

May PTO Meeting Notes 5-12-2025 @6:30 pm

PTO Attendees: Diane Thiogs, Jennifer Yiangou, Michelle Kloncz
Parents/Staff: Dr. Kate Hinton, Mukti Bhalia, Leena Arulanandam

Director Update—MSA is hosting prom at the Wabasha Street Caves on Saturday 5/17. Ground-breaking at MSA's new property took place on Monday, May 5! This event was covered in the Star Tribune. Tomorrow night is the incoming 9th Grade Picnic. BOD elections close Thursday at noon.

Treasurer Report—Jennifer presented the budget. Current balance is \$19K! As of two weeks ago, we had exceeded our fundraising goals. Great work everyone! We're still funding most of our expenses from the very successful pizza days, but Molly's basket raffles are also a great revenue source. Remaining expenditures for the year are Prom, Freezies, Free Pizza Day, Graduation Rehearsal pizza, and Senior lock-in prizes.

PTO Report / Recent Events

- **Coffee with the Director** (4/8)—Thank you to Caribou Coffee for donating the coffee!
- **Cake Day** (5/1)—MSA students were very enthusiastic about the cake, though some had more than their fair share. The practice of rubbing off hand stamps in order to get one or two extra slices was very common.
- **Teacher Appreciation Week** (4/6-4/10)—Gondolier Coffee Cart and the Acapulco Taco Bar lunch were really well-received by teachers and staff for appreciation week! NHS students did some fun and encouraging chalk messages for teachers. A big thank you to Courtni/Cathy Ries for donating disinfecting wipes, tissues, and pencils for the classrooms.
- **PTO Officers Election** (2025-2026 school year)—A paper ballot election was conducted at tonight's meeting. Diane Thiogs will continue in her position as President, Molly Darsow will remain Vice President, Jennifer Yiangou will remain Treasurer, and Allison Gilbert will replace "graduating" parent Michelle Kloncz as Secretary.

Upcoming Events

- **Free Pizza Day** (5/30)—pizza stamp will ensure students receive their requisite two free slices. Additional pizza slices will be available for purchase.
- **Ice Cream Day** (6/3)—Ice cream sandwiches will be provided schoolwide.
- **Freezy Day** (6/4)—PTO will fund freezies to celebrate the last day of school!
- **Graduation Day Pizza** (6/5)—Rehearsal starts at 3 pm at St. Kate's O'Shaughnessy Auditorium. PTO volunteers Leena A. and Gretchen T. will coordinate pizza order/pickup and bringing napkins, plates, and bottled water. Pizza service target timeframe is 4:30 pm.
- **MSA's 25th Anniversary Picnic** (8/17)—Picnic will be held at Glacier Valley Park in Cottage Grove on Sunday 8/17 from 1-4 pm. Everyone is welcome, including past, present, and incoming students/families. Food trucks will provide food and beverages for the event.
- **Woodbury Days** (8/22 to 8/24)—Looking for students / parents / teachers to work the booth as MSA ambassadors.
- **6th Grade Picnic Potluck** (TBD)—This event is typically held in late August. Kate will confer with Steve Hoemann to schedule a date. The event will be held at MSA. Last year, food was set up on a table along the hallways in Building B. Incoming 6th grade students and families can hang out in the open space behind Building B. PTO will bring some icebreaker games and small prizes.