. Kate Hinton, Jana Tarlton, Lindsey Lobner, Kat Gonzales, Dannielle White, Krishnamathi Ranish, Leena Natarajan, Courtni Ries, Mukti, Kari Koerner, Jiyoung Kim, Kyuwan Lee, Walter Greason, Janiece Kirton

### **PTO Report & Recent Events**

- a. 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Picnic- Potluck was a success with good attendance by families. Diane indicated this and Back to School Open House are great opportunities for parents to be involved and answer questions about MSA. PTO had an ice breaker game and prizes.
- b. Back to School Open House-Aug 28<sup>th</sup> – PTO had a table with a game and prizes and got more traffic than in previous years.
- c. Caffeination Station- Well received with good feedback from teachers indicating service was quick and coffee was good. About ½ the price of our previous vendor.
- d. BTS Staff Gift-Maroon mugs with new logo have been ordered, but were not yet delivered as of the meeting date.
- e. End of Year 2024/2025 Prom/Graduation/Senior Party – All successful events

### **Executive Director Update**

- a. Construction on the new building is well underway. The roof is on and they are currently putting in the windows. The building will be fully enclosed in the next couple of weeks and the parking lot will be completed before winter.
- b. Cell phones are being put away in “Cell hotels” this year. Students can still use during passing time and lunch if they need to.
  - a. Discussion about “Away for the Day” brought up by families at the meeting. There was discussion that this may happen at the new school, but there won’t be lockers to contain cell phones in. The concrete walls of the new building will make cell phone use much more difficult at the new school.
  - b. Molly introduced the idea of a book club for MSA parents to read such books as The Anxious Generation. Dr. Hinton suggested PTO speak with the new Elementary school principal Dr. Justin Tiarks to partner with a parent presentation in the future.
- c. Discussion about new school having a lunchroom and providing hot lunch and that the current MSA campus will also be updated to house a cafeteria to serve hot lunch as well.

**Treasurer Report** -Review of Budget and IRS filing for 2024-2025 discussed and approved

- a. Estimated Income: 10,650.00
- b. Estimated Expenses: 11,195.00
- c. Bank Balance as of 7/31/2025: 16,068.25

**Upcoming Activities**

- a. Pizza Days – Starting October 3<sup>rd</sup> – Discussion of how to volunteer and the Sign Up Genius – Typically 100 pizzas ordered from Dominoes with 3 volunteers needed in each building
- b. Mole Day- Thurs Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> – Pudding cups with Oreos – Sign up Genius 10:45-1pm to help put together and hand out
- c. Conference Meal – November 6<sup>th</sup>
  - a. Texas Roadhouse and Culver’s were suggested as restaurants that would provide free meals to teachers. Allison has a contact on another PTO board who will provide her with more contact info so she can follow up. Other options suggested were potluck and Acapulco
- d. Basket Raffles/Great Gatherings/Fundraising
  - a. Discussed having a hole to fill when pizza day fundraising is no longer an option. Discussed that this could still be done maybe with less frequency at the new school (once a month).
    - i. Other fundraising ideas. Plans to put out a survey to ask families for their fundraising preferences and ideas:
      1. Continuing Basket Raffles – Molly asked for support on this
      2. Doing a monetary donation with a QR code
      3. Great Gatherings – Community building where families donate an experience but after discussion this may be cost prohibitive to family providing experience
      4. Double Dip Popcorn sales
      5. Fun Run on new Track in Spring or Acts of Kindness
        - a. Suggested to use Raise Craze or Fun Hub for raising money online
      6. Selling tiles/bricks to make patio at the new school
      7. Dragon dinner fundraising event- but may not be inclusive to all
      8. Dunk Tank in parking lot
- e. Staff FIRE gift cards – Molly will pick up 10 (\$10 gift cards)
- f. Professional Development Day Breakfast – Jennifer is picking up bagels to deliver